

Science Fiction

Genre Study



What is a genre?

- It's pronounced "zhahn-ruh"
- A category of artistic work
- Examples: country music, haiku poetry, romance novels
- And of course...science fiction!

What is science fiction?

- Science fiction stories are related to the principles of science.
- These stories involve partially true — partially fictitious (made up) laws or theories of science.

AKA Speculative Fiction

- Speculative means to wonder what would or could happen; what could be possible.
- Science fiction is known for asking “What if?”
- Take a scientific principle and twist, exaggerate or otherwise change it.

Example:

- Miracle Gro makes plants grow faster, bigger, stronger (scientific principle)
- What if a plant got too much and became invincible?
- What if it started to take over the world?
- What if the human race was threatened by the ever-growing master race of plants!?
- Eegads!

Common attributes (or qualities) of science fiction

- Futuristic
- Past – recreated differently
- Time travel
- Technology including artificial intelligence and robots
- Aliens
- Space travel
- Inventions
- Problems caused by environment, contagions (viruses, bacteria, etc.), technology

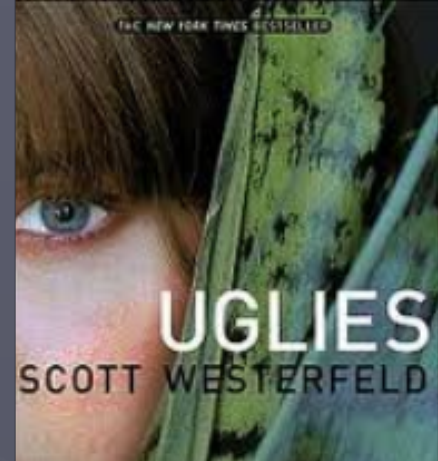
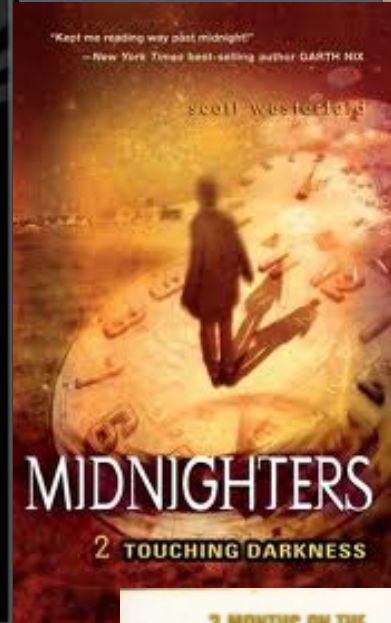
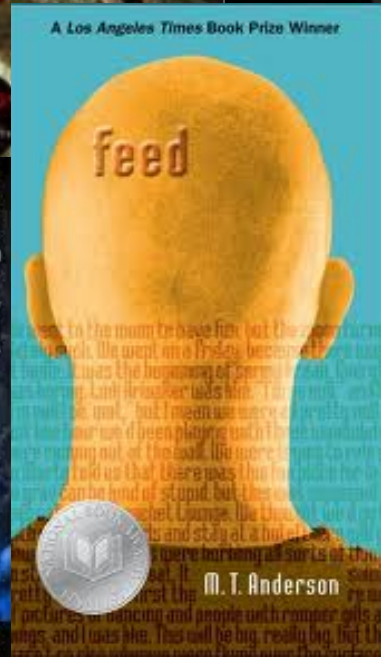
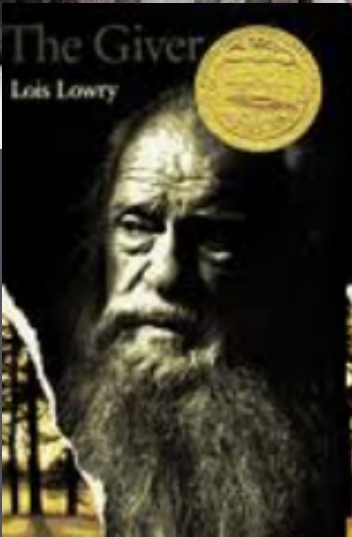
Common Themes

- Remember that a theme is a lesson or point the author wants the reader to think about.
- Good vs. Evil
- Humanity – the quality of being human and treating others kindly
- Morality – following the principles of right conduct; goodness

Sci-fi Movies



Sci-fi Books



TV Shows



How to read sci-fi

- Suspend your own sense of belief. Things will happen that aren't real
- Learn the rules of the time and place (setting)
- Watch for important details that may be important later
- Look for the theme and the author's purpose to be developed