

The Absurd Hero

“Alas, after a certain age every man is responsible for his face.”

Characteristics

- The hero recognizes the apparent meaninglessness of the universe.
- The hero is an alienated individual by birthright NOT by being kicked out of society.
- The hero is a rebel who refuses to avoid the contrast between his desires for unity and purpose in his life and his recognition of the meaninglessness of life.
- The struggle defines the man. The hero is in constant conflict between his inner hopes and dreams and the cold reality of life. All his behavior and speech center around resolving the conflict.
- Though victory is questionable, defeat is never final.