RESILIENCE AND ACTIVISM: THE IMPACT OF YOUNG ADULT DYSTOPIAN NARRATIVES ON YOUNG READERS

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Abstract. The research article is of significant relevance, as it explores the multifaceted influence of young adult dystopian narratives on the youth. In an era marked by intricate societal dynamics, the themes presented in these narratives, including ethical dilemmas, environmental concerns, technological influences, and social inequality, resonate with contemporary issues. The primary focus on resistance and rebellion within these narratives adds a crucial layer to understanding the struggles between the oppressed and oppressors, contributing to broader discussions on societal transformation.

This research article aims to address a noteworthy gap in the existing literature in our country by investigating the transformative impact of young adult dystopian narratives, specifically honing in on resilience and activism. The relevance of this research is underscored by its intent to identify unresolved aspects within this broader context, aspiring to contribute valuable insights into how these narratives shape the concerns and actions of young generations in today’s socio-political landscape.

Key words: resilience, activism, social engagement, youth empowerment, literature impact.

Introduction. The object of the study is selected young adult dystopian novels. The study aims to dissect the narrative elements, themes, and character dynamics within these novels to understand their impact on readers. The study extends beyond individual impact to examine potential broader implications for education and society. It assesses how the observed effects on resilience and activism might influence educational practices and contribute to societal awareness and change.

The outcomes of this research aim to identify ways in which these narratives may serve as empowering tools and mechanisms to raise awareness within the country. The ultimate goal is to analyze and present methods through which young adult dystopian fiction can be harnessed as a means of empowerment and awareness-building in the society.

The research aims to pinpoint the distinctive characteristics of young adult dystopian fiction, concentrating on specific selected narratives within the genre. By drawing on insights from prior research, the study aims to underscore the primary elements that resonate with the target readership and audience. Additionally, the research seeks to explore the potential influence of young adult dystopian narratives on the youth of our country. By delving into recent research and publications, the study initiates discussions on the influential role of literature, particularly dystopian narratives, in shaping the attitudes of society. Utilizing qualitative methods, such as textual analysis, and quantitative data from surveys, the research endeavors to comprehensively understand students’ perceptions and experiences regarding resilience and activism in young adult dystopian narratives.

While discussions surrounding utopian and dystopian literature have been extensive, recent attention has increasingly turned toward young adult dystopian narratives. Although this category shares common features with traditional utopian/dystopian narratives, YA dystopias distinguish themselves through their urgency, dynamism, and, most notably, their depiction of hope. Our analysis draws on comprehensive research in the field, complemented by insights derived from literary texts.
Nevertheless, our objective is to carry out a comparative analysis, incorporating findings from research conducted both internationally and within our country. Our intention is to perform a comprehensive comparative analysis, synthesizing insights from studies conducted in various countries, including our own.

Furthermore, our goal is to pinpoint how young adult dystopian narratives can be harnessed to heighten awareness among the younger generation and empower their active involvement in the surrounding processes. The discoveries from this study have the capacity to offer innovative viewpoints on the transformative influence of literature in shaping youth engagement, paving the way for additional exploration and comprehension in this pivotal direction. Young adult dystopian narratives encompass a wide array of themes, reflecting the intricate tapestry of contemporary societal dynamics. These narratives often navigate cultural and moral ambiguity, presenting characters with ethical dilemmas that defy clear distinctions between right and wrong. Environmental concerns play a pivotal role, delving into the repercussions of ecological crises and humanity’s impact on its surroundings. The tension between individual autonomy and collective welfare serves as a recurring motif, depicting protagonists navigating moral complexities in their pursuit of personal freedom. Furthermore, technological influence remains a pervasive theme, exploring the implications of advanced technology, surveillance, and artificial intelligence. Social inequality is also scrutinized, unraveling the stratification and disparities that shape dystopian worlds.

In recent times, there has been a growing interest among young people in young adult dystopian narratives. This surge in interest can be attributed, in part, to the adaptation of these works into visually compelling cinematic experiences. The production of feature films not only aligns with the genre’s topical relevance but also contributes significantly to its popularity. Essentially, both young adult dystopian novels and their film adaptations are born out of a common motivation and serve analogous purposes. Consequently, the examination of aspects such as the distinctive characteristics of this subgenre gains significance, particularly when considering how to cater to the interests of young readers and what qualities the works aim to impart to them.

