

C.E.S

Ms. Fargo

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Piggy: The Sidekick or the Outsider?

In *Lord of the Flies* by William Golding, multiple archetypes can describe Piggy. We all know that he is the brains of all the children and is undoubtedly the smartest person on the island. You could say he is best described as an outsider and a sidekick, probably more but those are the most important and I need to talk about my reasoning for these archetypes.

How does Piggy show the archetype of a sidekick? The conch idea is Piggy's idea but Ralph shares it with everybody else and Piggy doesn't say that he actually had the idea to use it. "We can use this to call the others. Have a meeting. They'll come when they hear us. . . My auntie won't let me blow on account of my asthma....You try, Ralph. You'll call the others . ." What that shows is that a sidekick like Piggy doesn't try to do better than the primary hero. An example of this is Batman and Robin, Robin tries to do well but never tries to be better than Batman. You can also say he is a thinker for the same reason that was that he had the idea to use the conch as a speaking stick, which I could use the same quote as before.

How does Piggy show he has the traits of an outsider? It is pretty obvious that Piggy is also the outsider of the island too. He doesn't participate in activities that the other boys participate in on account of his asthma. "I can't swim. I wasn't allowed. My asthma-" (pg.13) Piggy is not just an outsider because of his asthma but also because he was bullied at his school. "I don't care what they call me, so long as they don't call me what they used to call me at

school.” (pg.11) On page 16 there is evidence of Piggy not being used to having friends. ““He had some white stones too, an’ a birdcage with a green parrot. He didn't blow the white stones, of course, an’ he said-” ““Piggy paused for a breath . . .”” (pg. 16) Piggy explained all of this in too much detail. Like how if I wanted a friend really badly I might accidentally make things really awkward.

There is enough evidence for both sides of the debate you could argue about this for a very long time. Out of the two archetypes for Piggy, I would say he is best described as an outsider. So even though Piggy the sidekick makes more sense and sounds better it has to be Piggy the outsider.