

Characteristics of Fantasy

1. **PACING** – Books generally start slow to set the stage, introduce characters etc. Pacing increases as adventure elements appear.
2. **STORY LINE** – features Good vs Evil, protagonists usually conquer Evil but it is not an easy victory. Frequently part of a series so the story continues.
3. **CHARACTERIZATION** – Clearly defined as good or bad, frequently obtaining a magical gift and exploring the potential. Characters are challenged physically and ethically. Frequently includes mythical creatures.
4. **FRAME/SETTING** – Detailed settings of another world, maybe Earth but out-of-time or invisible to most people. Magic frames the story.
5. **TONE/MOOD** – Humorous to dark, ultimately optimistic. Frequently has an overall melancholy tone.
6. **STYLE/LANGUAGE** – Language and style run the gamut. Language creates verbal pictures of the characters and landscapes, sometimes there are pictures.



Landscape Genres

Fantasy Writers to Try, If You Enjoy...

ADRENALINE:

Jacqueline Carey
Scott Lynch
George R. R. Martin

BIOGRAPHY/MEMOIR:

Margaret George (*Helen of Troy*)
Katherine Kurtz (*Two Crowns for America*)

GAY/LESBIAN:

Jim Grimsley
Tanya Huff

GENTLE READS:

C.S. Lewis
Walter Moers
T.H. White
Patricia Wrede

HISTORICAL FICTION:

Sara Douglass
Naomi Novik
Judith Tarr
Jack Whyte

HISTORY:

Bernard Cornwell (Arthur Series)
Roberta Gellis and Mercedes Lackey
Guy Gavriel Kay

HORROR:

Alice Borchardt
Mike Carey
Laurell K. Hamilton

HUMOR:

Piers Anthony (Xanth series)
Orson Scott Card (Alvin Maker series)
Terry Pratchett
Christopher Stasheff



INSPIRATIONAL:	Karen Hancock	
	Stephen Lawhead	
	C.S. Lewis	
LITERARY:	Susanna Clarke	
	Jasper Fforde	
	Gregory Maguire	
MULTICULTURAL:	Nalo Hopkinson	
MYSTERY:	Jim Butcher	
	Glenn Cook (<i>Garrett Files</i>)	
	Jasper Fforde (Nursery Crime series)	
	Katherine Kurtz and Deborah Turner Harris (Adept series)	
NATURAL HISTORY:	Rachel Caine (Weather Warden series)	
PSYCHOLOGICAL SUSPENSE:	Stephen R. Donaldson	
ROMANCE:	Catherine Asaro	Anne Bishop
	Robin D. Owens (Summoning series)	Sharon Shinn
SAGA:	Terry Brooks (various Shannara series)	Terry Goodkind
	Juliet Marillier (Sevenwaters trilogy)	
SCIENCE FICTION:	Raymond E. Feist	Eric Flint (Assiti Shards/Ring of Fire series)
	David Gemmel	Mary Gentle
	Judith Tarr	Sean Stewart (<i>Galveston</i>)
TRAVEL:	Michael A. Stackpole (Age of Discovery series)	
TRUE CRIME:	Charles de Lint (Newford series)	
	China Miéville (<i>Perdido Street Station</i>)	
WESTERN:	Emma Bull	Stephen King (The Dark Tower series)
WOMEN'S LIVES:	Tamora Pierce	Shanna Swendson
	Jane Yolen	

Landscape Genres

Authors BEYOND the Fantasy Genre

ADRENALINE:	Clive Cussler	
	James Rollins	
BIOGRAPHY/MEMOIR:	Humphrey Carpenter (The Inklings)	
HISTORICAL FICTION:	Gillian Bradshaw	
	Kathleen O'Neal Gear	
	Morgan Llewelyn	
	Lucia St. Clair Robson	
HORROR:	Raymond E. Feist	Stephen King
	Dean R. Koontz	
LITERARY:	Isabel Allende	Haruki Marukami
	Steven Millhauser	
MYSTERY:	Eric Garcia	
ROMANCE:	Susan Carroll	
	Kristine Grayson	
	Karen Hawkins (Talisman Ring series)	
	Patricia Rice	
ROMANTIC SUSPENSE:	Kay Hooper	Amanda Quick
	Nora Roberts	
SCIENCE FICTION:	Marion Zimmer Bradley	
	Anne McCaffrey	
WESTERNS:	Don Coldsmith (Spanish Bit series)	
WOMEN'S LIVES:	Sarah Addison Allen	Barbara Samuel
	Deborah Smith	

