**10th Lit/Comp Summer Reading Assignment: 2020**

**The Hero’s Journey**

By now, students should be familiar with the Hero’s Journey archetype, also known as the Monomyth. This Monomyth is the one larger story structure into which just about every story fits.

For a refresher on The Hero’s Journey, here are some links:

* <https://blog.reedsy.com/heros-journey/>
* <http://www.sfcenter.ku.edu/Workshop-stuff/Joseph-Campbell-Hero-Journey.htm> (pay close attention to the charts and film examples)

Rising tenth graders’ summer reading assignment for 10th Lit/Comp is a choice among three books that exemplify the Hero’s Journey:

* *Children of Blood and Bone* by Tomi Adeyemi - a critically acclaimed fantasy novel that reimagines West Africa as the Kingdom of Orïsha, a land humming with magic and danger.

Amazon’s description follows:

They killed my mother.  
They took our magic.  
They tried to bury us.

Now we rise.

Zélie Adebola remembers when the soil of Orïsha hummed with magic. Burners ignited flames, Tiders beckoned waves, and Zélie’s Reaper mother summoned forth souls.

But everything changed the night magic disappeared. Under the orders of a ruthless king, maji were killed leaving Zélie without a mother and her people without hope.

Now Zélie has one chance to bring back magic and strike against the monarchy. With the help of a rogue princess, Zélie must outwit and outrun the crown prince, who is hell-bent on eradicating magic for good.

Danger lurks in Orïsha, where snow leoponaires prowl and vengeful spirits wait in the waters. Yet the greatest danger may be Zélie herself as she struggles to control her powers and her growing feelings for an enemy.

<https://www.amazon.com/Children-Blood-Bone-Legacy-Orisha/dp/1250170974>

* *Legend* by Marie Lu – a dystopian science-fiction novel that follows two protagonists, the pursuer and the pursued.

Amazon’s description follows:

What was once the western United States is now home to the Republic, a nation perpetually at war with its neighbors. Born into an elite family in one of the Republic's wealthiest districts, fifteen-year-old June is a prodigy being groomed for success in the Republic's highest military circles. Born into the slums, fifteen-year-old Day is the country's most wanted criminal. But his motives may not be as malicious as they seem.  
  
From very different worlds, June and Day have no reason to cross paths - until the day June's brother, Metias, is murdered and Day becomes the prime suspect. Caught in the ultimate game of cat and mouse, Day is in a race for his family's survival, while June seeks to avenge Metias's death. But in a shocking turn of events, the two uncover the truth of what has really brought them together, and the sinister lengths their country will go to keep its secrets.  
  
Full of nonstop action, suspense, and romance, this novel is sure to move readers as much as it thrills.

<https://www.amazon.com/Legend-Marie-Lu/dp/014242207X/ref=sr_1_1?crid=VXLBTO0C8RVZ&dchild=1&keywords=legend+marie+lu&qid=1588870667&s=books&sprefix=legend%2Cstripbooks%2C175&sr=1-1>

* *Forgotten Fire* by Adam Bagdasarian – a novel based on historical events and a real person as his life is turned upside down during the Armenian genocide. \*Warning\* - this book depicts events that could be disturbing to sensitive readers.

Amazon’s description follows:

In 1915 Vahan Kenderian is living a life of privilege as the youngest son of a wealthy Armenian family in Turkey. This secure world is shattered when some family members are whisked away while others are murdered before his eyes.  
  
Vahan loses his home and family and is forced to live a life he would never have dreamed of in order to survive. Somehow Vahan’s incredible strength and spirit help him endure, even knowing that each day could be his last.

<https://www.amazon.com/Forgotten-Fire-Adam-Bagdasarian/dp/0440229170/ref=sr_1_1?dchild=1&keywords=forgotten+fire&qid=1588871156&s=books&sr=1-1>

You only are required to read one of these books for the Fall semester. Once you read the book, trace the Hero’s Journey using the chart that follows. This will be collected during the first week of school. **Your first essay will be a literary analysis based on the book you read.** Pick one that fits your taste (you will probably like it – they are all excellent) and read the book!

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| ***The Hero with a Thousand Faces* byJoseph Campbell** / **The Hero’s Journey Chart** | |
| Book title: | |
| **Departure** | |
| **Call to Adventure:**Where is the hero when he gets the call? How does he receive the call to adventure? What is he being called to do? |  |
| **Refusal of the Call:**If the hero refuses the call, what are his reasons for doing so? |  |
| **Answering the Call:**What ultimately motivates the character to accept the call? |  |
| **Supernatural Aid Guide/Mentor:**Which character helps the hero understand the situation or provides the hero with special training? What special training does the hero receive? |  |
| **Talisman**: If there a particular item that has special significance to the hero, what is the item and what makes it special? |  |
| **Companions:**Who is with the hero on his journey? How do these companions help the hero face the challenges? |  |
| **Crossing the Threshold:** At what point in the story does the hero leave the familiar world and move into a new, unfamiliar circumstance? |  |
| **Threshold Guardians:** Are there characters who try to prevent the hero from crossing into the unfamiliar territory or circumstance? If so, who are they and what do they do specifically? |  |
| **Initiation** | |
| **Belly of the Whale:** What happens to make the final separation between the hero and his known world? What is the zone of danger that he enters? |  |
| **Road of Trials**: What specific challenges does the hero face? |  |
| **Brother Battle / Dragon Battle:**Does the hero battle physically or mentally with someone who is a relative or close friend, or does he battle a monster? If so, who or what does he battle? What are the details of the battle? |  |
| **Meeting with the Goddess:**Does the hero meet with a character with special beauty and power? If so, who is she and what happens during this meeting? |  |
| **Atonement (“at one with”) with or Recognition by the** **Father:** Is the hero reunited with his father in some way? Does he confront someone with ultimate power over him? If so, what happens during that meeting? |  |
| **Apotheosis (Deification):** Is there a point in the story when the hero is held up as an ideal or worshipped as a god? Does the hero change in appearance due to this change in his soul or spirit? If so, what are the details of this event? |  |
| **Ultimate Boon :** Does the hero find some special solution to the problem he is attempting to resolve or the treasure he seeks? If so, where does he find it? Does he take it with him? |  |
| **The Return** | |
| **Refusal of the Return**: Does the hero initially refuse to return to the place where he began the journey? If so, what are his reasons? |  |
| **Magic Flight / Pursuit:**Is there a point, after acquiring the boon, when the hero is chased or tries to escape something? If so, who or what is chasing the hero? |  |
| **Rescue from Without:**Is there a point when all seems hopeless, when it looks like the hero is going to die, then suddenly he is rescued unexpectedly? If so, who rescues him? Describe the situation. |  |
| **Crossing the Return Threshold:**Is there some point when the hero clearly returns “home”? Describe this process or event. |  |
| **Master of Two Worlds:** Does it appear that the hero has conquered life in both the familiar and unfamiliar worlds? How do you know that he has achieved this? |  |
| **Freedom to Live:** Since the hero typically begins the journey to resolve a problem, does it appear the problem is at last resolved so that all can live freely? How do you know that he has reached this point? |  |