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Hero's Journey

Myths, Fairy Tales & Fables

Name: Date:

CAN YOU IDENTIFY THE STAGES OF THE HERO'S JOURNEY IN THIS NARRATIVE?

Underline and annotate this fairy tale to show your understanding of the Hero's Journey.

CINDERELLA

Cinderella's mother died while she was a very little child, leaving her to the care of her father and her step-sisters. Her stepmother and step-sisters did not love her, and were very unkind to her. As she grew older they made her work as a servant.

One day, the King hosted a ball, to which all ladies of the land, were invited so that the Prince may choose a wife. The mean step-sisters made Cinderella dress them for the ball, but never thought of allowing her to go there. In fact, they refused!

When they were gone, Cinderella, whose heart was very sad, sat down and cried bitterly. But as she sat sorrowful, thinking of the unkindness of her step-sisters, her Fairy Godmother appeared!

"Do not cry, Cinderella," she said; "you also shall go to the ball, because you are a kind, good girl. Bring me a large pumpkin." She started to list some other weird objects too.

Cinderella obeyed, and the Fairy, turned the pumpkin into a grand coach, a rat into a coachman, mice into footmen and grasshoppers into white horses. Next, the Fairy touched Cinderella's rags, and they became rich satin robes, trimmed with point lace. Diamonds shone in her hair and on her neck and arms. Her old shoes became a charming pair of glass slippers, which shone like diamonds.

"Enjoy the ball," Fairy Godmother said, "But remember, you must leave the room before the clock strikes eleven when all the magic will be undone."

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CINDERELLA

Cinderella thanked her godmother. Then she stepped into her coach and drove off, with her footmen behind, in great style. She was received at the King's palace with great respect. She was so beautiful everyone wondered who she was; and the Prince asked her to dance with him, and afterwards would dance with no one else. She knew her step-sisters were among the crowd, admiring her grace and beauty.

Before she knew it, the clock started to chime! It was nearly eleven! At once she darted out of the room, and ran through the palace as fast as she could go, but as she reached the hall, she lost one of her precious glass slippers! The clock had struck eleven. She found no coach, only a pumpkin and her fine dress turned to rags. She had to run home alone in the darkness of the night.

The Prince went in search of her, but only found a single glass slipper, all that was left of the mysterious Princess he wanted to marry. He felt sure that no one else could wear such a tiny shoe as hers so he sent out a herald to proclaim that whichever lady in his kingdom could put on this glass slipper should be his wife.

All the great ladies who wished to be a Princess tried to put it on, but in vain. Cinderella's sisters tried, but could not get it on, and then Cinderella asked if she might try they laughed at her. But the Prince ignored her rag dress and allowed her to try. Her foot fit perfectly.

The Prince, who had thought the moment he saw her that the poor girl was very much like the beautiful Princess, was delighted. So Cinderella was married to the Prince in great state, and they lived together very happily. She forgave her sisters, and treated them always very kindly, and the Prince had great cause to be glad that he had found the glass slipper.