

FICTION 3

'The minute that you read one of my books, you and I are friends. We know each other. That means you know there's somebody in the world who is thinking of you.' ~ Jason Reynolds

Welcome! In this file, you will be diving into the worlds of fantasy fiction and poetry. You will explore the Hero's Journey, style your own poems with alliteration and assonance, and find slivers of yourself in a character or story. Finally, you will tell about the stories you read, love and hate, in an honest review. You will read a book that was created for you to love.

This Is What You Will Do

You will read various fictional texts and will answer questions about them. Some of the questions and assignments will be saved in your fiction file. You will work on the third part of your fiction file this year.



This is What You Will Need

You will need:

- a fiction file, which is a portfolio where you keep all the required assignments;
- a word file to write down new words and phrases;
- a device to play audio and video on.

This is What You Will Learn

You will learn:

- about the subgenres of fantasy fiction;
- how stories work, and what the Hero's Journey is;
- about figure of speech in poetry and prose;
- to relate to characters, settings, events and/or scenes in stories;
- to write about your opinion in a review;
- about the lives and work of some of the most famous writers;
- that reading skills will improve, giving you more vocabulary, grammatical accuracy, and language fluency.

ERK

Je werkt vooral aan de volgende onderdelen:

- luisteren op B1-niveau. Je kunt een groot deel van de verhaallijn volgen in een film en in een videoboodschap;
- lezen op B1-niveau. Je kunt jeugdliteratuur en literaire teksten lezen met aandacht voor details;
- schrijven over verhalende en literaire teksten op A2- en B1-niveau. Je kunt een feitelijk verslag schrijven over wat je gelezen hebt en jouw mening daarover geven;
- spreken op A2- en B1-niveau. Je kunt een standpunt innemen over een boek, gedicht of film. Je kunt een gedicht voordragen op gevoel.

A THE HERO'S JOURNEY



1

Read **Three Fantasy Subgenres** and answer the questions.

- 1 Watch the film trailers and write down which of the three subgenres named in the text the films belong to.

Trailer 1

Trailer 2

Trailer 3

- 2 Which of these subgenres is your favourite? Explain your answer.

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- 3 Name at least one book, film or series that fits your favourite subgenre.

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- 4 Look at **Cover**. Which genre do you think the book by Rainbow Rowell belongs to? Explain your answer.

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Three Fantasy Subgenres

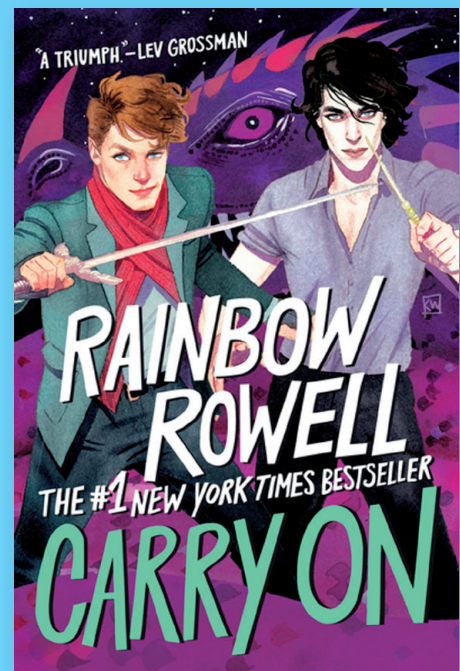
The fantasy genre has many **subgenres** - genres that belong to fantasy but have specific characteristics. Here are three examples:

High Fantasy, or Epic Fantasy, is set in a different, fictional world. It has nothing to do with the real world. High fantasy stories are told from the viewpoint of **one hero**. The hero often has inherited some kind of **mysterious or magical** ability or destiny, and they are always facing a **world-ending threat**.

Crossworlds Fantasy, or portal fantasy, has characters **transporting** from a normal world into a magical one. The main characters are **human**, and normally live on Earth. Usually there is a **quest** or a **journey** they must go on, and like in coming-of-age stories, they are often about young people growing up and/or learning things about themselves they didn't know before.

