

It's a Wonderful Life as a Hero's Journey

It's a Wonderful Life is a classic holiday film that tells the story of George Bailey, a man who is shown the value of his life through a series of events on Christmas Eve. Through its portrayal of George's journey, the film can be seen as an example of the hero's journey, a narrative pattern that is common in many stories and myths.

In the hero's journey, a character is called to adventure and embarks on a journey of self-discovery and growth. They face challenges and obstacles along the way, and ultimately return home as a changed person.

In It's a Wonderful Life, George Bailey is called to adventure when he is visited by an angel named Clarence, who shows him what the world would be like if he had never been born. This journey takes George through a series of alternate realities and helps him to see the value of his own life.

Throughout the film, George faces a number of challenges and obstacles. He is faced with financial struggles and the temptation to give up on his dreams, and he must confront his own feelings of inadequacy and failure.

Despite these challenges, George perseveres and eventually comes to see the value of his own life. He realizes that even though he may not have achieved all of his goals or lived the life he had always imagined, he has made a positive impact on the lives of those around him.

In the end, George returns home as a changed person, grateful for the life he has and the people in it. He has completed his hero's journey and learned valuable lessons about the importance of family, community, and appreciation for the present moment.

Overall, It's a Wonderful Life is a heartwarming and timeless tale that exemplifies the hero's journey narrative pattern. Through its portrayal of George's journey, the film showcases the value of perseverance and self-discovery, and the importance of finding gratitude and appreciation for the present moment.