**Aristotle’s RHETORIC**

****

Tragedy depicts the downfall of a **NOBLE HERO** or heroine, usually through some combination of

**HUBRIS = excessive pride or self-confidence;** **arrogance.**

**and FATE**

**The tragic hero’s** powerful wish to achieve some goal inevitably encounters limits, usually those of human frailty (**ambition, power, hubris**)

Aristotle says that the tragic hero should have a flaw and/or make some mistake (**HAMARTIA**).

The hero need not die at the end, but he / she must undergo a change in fortune.

In addition, the tragic hero may achieve some revelation or recognition (**ANAGNORISIS. “KNOWING AGAIN”)** about human fate, destiny, and the will of the gods.

**CATHARSIS – A cleansing of guilt**