Magical Realism stories are set in our **real world**, but with **magical elements** like vampires, the ability to fly or people who perform magic. The characters in these stories accept the magic as a normal part of their world.

Cover



2

Read **Carry On**, a text from the beginning of the book by Rainbow Rowell, and answer the questions.

1 Look at the underlined words. Match them to the descriptions below.

- | | | | |
|----|-------------|---|--|
| 1 | pothole | A | a hole in the road |
| 2 | dirt road | B | a taxi driver |
| 3 | cabbie | C | an unpaved road |
| 4 | gnarled | D | an unusual situation that attracts attention |
| 5 | incantation | E | rough and twisted |
| 6 | grin | F | the speaking of words that have a magical effect when spoken |
| 7 | accelerate | G | to gain speed |
| 8 | skip | H | to leave something quickly, and go on to something else |
| 9 | spectacle | I | to smile widely |
| 10 | itchy | J | uneasy, making you want to scratch |

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

2 Which song is the taxi driver singing? Look it up and write down the title and the singer.

.....

3 Where in the text does it become clear that the book's genre is fantasy? Write down the first sentence of that part of the text.

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4 The main character (Simon) names three other characters. Which of these characters is/are his friend(s)? Write down their name(s).

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5 Write down (part of) a sentence from 'Carry On' that you really like. Explain why you like it.

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6 Do you think you would like to read this book? Explain why (not).

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7 Look up any words you don't know and add them to your word file.

3

Read **Carry On** again. In what way does the taxi driver's appearance differ from the goblin's? Make a (digital) drawing of the driver, and one of the goblin. Show it to your teacher and/or your classmates. Add the drawing to your fiction file.

Carry On

The car hits a pothole, and I lurch forward, catching myself on the seat in front of me.

'Belt up,' the driver snaps.

I do, taking a look around. We're already out of the city and into the countryside. I swallow and stretch my shoulders back.

The taxi driver goes back to singing, louder now - '*never knowing who to cling to*' - like he's really getting into the song. I think about telling *him* to belt up.

We hit another pothole, and my head nearly bangs against the ceiling. We're on a dirt road. This isn't the usual way to Watford.

I glance up at the driver, in the mirror. There's something wrong - his skin is a deep green, and his lips are as red as fresh meat.

Then I look at him, as he is, sitting in front of me. He's just a cabbie. Gnarled teeth, smashed nose. Singing Elton John.

Then back in the mirror: Green skin. Red lips. Handsome as a pop star. *Goblin*.

I don't wait to see what he's up to. I hold my hand over my hip and start murmuring the incantation for the Sword of Mages. It's an invisible weapon - more than invisible, really; it's not even there until you say the magic words.

The goblin hears me casting, and our eyes meet in the mirror. He grins and reaches into his jacket.

If Baz were here, I'm sure he'd make a list of all the spells I could use in this moment. There's probably something in French that would do nicely. But as soon as my sword appears in my hand, I grit my teeth and slash it across the front seat, taking off the goblin's turning head - and the headrest, too. *Voilà*.

He keeps driving for a second; then the steering wheel goes wild. Thank magic there's no barrier between us - I unbuckle my seat belt and dive over the seat (and the place where the goblin's head used to be) to grab the wheel. His foot must still be on the gas: We're already off the road and accelerating.

I try to steer us back, but I don't actually know how to drive. I jerk the wheel to the left, and the side of the taxi slams into a wooden fence. The airbag goes off in my face, and I go flying backwards, the car still smashing into something, probably more fence. I never thought I'd die like *this*...

The taxi comes to a stop before I come up with a way to save myself.

I'm half on the floor, and I've hit my head on the window, then the seat. When I eventually tell Penny about all this, I'm skipping the part where I took off my safety belt.

I stretch my arm up over my head and pull the door handle. The door opens, and I fall out of the taxi onto my back in the grass. It looks like we've gone through the fence and spun out into a field. The engine is still running. I climb to my feet, groaning, then reach into the driver's window and turn it off.

It's a spectacle in there. Blood all over the airbag. And the body. And me.

I go through the goblin's jacket, but don't find anything besides a packet of gum and a carpet knife. This doesn't feel like the Humdrum's work - there's no itchy sign of him in the air. I take a deep breath just to be sure.



