

## Act I

### Stage 4: Meeting with the Mentor

- Here our Hero gains supplies, knowledge & confidence to overcome fear and commence the adventure
- Mentor is a source of wisdom, even if not a character (history, maps, books...)
- Hero-Mentor relationship is an emotional one
  - Rich in potential humor, involvement, conflict and tragedy
- Good teacher or mentor is *enthused* about learning, and their enthusiasm can be transmitted to students or readers (hopefully both!)– they are contagious
- Be careful of cliché mentors
- Mentors can be tricky, and bad, leading astray – not all are to be trusted
- Overprotective mentors can lead to tragedy
- Mentors can be evolved heroes experienced enough to teach others
- Mentor is often a brief passing influence
- *Mentors get story unstuck by giving aid, advice, or magical equipment*
  - When **writers** get stuck, they may seek mentors just like heroes do
    - Writers are mentors of kinds to their readers – great responsibility!