

Genre and Subgenre

Categories of Literature

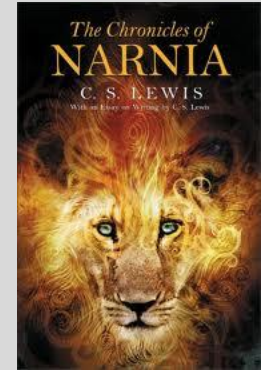
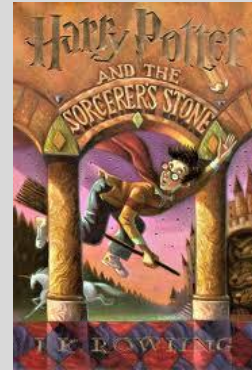


4 Main Genres

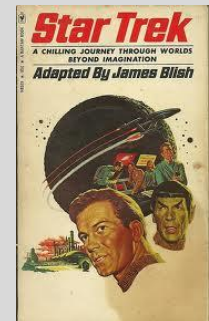
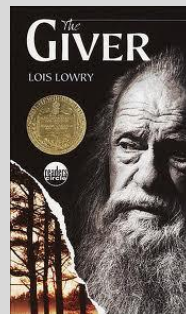
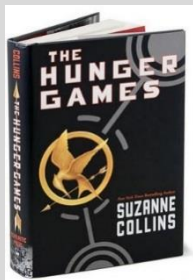
1. **Nonfiction**: writing that is true
2. **Fiction**: imaginative or made up writing
3. **Drama**: a play or script
4. **Poetry**: verse & rhythmic writing with imagery

Fiction Subgenres

- **Fantasy:** has monsters, magic, or characters with superpowers.

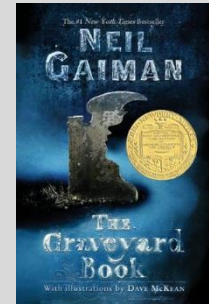
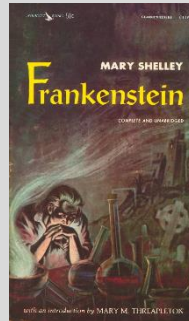


- **Science Fiction:** based on impact of science, either actual or imagined. Set in the future or on other planets, has aliens, robots, and/or futuristic technology.

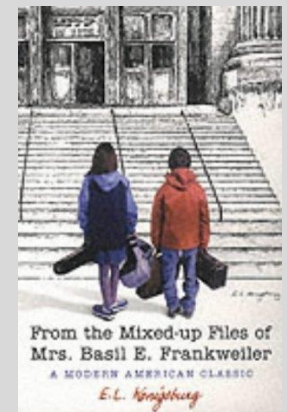
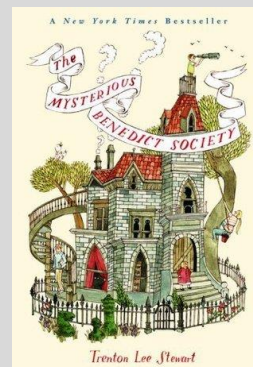
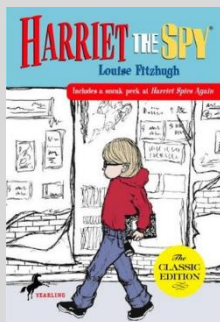


Fiction Subgenres

- **Horror:** frightfully shocking, terrifying, or horrible. Creates a feeling of fear in both the characters and the reader.

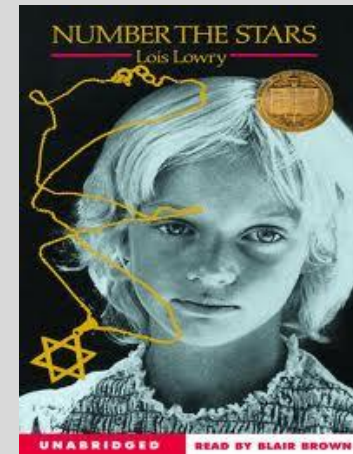
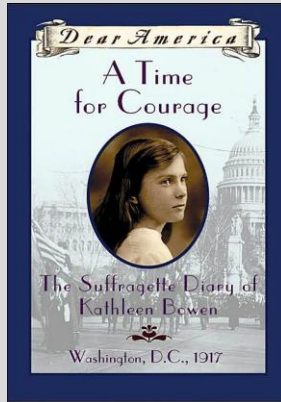


- **Mystery:** deals with the solution of a crime or the unraveling of secrets. Anything that is kept secret or remains unexplained or unknown.

