ABSTRACT

The Hero's Journey In Avatar Movie: An Archetypal Analysis

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This research depicts the significance and urgency of analyzing the narrative structure of the film Avatar (2009) and Avatar: The Way of Water (2022) through the lens of Joseph Campbell's Hero's Journey and Carl Gustav Jung's theory of archetypes. By dissecting both movies storyline and character development using these frameworks, the study aims to uncover the psychological depth and symbolic significance that contribute to the film's universal appeal and contemporary relevance.

The Hero's Journey framework provides a structured narrative template that aligns with key moments in the movies, such as Jake Sully's transformation from a paraplegic marine to the heroic leader of the Na'vi. This research used a descriptive qualitative method to reveals the emotional and psychological resonance embedded in the film's plot, making it relatable and impactful. Jungian archetypes further illuminate the characters' roles and transformations, with Jake Sully embodying the Hero, Neytiri representing the Anima, and Colonel Quaritch as the Shadow. These archetypes enrich our understanding of the characters symbolic significance and their contributions to the overarching narrative.

The path of self actualization is illustrated in this study. The research findings shows that the film depicts the path of the hero's journey through Jake Sully. Utilizing the data, Jake has to take three major steps in order to become a hero, each stages having certain phase. Jake's conversations with characters, images, signs, and symbols provided as the data, which shows the precise depiction of the stages of the hero's journey.

Keywords: Archetype, Avatar, Hero's Journey, Self Actualization