

QUESTION: “Heroism is revealed not only in brave strong deeds, but also in the quiet endurance of hardship.”

With this definition in mind, choose TWO texts and show how each text illustrates ONE kind of heroism.

A hero can be defined as a character who, in the face of danger and adversity or from a position of weakness, displays moral excellence and the courage and will for self sacrifice.

THE CHRYSALIDS: HEROIC DEEDS

- 1) Uncle Axel: Displays unwavering friendship and loyalty to David. Hiding David’s secret was extremely dangerous as it could have led to his death. He however kept their secrets, provided them with counsel, and eventually killed Alan Ervin, who threatened to expose their secret, in order to protect David and the other telepaths.
- 2) David: Demonstrates determination to protect and preserve his group of friends, especially Rosalind and Petra. He successfully led the group to safety and they were eventually rescued. He fights with Alan Ervin in order to defend Sophie, overnights at the Wender’s house in order to give them a chance to escape and also endured pain and torture to protect Sophie’s identity and secret, because he didn’t agree with his father’s doctrines.
- 3) Katherine: Tried to protect the group for as long as she could endure. She tolerated brutal torture before she surrendered.
- 4) The Sealand woman: Is displayed in the typical role of a heroine as she is described to be almost like an angel “white suited, perfection of a sculpture...perfect, as if neither wind nor rain had ever touched her...framed by a halo.” She braved a long and perilous journey to rescue Petra and the group of telepaths.
- 5) Aunt Harriet: Openly defies Joseph and his doctrines, something not typically seen in the novel.
- 6) Rosalind: Fights courageously and even murders a man in order to protect the people she loves.
- 7) Sophie: What makes her a hero is her immediate reaction to save David when she sees that he has been hurt. She has no motive for her kindness, except to repay him for what he did for her family years ago. She also displays courage when she is thrown into the Fringes and then sacrifices herself to save the Rosalind and Petra. Despite her envious feelings towards Rosalind, she puts that all aside to save the one David loves because she loves him.
- 8) Michael: Remaining behind in The Fringes, choosing not to be rescued by the Sealand woman in order to go back for Rachel.