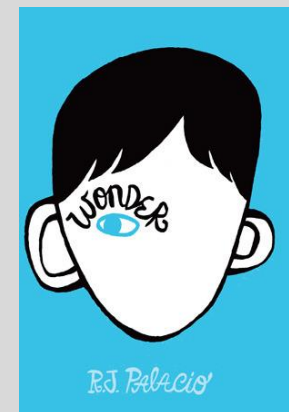
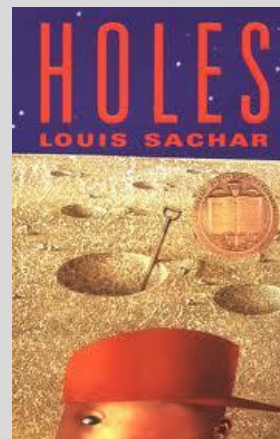
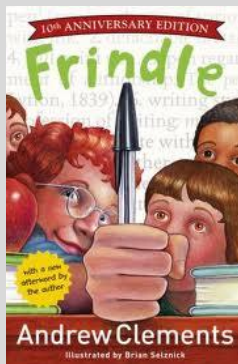


Fiction Subgenres

- **Historical Fiction:** set in the past and based on real people and/or events



- **Realistic Fiction:** has no elements of fantasy; could be true but is not



Fiction Subgenres

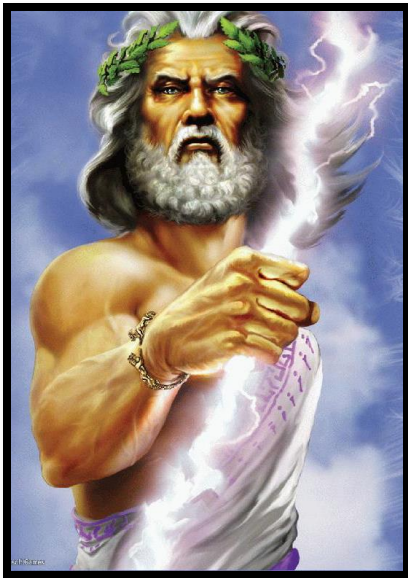
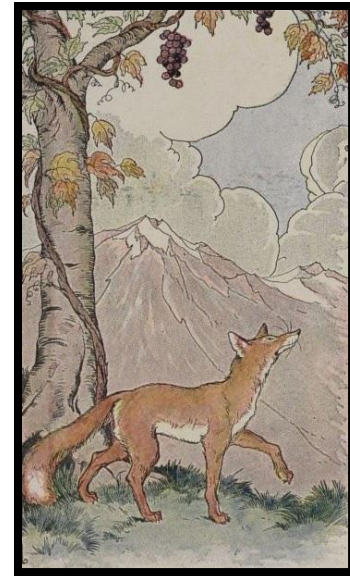
- **Folklore/Folktale**: usually has an “unknown” author or will be “retold” or “adapted” by the author
 - Fable
 - Mythology
 - Tall tale
 - Legend
 - Fairytale

Folklore Subgenres

- **Fable:** short story with personified animals and a moral

Personified: given the traits of people

Moral: lesson or message of a fable



Mythology: has gods/goddesses and usually accounts for the creation of something

Folklore Subgenres (continued)

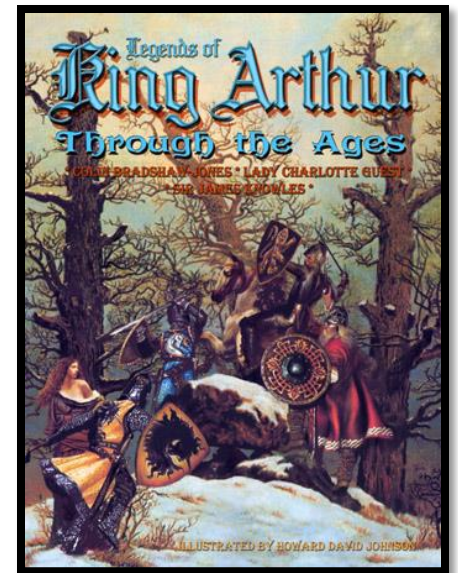
Tall Tale:

- Set in the Wild West, the American frontier
- Main characters skills/size/strength is greatly exaggerated (hyperbole)
- Exaggeration is humorous



Legend:

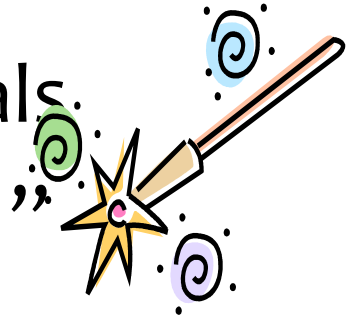
- Based on a **real person or place**
- **Facts** are stretched beyond **nonfiction**
- Exaggerated in a serious way



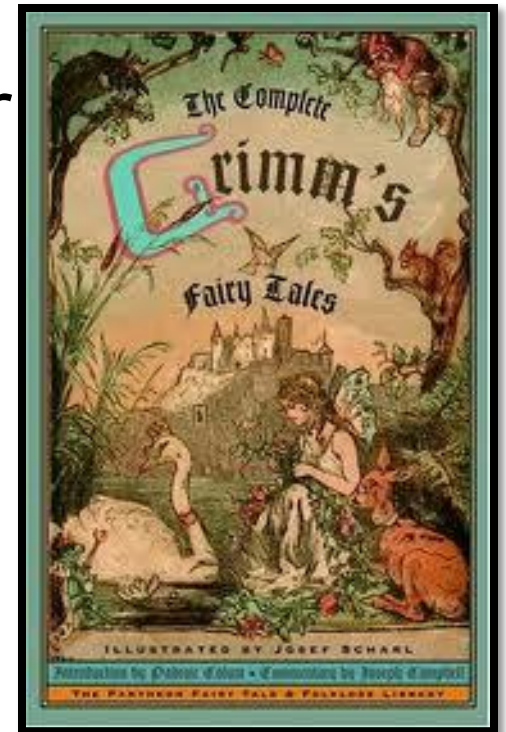
Folklore Subgenres (continued)

Fairytale: has magic and/or talking animals.

- Often starts with “Once upon a time...”
- Like fantasy but much older
- Often has a human main character



- **Fables** also have talking animals, but fables are VERY short



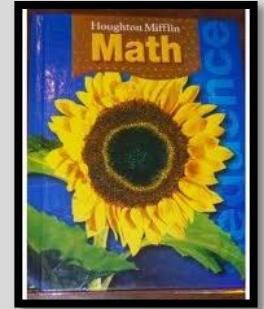
Elements of Poetry

- Prosody: meter, rhythm, & tone
- Sound: Rhyme, assonance, alliteration, & consonance
- Form: Lines & Stanza

Nonfiction Subgenres

- **Informational**: explains something that is actual, real life, & contains facts.

Ex.) textbooks, magazines, newspapers



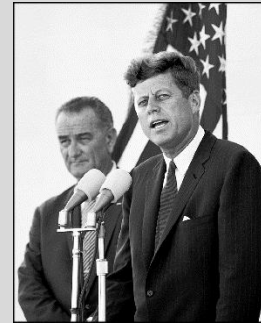
- **Essay**: a short literary composition that reflects the author's point of view. Based on a particular theme or subject. (argumentative or narrative)

Ex.) Mrs. Lust writes an essay about eating fast food and how it can have harmful affects on your body.

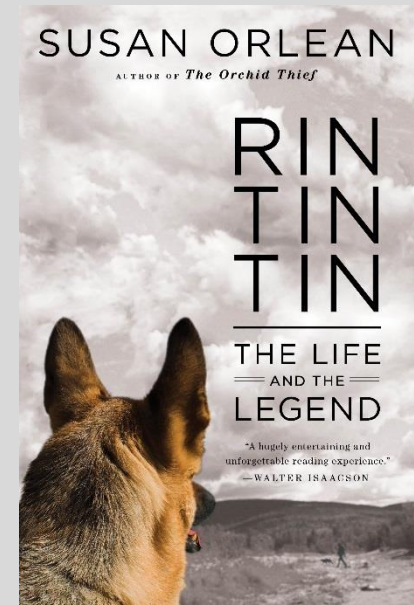
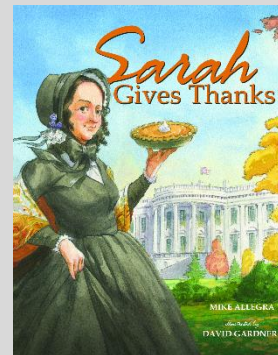


Nonfiction Subgenres

- **Speech**: spoken communication; ability to express one's thoughts & emotions by speech, sounds, & gesture. Delivered in the form of an address or lecture.

