

ENGL 108 - Lecture 2 Gilgamesh

Graham Cooper

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Prompts for Presentation:

- Real world and metaphysical in promethea
- Masculinity vs fem in any
- Artistic evolution of title character - how has it reflected the culture
- The costume, how has it adjusted our view of them
- Human vs Hero
- Vigilante justice
- Hero's personal relationship
- Relationship with society

Myth

Fairy Tales

There are many archetypes such as the princess/prince, damsel in distress, fairy godmother etc that are very common themes in myth

There are lots of moral meaning and philosophical, stories of gods

Look at myth as an ideology, have some kind of ethos/belief system

We all live mythically on some level, all myths impact all cultures in many ways

Roland Barthes? French philosopher wrote "Mythologies" The themes of myth empower pop culture, informs pop culture through media

Super heroes are our Greek myths, they are no longer what the Greek myths are to the Greeks, but they are different

Christian Myth

The story of the resurrection, the messiah

The central mythic theme of modern heroes is the struggle of good and evil

Basic idea of Dominant myths

Garden and Eden

Key themes: Oppression of everyone

Greed

A higher power holding back knowledge from Adam/Eve, they make the choice to take the apple but unleashes power

Fall from innocence

Woman is carrier of all things bad and they unleashed it

Hercules

- Hercules has super hero powers
- an embodiment of the modern day Hercules
- Some flaws ie, possible rapist, killed his family

Prometheus

- He is a forthinker
- wanted people to live a better life but he stole to do so
- Zeus created woman as punishment for Prometheus stealing the fire, Pandora (the woman) then released all the evils in the world

Icarus

- Architect, made the maze to trap the Minotaur, and made the wings

Narcicist

- he was too proud of himself
- relates to current social media
- Relates to tony stark in iron man for thinking to greatly of himself
- relates to magneto and sees the perfection in his the mutation genes
- a hero can start out bad and ebcome good

Sisyphus

- Killed his brother and other guests
- He wanted to be able to trick the gods and try to kill without punishment
- was finally punished by pushing a rock up a mountain that when it go tto the top would fall back to the bottom
- futility of life, loss of hope

Pygmallion

- He doesn't like women, He carves a statue and now loves women, then wants a woman like his statue, gets the woman and lives happily ever after
- He raises the woman to his standard
- Non-sentient life gaining life, ie pinocchio
- man is a god, a creator and can will things to happen, if someone works/wants something enough they can get it
- the human being is giving life/birth to something that was inanimate
- power of the creator's mind

Frued and Jung

Oedipus

- Have sexual urges towards our mother
- in order to mature, in order to complete our own journey we must reconcile with our father
- can work in other way (females -> father, reconcile with mother)

These thought patterns, ego, superego id, are all archetypes. They can be represented later

We look at the psychological relationship between the hero and the reader, and also within the hero themselves

Jung departs from Freud saying there is another thing going on other than our sexual tendencies