Definition of a Metanarrative

A metanarrative is a narrative about narratives of historical meaning, experience, or knowledge, which offers a society legitimation through the anticipated completion of a master idea.

Story archetypes

Seven Basic Plots

1. Overcoming a monster
2. Rags to riches
3. The Quest
4. Voyage and return
5. Comedy
6. Tragedy
7. Rebirth

Overcoming a monster – Harry Potter

Rags to Riches – Wolf of Wall Street

The Quest – Lord of the Rings

Voyage and Return – Alice in Wonderland

Comedy – 10 Things I hate about you

Tragedy – Romeo and Juliet

Rebirth – A Christmas Carol

It is important to consider context when examining and interpreting a narrative, because the it effects and justifies different decision whether it be on a technical or plot level

Historical context – what events have transpired, and what is happening at the time

Political context – how the structures in social organisation operate

Social context – the activities people engage in and how people behave both individually and as a collective

Personal context – the writer’s person experiences that may shape his/her stories

Macro – narratives

These are stories that reflect National Ethnicity and religious thinkings. Unfold events and depict situations that lay within the wider parameters and frameworks of social and political discourses

Micro – narrative – individual experience or personal story influenced by the Meta-narrative

An engaging narrative, one that is thought provoking, has us question the validity of the values, institution and cultural norms that guide and give meaning to our lives, will expose the micro world of its character, and then pit them against the macro world they live in