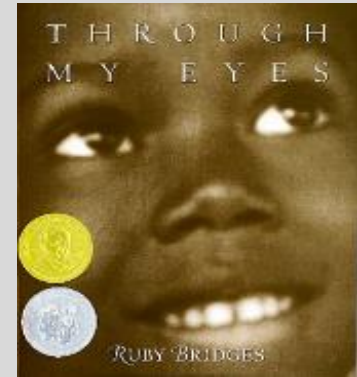
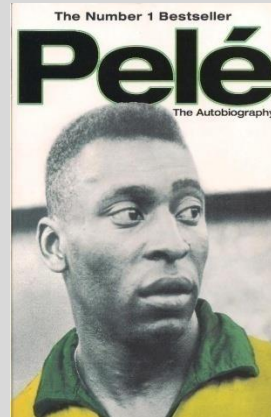
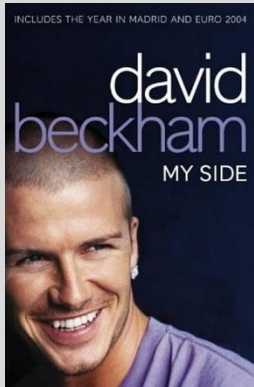


Narrative: is information based on fact that is presented in a format which tells a story.

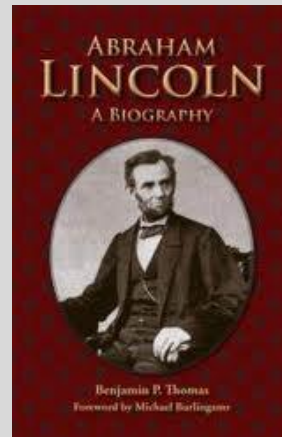
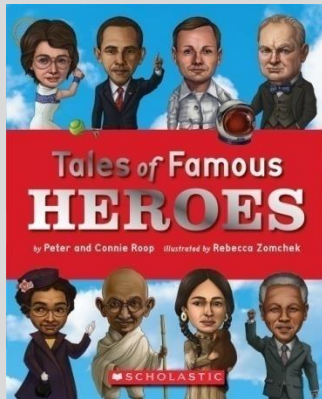


Nonfiction Subgenres

- **Autobiography:** life story written by one's self



- **Biography:** Writing about someone else's life



Latin Roots

Auto = Self

Bio = Life

Graphy = Writing

Drama

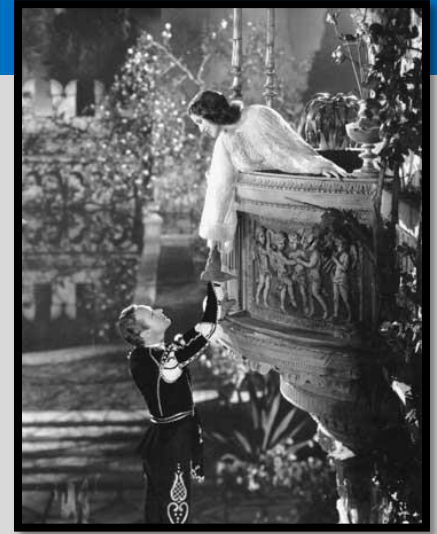
Stories written in script form

Example:

Teacher: Everyone take notes.

Student A: I don't have a pen.

Student B: You can borrow one from me!



Subgenres

Play: divided in acts & scenes with actors, sets, & costumes.

- **Comedy:** has a happy ending

- **Tragedy:** ends in death and sadness

Reader's Theater: spoken presentation from literature (usually no costumes or sets).

Review

Nonfiction: persuasive writing, informational writing, autobiography, and biography

Fiction: historical fiction, science fiction, realistic fiction, fantasy, & folklore (myth, legend, tall tale, fairy tale, and fable)

Drama: comedy and tragedy

Poetry: many subgenres (free verse, limerick, haiku, concrete, etc.)