4

Read **The Chosen One** in which Simon is the storyteller again. Answer the questions.

- 1 What do the underlined words mean? Look them up and write them with their meaning in your word file.
- 2 Simon is The Chosen One. True / False
- 3 A prophecy always turns out to be true. True / False
- 4 Simon still doesn't believe he is a super powerful magician. True / False
- 5 Simon doesn't know how to control his power. True / False
- 6 The people at Watford look down on normal people True / False
- 7 The Greatest Mage, The Chosen One and The Power of Powers are three different people. True / False
- 8 How would you feel if one day, you were told you were The Chosen One, taken to a magic castle or school, and found out you have powers? Explain your answer in about 50 words.

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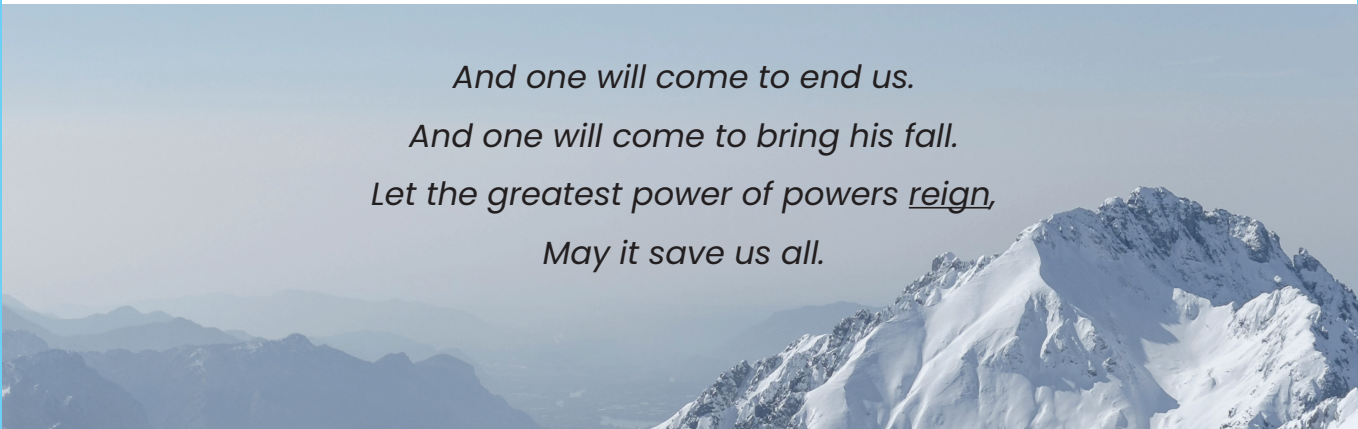
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The Chosen One

Most magicians know who I am. Most of them knew I was coming before I knew myself; there's a prophecy about me - a few prophecies, actually - about a super powerful magician who'll come along and fix everything.

*And one will come to end us.
And one will come to bring his fall.
Let the greatest power of powers reign,
May it save us all.*



The Greatest Mage. The Chosen One. The Power of Powers.

It still feels strange believing that that bloke's supposed to be me. But I can't deny it either. I mean, nobody else has power like mine. I can't always control it or direct it, but it's there.

I think when I showed up at Watford, people had sort of given up on the old prophecies. Or wondered if the Greatest Mage had come and gone without anybody ever noticing. I don't think *anybody* expected the Chosen One to come from the Normal world - from mundanity.