Exploring strategies to harness the potential of young individuals, who represent the future vigor of society, is a crucial undertaking. Consequently, our attention is directed toward addressing the research gaps identified within the analyzed field. Our primary focus revolves around investigating the influence of young adult fiction in cultivating qualities like resilience and activism among the youth. To accomplish this, we have selected literary works such as “The Giver” and “Hunger Games”, “The Maze Runner”, “The Road”, “The Uglies”, “Divergent”. In the subsequent sections, we present the outcomes of our survey, encompassing the prevailing attitude toward this genre in our country, along with an in-depth analysis of the chosen literary works.

Utopian and dystopian literature has been the subject of extensive research (Darko Suvin, Gregory Claeys, Tom Moylan etc.), with insights from these studies influencing subsequent scholarly endeavors. Darko Suvin, particularly focused on the intersection of these themes with science fiction, posits that these literary works serve to disrupt conventional thinking by challenging readers’ perceptions of the world. Suvin coins the term “cognitive estrangement” (D. Suvin, 2010, p. 40) to describe how these works craft alternative realities that prompt readers to reassess their understanding of the world. In contrast to Suvin's focus on the intersection of utopia, dystopia, and science fiction, Gregory Claeys specifically delves into pure utopia and dystopia, categorizing the latter into three distinct types. Claeys’ examination offers a crucial foundation for exploring the primary themes within dystopian literature. Defining dypes of dystopia G. Claeys identifies three major types, “…the political dystopia; the environmental dystopia; and finally, the technological dystopia, here science and technology ultimately threaten to dominate or destroy humanity. Amongst these types, it is the totalitarian political dystopia which is chiefly associated ith the failure of utopian aspirations, and hich has received the greatest historical attention” (G. Claeys, 2017, p. 5). Tom Moylan brings intriguing perspectives to
the study of utopia and dystopia. Concentrating on the essential characteristics of dystopian literature, Moylan underscores that this genre is more than a mere warning; instead, it serves as a narrative demanding scrutiny and a reimagining of societal structures, “…they teach their readers not only about the world around them but also about the open-ended ways in which texts such as the ones in front of their eyes can both elucidate that world and help to develop the critical capacity of people to know, challenge, and change those aspects of it that deny or inhibit the further emancipation of humanity" (T. Moylan, 2000, p. 199).

As we mentioned, young adult dystopia narratives have garnered attention in recent years, becoming the focus of new research within a broad scholarly framework. While studies on utopia and dystopia narratives have been extensive, the exploration of adult dystopian fiction and feature films is a relatively nascent area of inquiry. Although there is some existing research on this subject, it remains limited compared to the extensive body of work on other genres. Research in this domain is primarily presented through research dissertations, conference dissemination and scientific articles. There is a scarcity of books that provide an accurate exploration of the subject, similar to works like Hintz, Carrie, and Elaine Ostry’s edited collection, “Utopian and Dystopian Writing for Children and Young Adults”. The young adult dystopian narratives under examination affirm the validity of the concepts proposed by the aforementioned researchers regarding dystopia. These narratives continue to be rich in elements of science fiction, political regimes, and environmental concerns. A predominant theme revolves around the portrayal of dystopias that initially appear utopian or conceal a dystopian reality within a society ostensibly crafted with utopian intentions. Hintz and Ostry also mention that in dystopian societies “…the ideals for improvement have gone tragically amok..” (C. Hintz, E. Ostry, 2009, p. 3). So, one of the main aspects of dystopias which continue in young adult dystopian narratives is the problems that lie hidden under the utopian surface. However, a key distinguishing feature of young adult dystopian narratives lies in their heightened dynamism and optimism, predominantly anchored in the actions, activism and resilience of the young adult generation. Hence, given that the primary objective of dystopian narration is recognized as evoking concern among readers, a key focus for researchers is the extent to which young adult dystopian narratives influence their intended audience.

In her research article titled “Engaging “Apolitical” Adolescents: Analyzing the Popularity and Educational Potential of Dystopian Literature Post-9/11”, Melissa R. Ames investigates the educational possibilities presented by young adult dystopian literature, contending that delving into these texts could serve as a minor stride toward involving students in matters of social justice, potentially igniting more explicit political involvement. Comparing young readers interest in Young Adult Dystopian literature and their direct political engagement the author comes to a conclusion that, “This literary trend indicates that while these young readers may be disheartened by contemporary politics and under-informed in current events, they are not uninterested in the social problems that underlie both. The success of these novels implies that teenagers are willing to entertain societal critiques—even ones that implicate themselves. Rather than being a problematic discrepancy, the “mismatch” between the reading interests of young adults and their direct political action suggests that young adults could easily be molded into more politically engaged citizens” (Ames, 2013, p. 18).

