

# Hiccup In How To Train Your Dragon



Hiccup is the central character in the "How to Train Your Dragon" series, a beloved saga created by Cressida Cowell and brought to life by DreamWorks Animation. Hiccup Horrendous Haddock III is a young Viking who defies the traditions of his tribe by forming an unlikely friendship with a dragon named Toothless. This article delves into Hiccup's development throughout the series, his relationships, and the themes of courage and understanding that permeate the narrative.

## Character Development

Hiccup begins his journey as an awkward and introspective young Viking, struggling to fit into the societal expectations of his clan. His evolution from an insecure boy to a confident leader is central to the narrative.

## Initial Struggles

At the beginning of the story, Hiccup is portrayed as the underdog. He is not physically strong like his peers, which is a significant source of insecurity for him. His father, Stoick the Vast, is the chief of the tribe and embodies the rugged Viking ideal. Hiccup's initial struggles include:

1. **Physical Inadequacies:** Hiccup does not possess the brute strength typical of a Viking.
2. **Social Acceptance:** He feels like an outsider among his peers who are adept at dragon hunting.
3. **Parental Expectations:** Hiccup grapples with the pressure to live up to his father's legacy.

## Friendship with Toothless

The turning point in Hiccup's life comes when he befriends Toothless, a Night Fury dragon. This relationship is pivotal, showcasing themes of empathy and understanding.

- Breaking Stereotypes: Hiccup learns that dragons are not the enemies they have always been portrayed as. His bond with Toothless allows him to see beyond the fear and hatred that his tribe harbors towards dragons.
- Mutual Growth: As Hiccup helps Toothless heal from his injuries, both characters experience personal growth, learning to trust and rely on each other.

## Becoming a Leader

Hiccup's journey to becoming a leader is marked by various challenges:

1. Facing Adversity: Hiccup must confront both external threats, such as the dragon-infested world, and internal conflicts, like his insecurities.
2. Making Hard Choices: His decisions often reflect a moral compass that prioritizes understanding over violence.
3. Gaining Respect: Over time, Hiccup earns the respect of his peers and ultimately becomes a key figure in Viking society.

## Relationships

Hiccup's relationships are integral to his character development and the overarching narrative.

### Relationship with Stoick

Hiccup's relationship with his father, Stoick, is complex and evolves throughout the series:

- Conflict and Understanding: Initially, Stoick is frustrated with Hiccup's non-traditional approaches. However, as the story progresses, he begins to appreciate Hiccup's unique perspective and strengths.
- Father-Son Bond: Their bond strengthens when Stoick recognizes Hiccup's bravery and intellect, culminating in a shared mission to protect both Vikings and dragons.

### Friendships with Other Vikings

Hiccup also forges strong friendships with fellow dragon riders:

1. Astrid Hofferson: Initially a rival, Astrid becomes Hiccup's love interest and ally. Their

relationship showcases themes of partnership and mutual respect.

2. Snotlout, Fishlegs, and the Twins: Hiccup's interactions with these characters provide comic relief and highlight the importance of camaraderie in overcoming challenges.

## **Toothless: The Bond Between Boy and Dragon**

The relationship between Hiccup and Toothless is the heart of the series. It represents:

- Trust and Loyalty: Their bond exemplifies the idea that true friendship transcends species and preconceived notions.
- Growth Together: Both characters grow and change throughout the series, learning from each other's strengths and weaknesses.

## **Themes Explored in Hiccup's Journey**

Hiccup's story encapsulates several profound themes that resonate with audiences of all ages.

### **Understanding and Empathy**

A central theme in Hiccup's journey is the importance of understanding and empathy, particularly towards those who are different.

- Challenging Prejudices: Hiccup's friendship with Toothless challenges the Viking tradition of dragon hunting, promoting the idea that understanding can lead to harmony.
- Bridging Divides: By forming a bond with a dragon, Hiccup illustrates that empathy can bridge significant divides, fostering peace.

