

Protagonist

(Greek πρωταγωνιστής, 'First actor, combatant'
from πρώτος, *prótos*, 'the first' and ἄγω, *ágo*, 'I act, move, lead')

The first actor in a play; thence **the principal actor or character**.
The protagonist has come to be the equivalent of the hero.

Antagonist

(Greek ανταγωνιστής, *andagonistís*, 'opponent')

In drama or fiction the antagonist **opposes the efforts of the protagonist**.
Also the villain, opponent, adversary or anti-hero.