Fairy Tales

And their Character types
How are fairy tales different from fables?
Fable

- Passed on by “word of mouth”
- Usually has one or two characters
- Usually doesn’t have magic
- Sometimes has happy endings
- Teaches a moral

Fairy Tale

- Passed on in books “literary”
- Usually has magic
- Uses dialogue
- Has simple characters
- Setting is usually unknown
- Talking animals
- Repeats patterns
- Usually happy ending
- Specific characters types
- Sometimes has happy endings
Fairy Tale Character Types

- Hero
- Elder
- Villain
- Helper
- Friend
- Messenger
- True Love
The Hero!

Wins at the end of the story.

Changes at the end of the story.

The Hero...

Goes into the castle, removes the spell, escapes the dragon...

Can be a woman, girl, man, boy, or creature
The Elder

Elder
- Might be sick
- Usually royalty or a parent
- Stays at home

Hero
- Wins at end of story
- Usually younger
- Leaves home
- Has a quest
The villain is... the antagonist to the hero. is human or a creature.
The Helper

Often a powerful, magical person
Cinderella's Fairy Godmother

Gives advice or a valuable gift to the hero

Often tests the hero
The Friend & the Messenger

**Friend**
- Likes the hero
- Is usually weaker than hero or smaller
- Goes with hero on quest

**Hero**

**Messenger**
Gives important information to characters in the story
The True Love

The true love is usually

- The person the hero wants to marry
- Or could be the hero’s child or sibling

For true love, the hero will ...

- Fight the villains
- Or trick the villains.
Fairy Tale Character Types

- Hero
- Villain
- Elder
- Friend
- Messenger
- True Love
Every fairy tale will have some of these characters.

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