In the book “*The Twisted Hero*” by Yi Mun-yol. A boy, Pyongt’ae, moves to a new area and starts in the local school. There is another boy in that school, Sokdae, that has taken control of everything. His word is everyone's command. Pyongt’ae feels that this is unfair and fights against it. When it comes to the end, there is no one who is a hero. Every single main character has a heroic moment, but their actions always counter it.

Pyongt’ae is the moral hero of this story, he fights for what is morally right. Throughout the school year, he tries again and again to unveil Sokdae’s misdoings but always fails. Once, he asked the teacher to give notes to every kid to fill out, “I waited for the results with a quiet sense of anticipation. Irrespective of whatever okae had said to the boys while I was out of the classroom, I firmly believed all Sokdae’s sins would be brought to light without fail this time” (47). Like any other underdog, he has a lot of people opposing him. Soon he begins to realize that this is a fight not worth fighting. He strays from his path of right, just to be treated like the other boys, “The fierce competitive spirit which I had possessed initially, disappeared, and the hate, which had sustained me like some inner avenging spirit, slowly lost its edge” (61). In the beginning, I felt Pyongt’ae was the hero. He had the drive, the will, and knew what was right. Pyongt’ae has many reasons to be a hero; he tried to fix what was wrong and tried to help the other kids. But each and every time Sokdae would foil his plan indirectly so that it could not be traced back to himself. Soon Pyongt’ae gives up and joins Sokdaes group. He gave up on what was right, just for his own selfish desires.

Soon the school year ended and it was time for everyone to move to the next grade. With a new grade came a new teacher. This teacher was not oblivious to the problems in the class when asking if anything bothered anyone. No one responded. He began to become suspicious “Why is this class so lifeless? Like fools always watching to see how the next boy is reacting?” Then he notices how Sokdae does so well on tests but so poorly in class. One day he had enough. He summoned Sokdae to the front of the class and started beating him “ THe teacher lifted a thick stick, which he had carried into class along with his roll book, and brought it down hard on Sokdae’s backside” (89). Soon after he beat every kid in the class. This helped the class majorly and shows them what was wrong and what they have to do about it. Many may think it was wrong of him to beat the kids, but at this time, and this place, it was only and the best action available to him. He still could have approached it better, instead of immediately beating Sokdae he could have explained what he was doing wrong.

Many considered Sokdae as a twisted hero or even a hero. Just because he was effective and solving problems and organizing the class. But just because someone is able to solve problems it does not mean they are a hero. Many people in history have been able to great things but never were regarded as heroes because it was at the expense of others. In this case, Sokdae would have a clean organized class, but every kid was afraid of him and would hurt the ones that did not. Most of the time he would send one of his followers to do it so it does not get traced back to him. He also is very clever at making excuses to make it seem like he is in the right "I just took it away so he does not hurt himself". He creates his own veil so that teachers and parents see him as the perfect child.

In the end, every character had a chance to be a hero but everyone had their own faults that strained them from the path of a hero. Pyongt’ae was the moral hero in the beginning but then gave up. The new teacher hurt kids in the process of helping them, and Sokdae never did the right things. There are no heros in this story, although it many people may think that someone might have been.