

Dare to know

Realistic Fiction

Fiction that features characters, settings, and situations that are based in reality.

A genre in which entirely fictional scenarios are set in the normal world, either in the present or the recent past. Stories deal with relatable personal problems or events, societal issues, and technology without the use of magical, fantastic, supernatural, surreal, or science fiction elements. Realist fiction features ordinary people going about their ordinary lives and reflects on the realities, absurdities, ironies, and contradictions contained therein. The story often revolves around a challenge in the protagonist's everyday life. Characters act as they might in real life, making them and the settings, conflict, and resolutions more believable to the reader. Rómulo Gallegos's *Doña Bárbara* (1929) is a classic example.

Common Elements

Personal point of view	Avant-garde narrative techniques	Falling in love
Growing self-awareness	True-to-life situations	Marriage
Relevant topics	Informal and conversational dialogue	Divorce
Mirroring of contemporary life		Jobs
		Alcoholism

Benefits of Reading

Offers readers relatable topics and characters	Permits readers to gain better understanding of themselves and their potential
Allows readers to better empathize with people in real life	Enables readers to have a broader appreciation for people of a different culture, religion, lifestyle, level of ability, or socioeconomic status
Validates readers' experiences	
Assists readers who may be facing one of life's many challenges	
Provides readers with examples of responding to difficult times	

Modern Literary Examples

The Fault in Our Stars (2012) by John
Green

The Hate U Give (2017) by Angie
Thomas

Jonathan Unleashed (2016) by Meg
Rosoff

Needle and Thread (2007) by Ann M.
Martin

Storm Mountain (2010) by Tom
Birdseye

Thirteen Reasons Why (2007) by Jay
Asher