

Archetypes: At their most basic level, archetypes are recurring character types that appear in stories from many different cultures. They can also be viewed as different story-roles that characters or events perform in a story. One character can be more than one archetype. To look at it another way, archetypes are “masks” that characters put on to move the story forward.

Archetype	Description	Teacher's Example	My Example
Hero	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The protagonist of the story ▪ Usually brave, honorable, self-sacrificing, and truthful 		
Shadow	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The antagonist of the story ▪ Opposes the hero ▪ Dark reflection of the hero 		
Mentor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Trains and guides the hero ▪ Usually older and wiser ▪ Gives gifts and advice 		
Herald	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Announces the need for a quest ▪ Forces the hero to act 		
Ally or Allies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Accompanies and aids the hero ▪ Provides comedy relief ▪ Rounds out the hero's personality 		
Threshold Guardian	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tests the hero ▪ Makes the hero face initial fears ▪ Can become an ally 		
Shapeshifter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Shifty, has unknown alliances ▪ Creates suspense ▪ Can be a love interest 		
Trickster	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Uses humor to aid or test the hero ▪ Provides comedy relief ▪ Cuts the hero's ego down to size 		

Archetype	Description	Teacher's Example	My Example
Loyal Retainer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Servants who attend the hero ▪ Protect the hero and reflect the hero's nobility 		
Friendly Beasts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Creatures who serve or aid the hero ▪ Show that nature is on the hero's side 		
Devil Figure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The incarnation of evil ▪ Offers goods, wealth, or power in return for the hero's soul 		
Creature of Nightmare	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Disfigured or mutated creatures ▪ Monsters who oppose the hero 		
Evil Figure with a Good Heart	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Evil character who is redeemed by the nobility or love of the hero 		
Outcast	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Character with a questionable past ▪ Banished from society ▪ Sometimes falsely accused 		
Temptress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sensuous beauty ▪ Tries to bring down the hero through his attraction to her 		
Platonic Ideal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Female character who gives the hero intellectual stimulation ▪ He is not attracted to her 		
Damsel in Distress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Vulnerable female character who needs to be rescued by the hero ▪ Can be a trap for the hero 		
Star-crossed Lovers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Two lovers forbidden to be together because of society ▪ Often doomed 		