### **Courage and Identity**

Hiccup's journey is also about finding courage within himself and embracing his unique identity.

1. Inner Strength: Hiccup's courage is not just physical but also moral, as he stands up for his beliefs against the status quo.
2. Embracing Uniqueness: Hiccup learns to embrace his differences, realizing that they are his greatest strengths.

### **Growth Through Adversity**

Adversity plays a crucial role in Hiccup's growth:

- Facing Fears: Hiccup's journey is filled with moments of fear and doubt, yet each challenge pushes him closer to realizing his potential.
- Learning from Failures: Hiccup encounters failures, but rather than being discouraged, he uses them as stepping stones for personal growth.

## **Cultural Impact and Legacy**

The character of Hiccup has left a lasting impact on popular culture, resonating with audiences around the world.

## **Representation of Non-Traditional Heroes**

Hiccup represents a shift in the portrayal of heroes in animated films:

- Intellect Over Brawn: Unlike traditional hero archetypes, Hiccup relies on his intellect, creativity, and compassion rather than brute strength.
- Relatable Flaws: Hiccup's insecurities and struggles make him a relatable character for viewers, inspiring them to embrace their uniqueness.

## **Influence on Modern Animation**

The success of Hiccup's character has influenced the direction of modern animated films:

1. Complex Characters: More films now feature complex protagonists that have depth and growth arcs.
2. Themes of Acceptance: The focus on acceptance and understanding in "How to Train Your Dragon" has encouraged other filmmakers to explore similar themes.

## **Conclusion**

In conclusion, Hiccup Horrendous Haddock III stands as a powerful symbol of courage, understanding, and the transformative power of friendship. His journey from an insecure young Viking to a respected leader showcases the importance of empathy and growth through adversity. As audiences continue to connect with Hiccup's story, it serves as a reminder that true strength lies not in conformity but in embracing one's unique identity and forging connections with others, regardless of their differences. The "How to Train Your Dragon" series will undoubtedly remain a cherished part of animated storytelling, and Hiccup will be remembered as a trailblazer in the realm of heroism.

# **Frequently Asked Questions**

## **What is Hiccup's full name in the How to Train Your Dragon series?**

Hiccup's full name is Hiccup Horrendous Haddock III.

## **What is the primary dragon that Hiccup befriends?**

Hiccup befriends a Night Fury named Toothless.

## **How does Hiccup's relationship with dragons evolve throughout the series?**

Hiccup's relationship with dragons evolves from fear and misunderstanding to friendship and partnership, as he learns to communicate and bond with them.

## **What is Hiccup's main goal in the first How to Train Your Dragon movie?**

Hiccup's main goal in the first movie is to prove himself as a Viking warrior by capturing a dragon, but he ultimately seeks to create peace between dragons and humans.

## **What unique trait does Hiccup possess that helps him understand dragons?**

Hiccup possesses a unique ability to empathize with dragons, allowing him to understand their behavior and needs.

## **How does Hiccup's leadership style differ from traditional Viking methods?**

Hiccup's leadership style is more compassionate and inclusive, focusing on understanding and cooperation rather than brute strength and aggression.

## **What significant invention does Hiccup create to aid in dragon training?**

Hiccup invents a variety of dragon-related gadgets, including a harness and dragon training tools, to help train Toothless and other dragons.

## **What challenges does Hiccup face as a leader in the subsequent films?**

Hiccup faces challenges such as uniting different tribes, dealing with new threats to dragons, and reconciling his responsibilities as a chief with his personal desires.

# How does Hiccup's character develop through the trilogy?

Hiccup's character develops from a shy, misunderstood boy into a confident leader who embraces his role as a chief and protector of both dragons and his people.

## What is the significance of Hiccup's relationship with his father, Stoick?

Hiccup's relationship with Stoick is central to his character development, highlighting themes of acceptance, understanding, and the struggle between tradition and progress.

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