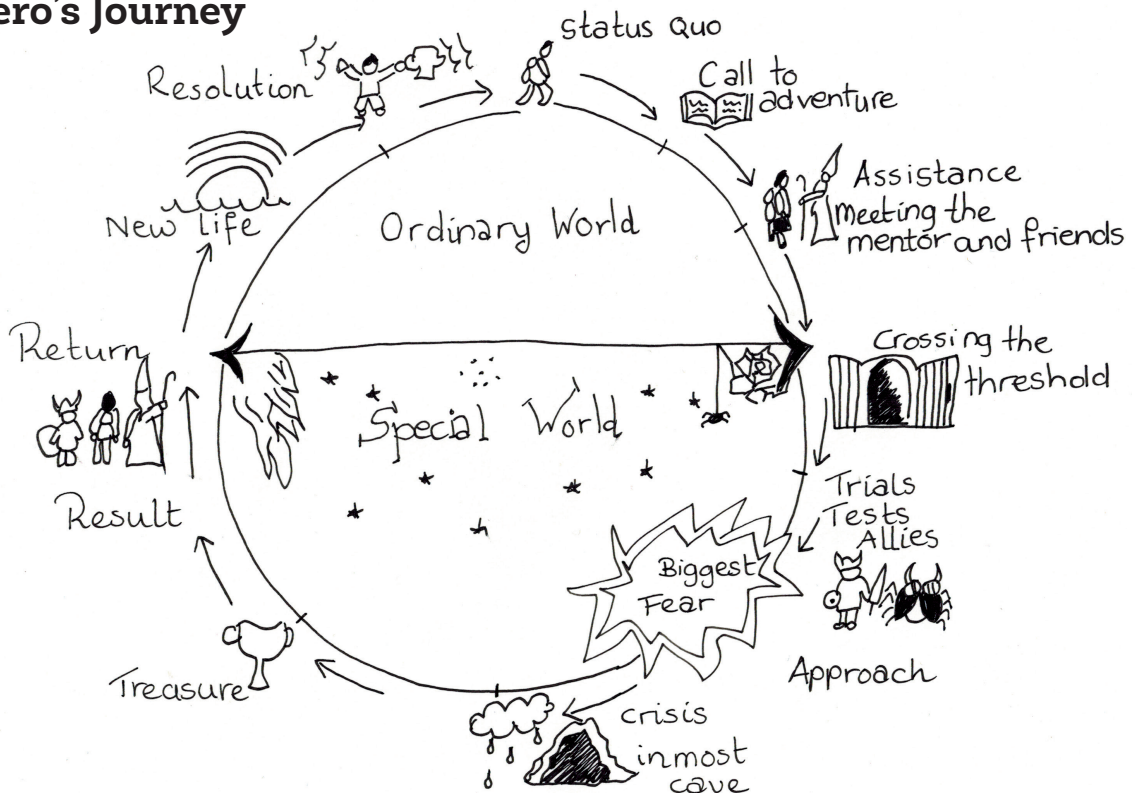


5

Look at **The Hero's Journey** and watch **What Makes a Hero** by Matthew Winkler. Then answer the questions.

- 1 In 'Carry On' and 'The Chosen One', where is Simon's Special World?
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- 2 What is Simon's call to adventure?
.....
- 3 Watch the beginning of **Spiderman: Into the Spider-Verse**, by Sony Animation. This is where we meet the main character. Answer the questions about the Ordinary World of this film.
 - 1 What is the setting?
 - 2 Describe the main character, Miles Morales, and his life in at least 30 words.
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- 4 Now watch **Meeting the Others**, in which Miles crosses the threshold and meets his allies. Where does he cross the threshold into the special world?
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- 5 Which of Miles' allies is your favourite? Explain your answer.
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The Hero's Journey





6

Choose any film you want from the fantasy genre. Watch it and answer as many questions as you can. Look at **The Hero's Journey** and watch **What Makes a Hero** again to help you.

- 1 Why did you choose this film?
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- 2 Describe the ordinary world and the hero.
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- 3 What do you like about the hero?
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- 4 At what point in the film does the hero realise that their world has changed?
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- 5 Who is/are the mentor(s)? Describe him/her/them.
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- 6 Which of the allies and/or enemies is your favourite? Explain your answer.
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- 7 Would you go on this adventure if it happened to you? Explain your answer.
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- 8 Describe the big Ordeal.
 - 1 What is the hero's biggest ordeal?
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 - 2 Do they win? Explain what happens.
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- 9 What is the treasure, or reward, that the hero gets after he is reborn?
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- 10 Describe the new status quo. What has changed in the hero's ordinary world, after everything that's happened?
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- 11 Do you think the hero did the right thing, answering the call to adventure? Explain your answer.
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