In March 2020, the American Journal of Undergraduate Research released an article titled “Exploring the Relationship between Dystopian Literature and the Activism of Generation Z Young Adults”. The primary aim of this study was to examine potential correlations between the activism displayed by Generation Z young adults and the prevalence of dystopian themes in literature and literary media. The study indicated that the younger generation is significantly impacted by dystopian narratives featuring young adults, leading to the suggestion that such narratives have a profound influence on them, “The main conclusion to be drawn from this research is dystopian literature’s potential significance in encouraging/shaping the progressive mindsets of its audience. It is certain
that Generation Z young adults and children have been surrounded by fictional dystopian storylines in literature and in the literary media for the past decade” (A. Jerald, 2020, p. 92).

Discussing the adolescent development and dystopian narratives the authors of “Understanding the Appeal of Dystopian Young Adult Fiction” mention that, “For teachers and librarians both, we feel strongly that the connections between these novels and teens’ lives and concerns argue for a need to showcase these books as we converse with teens about their reading. While the same could be said of most YA literature, dystopian literature seems to speak particularly strongly to teens at this time and to the choices and challenges they face as they move toward adulthood” (Scholes and Jon, 2013).

As members of the educational institution, we share a significant interest in the influential impact of young adult dystopian narratives and strategies for utilizing them to enhance awareness and activism among our young students.

Discussion

**Shaping the Narrative of Young Adult Dystopian Narratives.** Upon scrutinizing articles addressing young adult dystopian narratives, it is evident that authors attribute the appeal of this genre to the age group’s connection with feelings of anxiety and concern stemming from the changes they undergo. The teenage years are marked by distinct features such as rebellious behavior, endeavors for self-assertion, and the excitement of shaping one’s identity. Overall, this phase is commonly acknowledged as challenging. Analogous to the protagonists in young adult narratives who envision their utopias within dystopian realms and actively rebel against prevailing conditions. An intriguing element is that conclusions of young adult dystopian narratives typically carry a sense of hope, leaving both the protagonist and the reader with optimistic expectations for the future.

In numerous young adult narratives, the catalyst for the rebellion among young protagonists stems from their identity crises. Faced with the challenge of fitting into a dystopian society which is fragmented into distinct factions, these protagonists perceive active resistance as their means of escape. The protagonists’ triumph in this struggle is contingent upon their demonstrated perseverance and tenacity.

In “The Hunger Games”, the interplay between societal fractions, identity crises, and the protagonist’s activism and resilience creates a rich narrative that explores themes of social injustice, self-discovery, and resistance against oppressive systems. Suzanne Collins masterfully intertwines resilience and activism, using Katniss Everdeen’s character to not only survive a dystopian reality but also to challenge the status quo and inspire a rebellion that reshapes the narrative of the entire series. The divisions within the society of Panem, coupled with identity crises, form a backdrop against which the protagonist, Katniss Everdeen, navigates challenges that demand resilience and activism. The protagonist, Katniss Everdeen, navigates challenges that demand resilience and activism. The distinct fractions or districts in Panem represent economic and social divides. Katniss, hailing from the impoverished District 12, grapples with her identity shaped by poverty and struggle, “Our part of District 12, nicknamed the Seam, is usually crawling with coal miners heading out to the morning shift at this hour. Men and women with hunched shoulders, swollen knuckles, many who have long since stopped trying to scrub the coal dust out of their broken nails, the lines of their sunken faces” (S. Collins, 2008, 4). The fact that the story is narrated in a simple, fluent language by the first person adds to the reader empathy. The societal fractions impose predetermined roles, contributing to Katniss’s identity crisis as she questions her place in a society marked by inequality. The Capitol’s lavish lifestyle and excesses create a stark contrast to the districts’ struggles. The opulence of the Capitol shapes an identity crisis for Katniss, who rejects the Capitol’s values. Her resistance to conform to the Capitol’s expectations becomes a form of activism as she strives to retain her sense of self. The Reaping, where tributes are selected for the Hunger Games, becomes a pivotal moment in the characters’ lives. Katniss faces the identity crisis of being chosen as a tribute, forced into a role that challenges her core beliefs. Her resilience in this moment is the initial spark of activism, as she confronts the injustice of the Games. Thus, The Hunger Games arena becomes a battleground for
identity, where tributes must grapple with moral dilemmas and ethical decisions. Katniss’s resilience in the face of physical and emotional challenges transforms into activism as she defies the Capitol’s rules, forming alliances, and questioning the morality of the Games.

Katniss’s evolution into the Mockingjay, a symbol of rebellion, is a manifestation of her activism against the oppressive Capitol. Her identity crisis transforms into a deliberate act of resistance, inspiring others to join the fight for justice. Her resilience is evident in her ability to endure loss and trauma, from the death of her father to the challenges posed by the Hunger Games. Her capacity to withstand adversity becomes a form of silent activism, showcasing strength in the face of oppression.

