

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Period: \_\_\_\_\_

# The Heroic Journey Literary Genre

## Kindred by Octavia Butler | English 10H

**Directions:** Do NOT be lazy. Use **complete sentences** when writing. If you have questions, please ask.

1. **The Call**—The moment the hero is called on a quest is known as her call. The hero may make a deliberate decision to begin a journey or may have no choice.

**Dana's First Calling:**

2. **Allies**—Individuals who assist the hero during the journey are known as allies. They may be acquired at any point during the journey and may be family members, friends, guides, animals, or even gods.

**Dana's Allies:**

3. **The Preparation**—The hero needs to prepare for the journey. Her needs may be physical (e.g., training, supplies, etc.) or they may be knowledge-based, such as information. Occasionally, the preparation is psychological. For instance, the hero may have to muster courage to begin her great adventure.

**Dana's "Supplies:"**

4. **Guardians of the Threshold**—The hero encounters obstacles that interfere with or delay the start of the journey. The obstacles may be literal (e.g., physical barriers or individuals who oppose the hero) or figurative (e.g., fears and doubts).

**Dana's Obstacles:**

5. **Crossing the Threshold**—The hero actually begins her journey, crossing over into a new and unfamiliar world. Often, the hero realizes that in this new place, the “underworld,” she must acquire new skills or knowledge to function well.

**Dana's Strategies for Survival:**

6. **Road of Trials**—The hero faces a series of difficult experiences that test the courage, strength, intelligence, determination, and wisdom of the hero in the “underworld.” It may even seem that she has no hope or chance of getting out of a dangerous situation

**Elaborate:**

7. **The Saving Experience**—Just when things are at their worst for the hero, she meets a special person, has a powerful experience, or receives a special gift that “saves” her, enabling her to achieve the goal of the journey.

**Saving Experiences (think of other people & return methods):**

8. **The Transformation**—The hero is changing, now understanding the “underworld” around her and adapting accordingly. The transformation of the hero is sometimes physical, often mental, emotional, and/or spiritual.

**Changes in Dana (& Kevin):**

9. **The Return**—The hero returns to the “normal world,” but now sees life differently because of the journey.

**The Return of Kevin & Dana:**

10. **Sharing the Gift**—The hero shares the gift of experience, knowledge, wisdom—gained through the journey—with the broader community.

**Does this happen?**