

THE CAREER AUTHOR



Bonus Episode 3 // *Forrest Gump* (1994)



The presidencies of Kennedy and Johnson, Vietnam, Watergate, and other history unfold through the perspective of an Alabama man with an IQ of 75.

Genre: Drama/Romance

<http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0109830/>

Progressive
Complication
(1:41:00) -
Forrest's mother
dies and Jenny
returns.

Crisis (1:48:00)
- Does Forrest
ask Jenny to
marry him or let
her go?

Inciting Incident
(13:45) - Forrest
meets Jenny on
the bus.

Climax
(1:50:00) - At
first, Jenny says
no but she
sleeps with
Forrest before
leaving again.

Resolution
(1:52:00) -
Forrest starts
running.

"Life is like a box of chocolates...you never know what you're gonna get."

THE THREE FOUR ACTS?

Act I

Everything in Act I builds to Forrest enlisting in the military after finishing college at Alabama.

Act II - *Aprox. 30% mark (00:50:00)*

The second act contains most of the Progressive Complications which arise during his tour in Vietnam and when he is away from his love, Jenny. It ends with Forrest being discharged and purchasing a shrimp boat.

Act III - *Aprox. 70% mark (01:40:00)*

Forrest's mother dies in the beginning of Act III and Jenny comes home again.

Act III - *Aprox. 70% mark (02:00:00)*

After realizing he doesn't need to take a bus to Jenny's apartment, Forrest gets off the bench beginning what seems to be a fourth act.

The Protagonist –
Forrest Gump

Wants to?

Be Jenny's boyfriend and then husband.

Needs?

To protect the ones he loves (Jenny, his mother, Bubba, etc.)



The Antagonist –
Forrest Gump

Wants to?

?

Needs?

?



CHARACTER ARCHETYPES

**The
Mentor -
Lt. Dan**

**Threshold
Guardian**

**Herald -
Jenny**

**Shape
Shifter -
Lt. Dan
Forrest**

Shadow

**The Ally -
Bubba**

**The
Trickster**

**More on Campbell's archetypes - <https://mythcreants.com/blog/the-eight-character-archetypes-of-the-heros-journey/>*

DOES THE MOVIE WORK? WHY OR WHY NOT?

J: Not really but it is still a phenomenal movie and a Hollywood classic. Zemeckis appeared to break many of the conventions of storytelling.

Zach: On Forrest Gump: Despite going against the tried and true formulas of story telling, Forrest Gump turns the idea of a love story on its head by taking you on a journey aside a lovable character and his quest to understand life and love through his own simple being. Forrest Gump is a character driven movie with a protagonist so endearing, that it manages to stand as an outlier and an American classic. Somehow, against all odds, it totally works, and it's an amazing film.