Heroes Within

OSHER 437-001
Times: 3:15 PM – 4:45 PM
Location: Commander's House, Fort Douglas
Instructor: Pamela Carlquist, pcarlquist@gmail.com

Course Overview

“We must be willing to let go of the life we planned so as to have the life that is waiting for us.” - Joseph Campbell

Within each of us lies the call to courage, waiting to spring forth at any juncture. Many great works of literature, from ancient to modern times, explore this theme of the hero within and offer insights into the ways in which one may either consciously or inadvertently fall into this role. Read Sophocles’ Oedipus the King, Ernest Hemingway’s The Old Man and the Sea and Ken Kesey’s One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest to examine in very different ways this journey of soul. Discover, also, the hero within yourself and those you love through the reading of these and other short works of literature, as well as through class discussions and writing opportunities.

I have been an educator for nearly 40 years, teaching English curriculum in junior high, high school and college-level courses and conducting workshops for adults. I have also published numerous articles and short stories, am finishing a novel and gift book and have written a memoir, which was recently published. In addition, I have presented at various writing conferences and motivational workshops throughout Utah and have been an instructor for several previous Osher writing and literature courses. If you have any suggestions or ideas that you would like me to implement along the way, please feel free to share those with me at any time.

Texts

OEDIPUS THE KING by Sophocles
OLD MAN AND THE SEA by Ernest Hemingway
ONE FLEW OVER THE CUCKOO’S NEST by Ken Kesey
Tentative Calendar

Please come to the first class having read any introductory material found in your copy of *Oedipus the King*. If for some reason you cannot keep up with the reading, you will still gain insights from class discussions, film clips and other exercises during each class; however, active reading of each work will ensure a much fuller experience.

**Week 1 (4/3)**
- Introductions and Class Overview
- Short works and/or writing exercise on the topic, “The Hero Within”
- Introduction to *Oedipus the King*
- DVD selections: *Oedipus the King*
- Read play for Class Two
- Optional writing assignment on “The Hero Within”

**Week 2 (4/10)**
- Short works, sharing and/or writing on the topic, “The Hero Within”
- Discussion of *Oedipus the King*
- Introduction of *The Old Man and the Sea*
- Read *The Old Man and the Sea* for Class Three

**Week 3 (4/17)**
- Short works, sharing and/or writing on the topic, “The Hero Within”
- Discussion of *The Old Man and the Sea*
- Introduction of *One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest*
- Read the first third of *One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest* for Class Four

**Week 4 (4/24)**
- Short works, sharing and/or writing on the topic, “The Hero Within”
- Discussion of *One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest*
- DVD selections: *One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest*
- Read second third of *One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest* for Class Five

**Week 5 (5/1)**
- Short works, sharing and/or writing on the topic, “The Hero Within”
- Discussion of *The One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest*
- DVD selections: *One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest*
- Finish *One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest* for Class Six

**Week 6 (5/8)**
- Short works, sharing and/or writing on the topic, “The Hero Within”
- Discussion of *The One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest*
- Closing Exercise: “The Hero Within”