

## Common genres: fiction :

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_literary\\_genres](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_literary_genres)

Subsets of genres, known as common genres, have developed from the archetypes of genres in written expression. The common genres included in recommended Literaturin verse or prose, usually for theatrical performance, where conflicts and emotion are expressed through dialogue and action

- [Classic](#) – fiction that has become part of an accepted literary canon, widely taught in schools
- [Comic/Graphic Novel](#) – scripted fiction told visually in artist drawn pictures, usually in panels and speech bubbles
- [Crime/Detective](#) – fiction about a committed crime, how the criminal gets caught, and the repercussions of the crime
- [Fable](#) – narration demonstrating a useful truth, especially in which animals speak as humans; legendary, supernatural tale
- [Fairy tale](#) – story about fairies or other magical creatures, usually for children
- [Fanfiction](#) – fiction written by a fan of, and featuring characters from, a particular TV series, movie, etc.
- [Fantasy](#) – fiction with strange or otherworldly settings or characters; fiction which invites suspension of reality
- Fiction narrative – literary works whose content is produced by the imagination and is not necessarily based on fact
- Fiction in verse – full-length novels with plot, subplot(s), theme(s), major and minor characters, in which the narrative is presented in verse form (usually free verse)
- [Folklore](#) – the songs, stories, myths, and proverbs of a people or "folk" as handed down by word of mouth
- [Historical fiction](#) – story with fictional characters and events in a historical setting
- [Horror](#) – fiction in which events evoke a feeling of dread and sometimes fear in both the characters and the reader
- [Humor](#) – Usually a fiction full of fun, fancy, and excitement, meant to entertain and sometimes cause intended laughter; but can be contained in all genres
- [Legend](#) – story, sometimes of a national or folk hero, that has a basis in fact but also includes imaginative material
- [Metafiction](#) – also known as romantic irony in the context of Romantic works of literature, uses self-reference to draw attention to itself as a work of art, while exposing the "truth" of a story
- [Mystery](#) – fiction dealing with the solution of a crime or the unraveling of secrets
- [Mythology](#) – legend or traditional narrative, often based in part on historical events, that reveals human behavior and natural phenomena by its symbolism; often pertaining to the actions of the gods
- [Poetry](#) – verse and rhythmic writing with imagery that creates emotional responses
- [Realistic fiction](#) – story that is true to life
- [Science fiction](#) – story based on impact of actual, imagined, or potential science, usually set in the future or on other planets
- [Short story](#) – fiction of such brevity that it supports no subplots
- [Suspense/Thriller](#) – fiction about harm about to befall a person or group and the attempts made to evade the harm
- [Tall tale](#) – humorous story with blatant exaggerations, swaggering heroes who do the impossible with nonchalance

## Common genres: nonfiction

- [Biography/Autobiography](#) - Narrative of a person's life. A true story about a real person.
- [Essay](#) - A short literary composition that reflects the author's outlook or point.

- [Narrative nonfiction](#) - Factual information presented in a format which tells a story.
- [Speech](#) - Public address or discourse.
- [Textbook](#) - Authoritative and detailed factual description of a topic.
- [Reference book](#) - Dictionary, thesaurus, encyclopedia, almanac, atlas, etc.

## **Literary fiction vs. genre fiction**

[Literary fiction](#) is a term used to distinguish certain fictional works that possess commonly held qualities that constitute literary merit. Genre works are written with the intent of fitting into a specific literary genre in order to appeal to readers and fans already familiar with that genre. Literary fiction may fit within a classification of market fiction, but also possesses generally agreed upon qualities such as "elegantly written, lyrical, and ... layered" that appeals to readers outside genre fiction. Literary fiction has been defined as any fiction that attempts to engage with one or more truths or questions, hence relevant to a broad scope of humanity as a form of expression. There are many sources that help readers find and define literary fiction and genre fiction.<sup>[1][2]</sup>