

COM BASE NO TEXTO ABAIXO, RESPONDA ÀS QUESTÕES DE NÚMEROS 16 A 19.

Why do we need “alternative reality fiction”?



As editor for a magazine on “speculative” fiction, I happen to need one. Though, being a self-reflective sort of person, I found myself asking why. One person in our associate page discussions asked why not just call it a magazine for “fiction”? It’s a valid argument on a philosophical level. It’s a nightmare on a practical level.

5 Without some way to modify the term “fiction” with greater specificity, readers will assume general fiction. Without putting some parameters on the types of fiction we publish and review, submissions would be a nightmare. One of the most common reasons we reject short stories for publication is simply that they don’t meet our basic themes. They are not science fiction, fantasy, horror or

10 historical fiction.

If umbrella terms are so objectionable, then the next step is toward the more specific. Should we expand the scope of the genre Science Fiction and also include Fantasy, Horror and Historical? This is certainly a difficult task. Quite frankly, though, I read all of these genres, and I’m not keen on being in the role to separate them. What makes one book science fiction, and another fantasy? What

15 makes one book horror, and another historical? These four genres of fiction cannot so efficiently be separated from one another. Of course, these are not the only genres that get mixed up together in cross-genre works. For example, historical romances have long been a standard of the monolithic modern romance genre.

Science fiction, fantasy, horror and historical fiction share an essential common thread – they all attract readers who seek fiction that transports them to a milieu removed from everyday life. On the one hand, it’s an issue of setting, but more importantly, I believe, it’s an issue of approach. Readers of these genres seek to see and writers seek to show our own world through a radically different lens. They share an ambition to experience the eternal themes of life and humanity from new angles, in new forms, impossible in realistic fiction. They want their fiction to answer the question “what if”,

20 not just the question “what is”. They want to see how human, or human-like, characters react to and manipulate circumstances that are alien to our everyday lives.

I found my best solution to the “umbrella term” issue – the title “alternative reality fiction”. Whether all these genres are “speculative”, we will leave that question up to you. But there is no doubt that they all aspire to create alternative realities for readers to experience. Is this term somewhat artificial and arbitrary? Do I expect it to catch on with readers? The answer is “of course not”. I expect “science fiction”, “fantasy” and “horror” to remain the staples of the common lexicon. What I am looking to accomplish with the term “alternative reality fiction” is simply to acknowledge that these non-realistic genres have more in common with one another than they do with other genres. Above all, I think the term is useful, precisely because of the most important commonality among these genres: their

30 readers.

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There is a lot of controversy in relation to the classification of fictional genres.

In his discussion about non-realistic genres, the author attempts to:

- (A) propose a generic term
- (B) specify a typical readership
- (C) describe a crucial difference
- (D) illustrate a common characteristic

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As editor for a magazine on “speculative” fiction, I happen to need one. (ℓ. 1)

In the fragment, the author expresses his need to read speculative fiction.

This necessity indicates the author’s lack of:

- (A) certainty
- (B) concern
- (C) experience
- (D) encouragement

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The author stresses the similarities and differences among the various kinds of works of fiction.

The sentence that best illustrates one of these similarities is:

- (A) These four genres of fiction cannot so efficiently be separated from one another. (ℓ. 15-16)
- (B) Readers of these genres seek to see and writers seek to show our own world through a radically different lens. (ℓ. 21-23)
- (C) Whether all these genres are “speculative”, we will leave that question up to you. (ℓ. 27-28)
- (D) these non-realistic genres have more in common with one another than they do with other genres. (ℓ. 32-33)

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They want their fiction to answer the question “what if”, not just the question “what is”. (ℓ. 24-25)

The expressions in quotation marks refer respectively to the concepts of:

- (A) denial and assertion
- (B) unreality and realism
- (C) commonality and rarity
- (D) possibility and impossibility

COM BASE NO TEXTO ABAIXO, RESPONDA ÀS QUESTÕES DE NÚMEROS 20 E 21.

Spider-Man 4 (2011) - Preview

If you're a serious Spider-Man fan, you've probably been wondering when the producers are finally going to let Dylan Baker become the super-villain we've all been waiting for. Yes, the one-armed college professor who appears in all three *Spider-Man* films (for about 90 seconds at a time) is the
 5 the guy who eventually gets turned into man-sized Lizard with a true hatred for Spider-Man.

According to one source, not only will Baker finally become The Lizard in *Spider-Man 4*, but we'll also have to contend with a certain villain known as Carnage. Director Sam Raimi who directed all the previous movies in the
 10 franchise will be back in the director's chair.

There has been much speculation about who the next villains might be. In previous interviews, director Raimi was secretive about the actors who would play the role of The Sinister Six and Electro. Expect this to be a closely guarded secret for a while to come.

Apparently there's also talk of getting Black Cat into the *Spider-Man 4* mix because, if a record-breaking opening weekend tells you one thing, it's that you can never have too many villains in your Spidey sequels. Venom will probably not be returning. Word has it that this character will have its own
 15 live-action movie title – screenwriters are already at work on this.

Spider-Man 4 would have to go a little bit “darker” than its predecessors to accurately capture the Carnage story, which focuses on a serial killer called Cletus Kasady. Despite rumors about the next movie, it seems that both Maguire and Kirstin Dunst, as his girlfriend Mary Jane, will return.



Spider-Man 4
Director: Sam Raimi
U.S. Opening Date: May 2011

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The text is a preview, that is, an anticipated review of an upcoming movie.

The central issue discussed in this preview of *Spider-Man 4* is related to:

- (A) directing staff
- (B) award indication
- (C) villains selection
- (D) actors' performance

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Spider-Man 4 would have to go a little bit "darker" than its predecessors to accurately capture the Carnage story, (l. 18-19)

The preview writer's opinion is that the upcoming movie should evoke the following sensation:

- (A) great anger
- (B) deep regret
- (C) violent disgust
- (D) intense sadness