Lord Byron, the creator and inspiration for the Byronic hero. With complete disregard for the disdain of the public over his homosexual and implied incestuous relationships, tendencies of Lord Byron can be found in many modern Byronic heroes.

The Byronic Hero, as defined by Atara Stein, “is a loner who often displays a quick temper or brooding angst, or both, and lacks the ability to relate to others.”

Heathcliff of Wuthering Heights, and Rochester of Jane Eyre, are two of the most powerful examples of a Byronic hero. In drawing comparisons between the two of them and Edward Cullen, the similarities are striking.

From Dawn to Twilight:

Bram Stoker’s Dracula

Within the last twenty years, vampires have been presented as romantic figures longing for love, and are arguably the modern understanding of what a Byronic hero could be.

“The Byronic philosophy,” says Deborah Lutz, “sees love as the ultimate, and only essential truth and final resting place for the one in this life. Love is the only force that still holds meaning.” If one believes this to be true, it becomes clear that Edward is incontestably a Byronic hero.