A black and white clapperboard is shown at an angle. The top edge has a black and white checkered pattern. The main body of the clapperboard is black with the text "Storytelling and Characters" written in white, sans-serif font. The text is centered and arranged in three lines: "Storytelling", "and", and "Characters".

Storytelling
and
Characters

Protagonist

Antagonist

Static Character

Dynamic

Characters

Anti-Hero

Cameo

Foil

Exposition

Flashback

Climax

Archetype

Protagonist

The principal character in a film
The hero of a story.



Protagonists

Antagonist

The villain or obstacle the hero must overcome. a.k.a. "the bad guy" but better thought of as the opponent of the protagonist. The action of a story arises from conflict between the antagonist and protagonist. ***The Wizard of Oz*** is a struggle between the Wicked Witch of the West and Dorothy.

The antagonist need not be a person at all but may be an animal, an inanimate object or even nature itself.



Antagonist

Static and Dynamic Characters

Static character

A character who remains the same throughout a narrative. Static characters do not develop or change beyond the way in which they are first presented.

Dynamic character

A character who changes, especially one who comes to a major realization. The realization may or may not change the character's actions, but the character must never be able to see the world in quite the same way. Not all protagonists are dynamic. Rarely does a short story have more than one or two dynamic characters.

A Static Character and a Dynamic Character

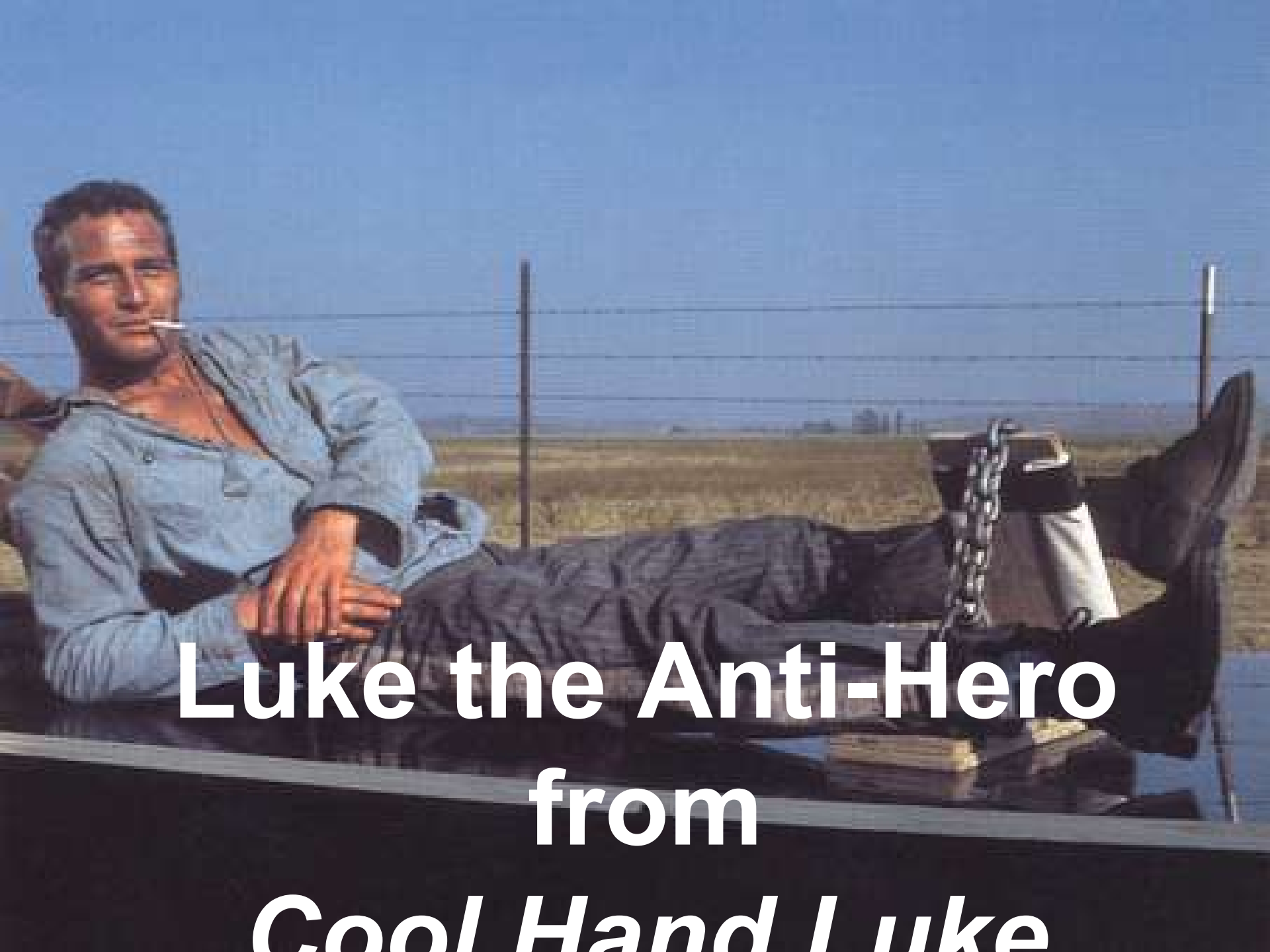


Scene From

A protagonist lacking attributes or characteristics of a typical hero. Anti-Heroes are often conflicted with ambiguous morals, defects and eccentricities, and may lack courage and honesty. The anti-hero can be tough yet sympathetic, or display vulnerable and weak traits. Anti-heroes functions outside mainstream society. Examples: Paul Newman in ***Hud*** , and ***Cool Hand Luke***. Clint Eastwood's 'Man with No Name' in various spaghetti westerns and his role as 'Dirty Harry' in ***Dirty Harry***, Jack Nicholson's rebellious anti-hero in ***One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest***.

Anti-Hero





Luke the Anti-Hero
from
Cool Hand Luke

Cameo

A bit part (usually a brief, non-speaking or walk-on role that is uncredited or unbilled) or special screen appearance by a famous actor, director, or prominent person who would ordinarily not take such a small part;

Examples: Alfred Hitchcock's witty, trademark cameos in his own films such as in ***North by Northwest (1959)***; and the many cameos in Robert Altman's ***The Player***, and in ***Austin Powers in Goldmember***.

