

Character Archetypes

- Analyst:** Can explain anything rationally. Ex: Mr. Spock
- Anti-hero:** The hero who didn't ask to get involved but does. Ex: Sarah Connor, Wolverine
- Benefactor:** Has a whole lot of something he wants to share. Ex: Miss Havisham
- Bully:** Has no tolerance for weakness, especially in himself. Ex: Scut Farkus (*Christmas Story*)
- Bureaucrat:** Follows the rules no matter what. Ex: Hermione Granger
- Caretaker:** Cares for others. Ex: Digory Kirke
- Catalyst:** Makes things happen.
- Child:** Could be a literal child or just living like one. Ex: Wally McDoogle, Peter Pan
- Coward:** Afraid of everything, controlled by fear. Ex: Adrian Monk, Cowardly Lion, Alexandra Rover
- Curmudgeon:** Irritable and cynical and proud of it. Ex: Ebenezer Scrooge
- Dreamer:** Longs to be something else. Ex: Annie, William Thatcher (*A Knight's Tale*)
- Elder/mentor/teacher/parent:** Been around long enough to know some vital information. Ex: Ben Kenobi, Mufassa
- Explorer/wanderer:** Wants to see the world—could be running from something.
- Extraordinary man:** The guy who can do anything. Ex: Indiana Jones, James Bond
- Gossip:** Must be the first to know everything and the one to pass it on. Ex: Rachel Lynde
- Guardian:** Protects the weak.
- Hedonist/thrill-seeker:** Lives for today in case tomorrow never comes.
- Herald/messenger:** The bringer of news, good, bad, or necessary.
- Hermit/loner:** Just wants to be left alone. Ex: Phil Hercules, Martin Riggs (*Lethal Weapon*)
- Hunter/predator:** Can catch or kill anything. Ex: Terminator
- Innocent:** An inexperienced individual exposed to the evils in the world. Ex: Dorothy Gale
- Introvert:** Lives inside his shell to prevent anyone from seeing the real him. Ex: Gabriella Montez
- Investigator:** Thrives on puzzles and riddles. Ex: Nancy Drew, Sherlock Holmes
- Judge/mediator:** The arbitrator or peacemaker in a conflict.
- Leader:** Always knows the best thing to do—and the people follow him. Ex: William Wallace
- Magician/wizard/superhero:** Has special powers or abilities. Ex: Superman, Harry Potter
- Manipulator:** Plays with people and situations to get what he wants. Ex: Scarlett O'Hara
- Martyr:** Willing to suffer or die for others or a cause.
- Masochist:** Finds pleasure in torturing himself, denying himself—may take on too much.
- Masquerader:** Pretends to be something he's not.
- Monster:** A depraved beast. Ex: Gollum, Grendel (*Beowulf*)
- Ordinary man:** Average Joe like you or me or your neighbor. Ex: Dr. Richard Kimball, Frodo Baggins.
- Penitent:** Lives to atone for his sin.
- Perfectionist:** Every action and word must be flawless.
- Pleaser/show-off:** Craves approval from anyone and may do anything to get it.
- Poet:** Life is art, be that through story, song, painting, or sculpture.
- Rebel/revolutionary:** Stands opposed to the status quo and fights for his cause.
- Rogue:** Looks out for himself and no one else. Ex: Han Solo
- Saboteur/betrayer:** For whatever reason, he will make sure something fails. Ex: Edmund Pevensie
- Samaritan:** Does good deeds wherever he goes.
- Scholar:** Wants to learn.
- Sensualist:** Addicted to feeling good about himself.
- Slave:** Does not belong to himself. Ex: Dobby the house elf
- Survivor:** Pulls through no matter what happens, doesn't give up.
- Sycophant:** Self-seeking, flatterer, who works to please those in power. Ex: Smee (*Peter Pan*)
- Tempress:** Uses power (intellect, magic, beauty) to make others weak. Ex: Megara (*Hercules*)
- Thief:** Takes what he wants or needs. Ex: Philippe Gaston (*LadyHawke*), Jean Valjean
- Trickster/jester:** Always looking for the humor in a situation. Ex: Fred and George Weasley
- Tyrant:** Must be in control at all times. Ex: Captain Hook
- Victim:** Was hurt by someone or lives in fear that someone will hurt him. Ex: Claireece "Precious" Jones
- Villain:** Seeks to destroy/trap the hero. Ex: Evil Queen in *Snow White*, Lex Luthor
- Waif:** Appears innocent and weak and often relies on the pity of others. Ex: The Kid (*Dick Tracy*)