

## How can a killer be considered a hero?

Q.

I receive e-mails from your site all the time but I have never seen my topic addressed. OK maybe *Silence of the Lambs*. But, how can a killer be considered a hero?

A.

This is to do with a fundamental misunderstanding of what a Hero/ine is.

The Hero/ine is a physical representation of the change process that leads to a restoration of the State of Perfection. The actions that are performed along the way (good or bad) are irrelevant.

Michael Corleone (The Godfather, 1972), Tony Montana (Scarface, 1983) and Henry Hill (Goodfellas, 1990) go through the exact same process as Superman (1977) and Frodo (Lord of the Rings, 2001).

If the Hero/ine commits “good” actions then s/he is labeled a “Hero.” If s/he commits evil actions, then s/he is labeled an “Antihero.” But these labels do not impact your story structure (whether Hero or Antihero, the movement is still from Ordinary World to First Threshold etc etc).

Best,

<http://www.clickok.co.uk/index4.html>

P.S. Hannibal Lecter was the Supernatural Aid in *The Silence of the Lambs* (1991), not the Hero (Clarice).