In Veronica Roth’s “Divergent” the intricate interplay of societal fractions, identity exploration, and the protagonist’s activism and resilience weaves a compelling narrative that explores themes of conformity, individuality, and the fight against oppressive systems.

The society in “Divergent” is divided into factions based on personality traits. Tris, the protagonist, faces an identity crisis as she doesn’t neatly fit into a single faction. Her divergence challenges the strict categorization, leading to a profound exploration of her identity. Tris’s choice to join Dauntless, a faction known for bravery, requires immense resilience. Her decision sets in motion a series of challenges that test her physical and mental strength, demonstrating resilience in adapting to the demanding environment of her chosen faction. Tris undergoes initiation challenges that demand not only physical prowess but also the courage to question the faction system. Her refusal to conform to the societal norms becomes a form of activism, challenging the established order and prompting others to reconsider their beliefs. The line quoted becomes her motto, “I believe in ordinary acts of bravery, in the courage that drives one person to stand up for another” (V. Roth, 2014, 161). Tris’s divergence becomes a central aspect of her identity, leading to internal and external conflicts. The revelation of her divergence puts her at odds with the faction system’s leaders, forcing her to confront her identity and resilience in the face of societal expectations. Her ability to resist simulations designed to control individuals shows her activism against the manipulative nature of the faction system. Her resilience in resisting mental manipulation becomes a catalyst for broader resistance against the system. Tris evolves into a symbol of resistance as she challenges the faction system’s inherent flaws. Her activism extends beyond personal survival, inspiring others to question the system and join the fight for a more just and equitable society. She faces significant losses throughout the narrative, testing her resilience. Her ability to persevere through grief and adversity becomes an integral part of her identity and fuels her determination to bring about change. Thus, in the series, the societal divisions, exploration of identity, and the protagonist’s activism and resilience contribute to the dynamic narrative.

In James Dashner’s “The Maze Runner”, unlike the conventional factions found in previously examined dystopian novels, the narrative features distinctive groups and explores themes surrounding society and identity crises. These elements serve as driving forces behind the protagonist’s acts of activism and resilience.

In “The Maze Runner”, the Glade is a unique society with distinct groups and roles. These groups, such as Runners and Builders, form a makeshift societal structure that dictates the tasks and responsibilities of each member. The protagonist, Thomas, experiences a significant identity crisis as he navigates the mysterious environment of the Glade, it is stated again and again by himself and others that, “For some reason, he was different from everyone else in the Glade.” (J. Dashner, 2009, 43). His memory loss adds to the uncertainty, making him question his past, purpose, and role in the unfolding events. As Thomas becomes aware of the challenges posed by the Maze and the mysterious organization behind it, he takes an active role in seeking solutions. His determination to explore the Maze and uncover the truth demonstrates a form of activism against the constraints imposed on the Gladers. The characters, including Thomas, exhibit resilience in the face of numerous challenges. From navigating the ever-changing Maze to dealing with the dangers it presents, the characters display a remarkable ability to endure and adapt.
In “Uglies”, Westerfeld weaves a narrative that delves into the impact of physical appearance on societal divisions, the resulting identity crises, and the protagonist's journey toward activism and resilience in challenging the established order. The society in “Uglies” is also divided into distinct factions, this time based on physical appearance. Individuals undergo a transformation at the age of sixteen to become “Pretties”, further emphasizing societal divisions based on superficial criteria. Tally Youngblood, the protagonist, undergoes a profound identity crisis as she approaches the transformation to become a Pretty. The pressure to conform to societal standards challenges her sense of self, prompting her to question the cost of conformity. Tally’s journey evolves into an act of activism as she becomes involved with a group challenging the established norms. Her growing awareness of the drawbacks of conformity and her desire to resist societal manipulation align her with a rebellious movement. Tally displays resilience as she grapples with the consequences of her choices and the challenges posed by the society that seeks to control and mold its citizens. Her determination to resist the pressures and seek individuality demonstrates her resilience in the face of societal expectations.

