ARCHETYPAL SETTING ELEMENTS

- The Threshold: a gateway to a new world the hero must enter to change and to grow
- > The Underworld: the place where the hero encounters fear or death
- The Wilderness (forest): the place where rules don't apply, and people and things run wild
- > The River: the place representing the flow of time
- > The Garden:
 - The place of harmony with nature, innocence, union, imagination
 - Sometimes the garden can be ruined or poisoned, or the hero has to leave it

> The Wasteland:

- o The opposite of the garden
- The place of loneliness, desolation, despair
- The place where there is no growth
- ➤ <u>The Desert:</u> the place of purity, reflection, solitude, the lonely quest for meaning
- > The Crossroads: the place of suffering and decision
- The Maze or Labyrinth:
 - o represents a puzzling dilemma or great uncertainty
 - o sometimes the search for a monster within yourself

> The Castle:

- o the strong place of safety
- holds the treasure or princess
- o may be bewitched or enchanted
- o may represent home or some other safe place
- The Tower: The strong place where evil resides or where the self is locked away from society and fellowship
- > The Winding Stair: the long and difficult way into the unknown

Remember: not all these settings may appear, while some may appear in more than one form.

- The Threshold:
- > The Underworld:
- > The Wilderness (forest):
- > The River:
- > The Garden:
- > The Wasteland:
- > The Desert:
- > The Crossroads:
- > The Maze or Labyrinth:
- > The Castle:
- > The Tower:
- > The Winding Stair:

ARCHETYPAL CHARACTERS

† The mentor or teacher:

- Teaches the hero
- Gives valuable gifts (weapons, food, magic, information)
- Is older, wiser, and can serve as the hero's conscience

† The Shadow

- Worthy opponent with whom the hero must struggle in a fight to the end
- Must be destroyed, neutralized, or brought into society

† The Monster or Dragon:

- The hero's dark self
- The forces of evil
- The scary part of life

† The animal companion:

Represents that side of nature that helps man and is friendly to him

† The blind seer:

Mysterious figure who can see into the nature of life though he or she cannot see physically.

† The witch:

The scary or angry aspect of women

† The goddess/old crone / wise woman:

May represent the frightening knowledge and wisdom of experience and age

† The damsel in distress:

Woman who need to be rescued

† The Princess in the tower:

Women who are unattainable

EXAMPLES IN Remember: not all these characters may appear, while some may appear in more than one form. † The mentor or teacher: † The Shadow † The Monster or Dragon: † The animal companion: † The blind seer: The witch: † The goddess/old crone / wise woman:

The damsel in distress:

The Princess in the tower: