Contents

Acknowledgements | 7

1.	Introduction:	Structural	Ambiguity	/	9
----	---------------	------------	------------------	---	---

- 2. Myth: Its Functions, Structure, and Workings in Society and (Contemporary Popular) Culture | 25
- 2.1 Functions of Myth | 25
- 2.2 The Structure of Myth (As a Reflection of Human Consciousness) | 33
- 2.3 The Limitations of Structures and Mythical Ambiguity | 41
- 2.4 Myth as Ideology | 44
- 2.5 Myth and Popular Culture | 54
- 3. The Superstructures of Star Wars and Harry Potter | 61
- 3.1 A Structural 'Star Wars' 161
- 3.2 Dichotomised Frames: Harry Potter | 70
- 4. The Mythical Ambiguity of Star Wars and Harry Potter | 83
- 4.1 Star Wars's Equivocal Messages | 83
- 4.2 Harry Potter's Ambiguous Intent | 95
- 5. Evil Deconstruction | 109
- 5.1 Questioning Dichotomies: The Emperor +109
- 5.2 'Play With Security': Voldemort | 122
- 6. Villainous Heroes and Heroic Villains | 145
- 6.1 'Star-Cross'd' Choice-Maker: Anakin Skywalker / Darth Vader | 145
- 6.2 Villain-Type and Silent Hero: Severus Snape | 172
- 7. Ideal Individuals | 191
- 7.1 Unity in Duality / Duality in Unity: Harry Potter | 191
- 7.2 Type and Individual: Luke Skywalker | 214



8.	Imperfect	Ideals:	The	Women's	Question	1229
----	-----------	---------	-----	---------	----------	------

- 8.1 Ambiguous Developments: Female Characters in *Star Wars* | 229
- 8.2 Stasis and Play: Women in *Harry Potter* | 247

9. Individuals, Helpers, and Structural Necessities | 271

- 9.1 Good Nature Versus Evil Technology:
 - Humanoid Characters in Star Wars | 271
- 9.2 Structures and Formulas Promoting Social Equality (?): Humanoids in *Harry Potter* | 287

10. Structural Displacement: Ethnic Diversity in Star Wars and Harry Potter | 311

- 10.1 Token-Blacks and Evil Aliens: Star Wars | 311
- 10.2 19th-Century Conflicts and Social Awareness: Ambiguous Otherness in *Harry Potter* | 322

11. The End(ings): Conclusion | 345

12. Works Cited | 371

Primary Sources | 371

Secondary Sources | 372

Internet Sources | 387

13. Appendices | 389

Appendix 1 | 389

Appendix 2 | 390

Appendix 3 | 391 Appendix 4 | 392