

## **Utopian and Dystopian Literature**

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MANIZALES- Our life dreams the utopian, our death the ideal. Utopian is a fiction that creates an ideal society and Dystopian fiction, sometimes apocalyptic, is the opposite that creates a horribly society. Sometimes when they mix, they basically explore social and political structure. As an example it can be portrayed as the government trying to make the society better but instead making it worse. This genre is most commonly found in Science Fiction. This type of literature is recommended for teenagers and young adults because it opens their imagination.

Utopian fiction is a set of visions of an ideal society, perfect place, space or any visionary system. United States has made attempts to establish real life utopian communities in 1830-1840s but it never really worked out. "Utopia" was published in 1516 and from there the genre started as a whole. For modern utopian literature some examples are: the Giver by Lois Lowry and Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins. These two books represent a supposedly perfect society which is the basic main subject of utopian literature.

Dystopian literature refers to a society that is undesirable and also the opposite from a utopia. These stories are particularly based in the futuristic societies and are commonly derived from failed utopias. In dystopian societies, propaganda and repression are used to repress people. Many times, repression is represented by media control deriving from a strong central government, there is a strong centralization of religion and ideas. This leads people to commonly feel trapped, leading them to question society and commonly, like in utopian books, moves people towards a rebellion against society.

The mix or combination of Utopian fiction and dystopian creates a new genre. This new kind of writing is always written as in the future and there is a mix between the perfect society and the complete contrary; that is the most unwanted society. Some of the most known books of this literature is Divergent by Veronica Roth. This book is about government and society problems, the government is trying to make a perfect society by changing their DNA but instead created a problem that made normal people (unchanged DNA) become a target.

In conclusion literature has evolved and new genres get into the market. Dystopian literature is the most read by now and the mix of utopian and dystopian is really famous and also they are coming out movies about them. Society likes this literature because maybe in a future similar things can happen and government can become manipulative. Finally these two genres are really popular and have always been.