Alfred Hitchcock appeared in a cameo in all of his movies- He is appears in ***The Birds***.



Foil

A character that is used for personality comparison or contrast, usually with the protagonist or main character, as a means to show and highlight a character trait.

Foils are seen in buddy films or where there is a smart man and a dumb man as with George and Lenny in ***Of Mice and Men***.

Willim Munny and Ned Logan





Hans Solo is Luke Skywalker's Fo



**Spock is Captain Kirk's
Foil**

Exposition

The conveyance (usually by dialogue or action) of important background information for the events of a story; or the set up of a film's story, including what's at stake for the characters, the initial problem, and other main problems.

Flashback

A filmic technique that alters the natural order of the narrative; a flashback may often be the entire film; it takes the story order back chronologically in time to a previous or past event, scene, or sequence that took place prior to the present time frame of the film.

The flashbacked story that provides background on action and events is often called the back-story;

Citizen Kane (s composed mostly of flashbacks and flash-forwards - i.e., Joseph Cotten in a rest home remembering the past, in a flashback. In ***Casablanca*** the action moves to Paris for a short time in the middle of the movie as a flashback.



During the Flashback to Paris

Climax

The climax is the point at which some event or decision turns the action of the narrative and releases the building tension. Climax generally occurs at or near the end of a film.

In ***The Raiders of the Lost Ark***, the Climax occurs when the Ark is opened and the Germans are “melted”

In ***Casablanca***, the climax occurs at the airport and specifically, when Rick shoots Major Strasser.



**Climatic scenes
from Casablanca
and The Raiders
of the Lost Ark**



Archetype

An original kind or type character, place, or thing, that is repeatedly presented in films with a particular style or characterization; an archetype usually applies to a specific genre or type classification. Examples: the whore with a heart of gold on the trip to Lordsburg in ***Stagecoach*** or the redneck sheriff in ***In the Heat of the Night*** are both archetypes.



Dirty Harry is an Archtype



**Sam
Spade**

**The
Private
Eye**



The Super Hero



Atticus Finch, Father, Lawyer, and
Honorable Man

**The
gangster**

**The
Godfather**



What is the archetype of this character?





**The
good
cowboy**

complet

e

with

white

hat

**Can you
name other
archetypes?**



**THE
END**