

Genres Young Adults Like



Sports, Adventures, and Mysteries

Sports

- More than any other facet of life, sports are youth oriented
- Parents encourage teens to participate in sports activities

Sport Books

- Common elements
 - Description of the sport—rules and expectations
 - Training
 - Role of spectator
 - Rewards
 - disappointments
- *The Natural*
- *The Passing Game*
- *Shoeless Joe*
- “*Whatta-Gal*”
- *His Enemy, His Friend*
- *Iceman*

Females in Sports



- Move to treat young boys and girls the same
- Nonfiction sports examples
- Grab readers' attention by showing how unusual it is for girl to succeed

Adventure Stories



A Good Adventure

- A likeable protagonist—reader identify
- Readers imagine story happens to them
- Efficient characterization
- Interesting setting
- Action draws readers into plot

Adventures are Popular

- Boredom chafes at our souls
- We like “safe” risks
- Theme of going up incredible odds—and winning
- Usually are person against person
- Some authors
- Gary Paulsen
- Will Hobbs
- Julian F. Thompson

Mysteries



Mysteries are Popular

- They have nothing to do with real detectives—unrealistic
- They are mere mind games
- We want to beat the detective
- We identify with the characters
- The plots move quickly from one episode to another

Rules for Mysteries

- All clues are discovered by the detective must be available to the readers
- Murderer must be introduced early
- Crime must be significant
- There must be detection
- The number of suspects must be known and the murderer among them
- Nothing in the book is unrelated to the puzzle

Types of Mysteries

- The amateur detective
- The private detective
- The cozy mystery
- The police procedural
- The puzzle
- The thriller

Examples—Adult

- *And Then There Were None*
- *Farewell, My Lovely*
- *The Maltese Falcon*
- *A Murder is Announced*
- *Murder on the Yellow Brick Road*
- Sue Grafton
- Ed McBain
- Tony Hillerman

Examples—Y/A

- *Die Softly*
- *Fell*
- *Guilt Trip*
- *Keeper of the Light*
- *Murder in a Pig's Eye*
- *The Stalker*
- *The Vanermark*
Mummy
- Todd Strasser
- Christopher Pike
- Lois Duncan
- Lynne Reid Banks
- Lynn Hall
- Joan Lowery Nixon
- Cynthia Voigt