

| THEME | DEFINITION | EXAMPLE |
|-------------------------------------|---|----------------|
| HERO'S JOURNEY | Where someone rises from ordinary beginnings to become someone very special | |
| BALANCE OF GOOD AND EVIL | You don't know if the characters are good or bad, they may be bad for good reasons, or good with bad intentions | |
| GOOD VS. EVIL | The role of each character is clearly defined in a battle between good guys and bad guys | |
| EMOTIONAL JOURNEY / GROWTH | Where someone encounters emotional and moral challenges that help him grow as a person | |
| STRENGTH THROUGH COOPERATION | Where a variety of different people come together to cooperate in overcoming a common threat | |
| LOYALTY / BETRAYAL | Stories about relationships and the ways in which circumstances can challenge or change commitments | |
| REVENGE | Where someone uses his own means to seek justice against those that have caused him harm | |
| REDEMPTION | Where someone proves his innocence or changes his ways in order to redeem himself | |
| LOSS OF INNOCENCE | Where someone young is transformed into an adult through the challenges of the cruel world | |
| RELIGION / FAITH | Where someone perseveres due to their faith or religion | |
| TEACHES A CODE OF CONDUCT | Where someone succeeds due to hard work, respect, honor, kindness, compassion, etc. | |
| FAMILY VALUES | Where the story mirrors the complexity, challenges, and joys of family | |
| UNDERDOGS | Where the underdog overcomes insurmountable obstacles to succeed | |
| POLITICS | Stories about manipulation, corruption, and diplomacy | |

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| POWER OF PERSONAL CHOICE | Stories that showcase the consequences of someone's actions | |
| POSSIBILITIES OF THE FUTURE | Stories that showcase new technology and the possibility of things that might happen in the future | |
| CLASH OF CULTURES | Seemingly very different people from varying backgrounds, races, cultures, classes (and even worlds) come together and learn that they are not so different after all | |
| POWER OF LOVE | The most powerful emotional bond that puts those whom we adore, protect or cherish above ourselves | |
| ABUSE OF POWER | Where someone ambitious rises to power only to struggle with the morality of using that power | |
| SACRIFICE | Where someone gives up something of value, especially their own life, for the sake of saving something, someone, or the greater good | |
| SURVIVAL | Someone must do all that they can, perhaps even breaking their own moral code, in order to make it through the challenges they face | |
| PROTECT THE WEAK/INNOCENT | A character uses, resources, power, influence, or other skills in order to aide those who cannot help themselves | |
| FISH OUT OF WATER | The main character is placed in a world totally foreign to the world he or she is accustomed to | |
| FINDING ONESELF | Through a series of events, a person discovers and accepts his/her real character, ultimately becoming confident in him/herself | |