In Lois Lowry’s “The Giver”, thematic elements contribute to the exploration of a controlled and seemingly utopian society, revealing the complexities of individual identity and the protagonist’s transformative journey toward activism and resilience. In the society depicted in “The Giver”, there is a structured system that assigns roles and functions to individuals, creating a seemingly uniform and controlled community. Different roles are designated for citizens based on their abilities and traits. Individuals are expected to adhere to established rules; otherwise, they face the possibility of being eliminated. This guideline is explicitly outlined in the regulations. Those who don't conform have the option to request their release, “It says so in the rules. If you don't fit in, you can apply for Elsewhere and be released” (L. Lowry, 1993, 48). The protagonist, Jonas, experiences a profound identity crisis as he grapples with the revelation of the true nature of his society. The awareness of the suppression of emotions and memories prompts Jonas to question his own identity within this constrained environment. Jonas’s growing realization of the limitations and flaws in his society sparks a sense of activism. His desire to challenge the status quo and bring about change becomes a driving force, particularly as he learns about the depth of control exerted by the authorities. Jonas exhibits resilience in his journey to defy the established norms and seek a different path for himself and his community. His determination to confront the harsh truths about the society he lives in showcases his resilience in the face of adversity.

In “The Road”, McCarthy paints a grim picture of a world stripped of civilization, where individuals confront profound identity crises amid the struggle for survival. The protagonist’s activism is expressed through his commitment to preserving his son’s humanity, and resilience becomes a fundamental trait in the fight against the overwhelming challenges of the post-apocalyptic environment. In the aftermath of an unspecified catastrophe, societal structures have collapsed. The remnants of humanity are reduced to struggling for survival in a desolate, lawless landscape. The unnamed father and son, the central characters, grapple with their own identities in a world that has lost its familiar structures. Their struggle to retain their humanity and morality becomes a profound exploration of identity in a bleak setting. The father’s determination to protect his son and find a semblance of goodness in the harsh reality constitutes a form of activism. His resilience is evident in the face of constant danger and scarcity, as he navigates the desolation with the hope of reaching a more hospitable place.

As observed, common attributes emerge in young adult dystopian narratives. Youthful protagonists, opting for resistance, emerge in societies that may initially appear utopian or where injustices are ignored, and individuals choose submission despite witnessing them. Their determination and activism resonate with peers, particularly those of their age, giving rise to a widespread resistance capable of instigating transformation. These young heroes often evolve into symbols of awakening and resilience within society, embodying the potential for positive change, those who maintain these qualities throughout the struggle symbolize the hopeful future of humanity. Young adult dystopias redefine the conventional notion of dystopia from merely a bleak and inhospitable place to one characterized by struggle and optimism. In these
narratives, dystopias are no longer stories of despondent and suffering individuals; instead, they depict a journey of empowerment and the awakening of resilient characters brimming with future potential. Upon examining our current reality, it becomes evident that these narratives serve as valuable resources, empowering the younger generation to face future challenges with strength and awareness.

The Power of Stories: Examining Young Adult Dystopian Narratives and their Effect on Youth Resilience and Activism. As we mentioned, young adult dystopian narratives in literature and film have become a prevalent cultural phenomenon, offering narratives that often explore themes of resilience and activism in the face of oppressive societies.

We carried out a brief survey to gain insights into the impact of dystopian narratives targeted at young adults on the youth in our nation. This survey aimed to investigate the influence of such narratives on the perceptions of resilience and activism among university students aged 18–20 in Azerbaijan. Understanding how these narratives shape the perspectives of young adults is crucial for comprehending their impact on societal attitudes and values. By focusing on this demographic, we aimed to gain insights into the formative years when individuals are actively shaping their worldviews.

Methodology and Participants: The investigation took place among students in their third year at Azerbaijan University of Languages in December of 2023. The survey was conducted among university students aged 18–20, recognizing this age group’s pivotal stage of intellectual and emotional development. A total of sixty participants were included in the study.

Survey Design: The survey instrument consisted of multiple-choice questions and scaled items. Questions were crafted to assess participants’ exposure to young adult dystopian narratives, their perceptions of resilience and activism, and any potential influence of these narratives on their beliefs and behaviors.

Data Collection: The survey was administered online to enhance accessibility and participation. Participants were assured of confidentiality, and the survey ten questions covering diverse aspects related to young adult dystopian narratives, resilience, and activism.

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<th>Frequency of Involvement with Young Adult Dystopian Narratives in Literature and Film</th>
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<td>Occasionally:</td>
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Description: Survey Responses Indicate a Low Percentage of Students Frequently Engaging with Young Adult Dystopian Narratives

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<th>Perceptions of Resilience Portrayed by Dystopian Narratives</th>
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Description: Most students predominantly selected a rating of 4, indicating a high perception of effectiveness, on the scale of 1 to 5, regarding how well young adult dystopian narratives portray resilience.

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<th>Perceptions of Activism Portrayed by Dystopian Narratives</th>
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Description: On the 1–5 scale ranging from none to highly effective, the majority of students opted for a rating of 4, signifying that they perceive the portrayal of activism in young adult dystopian narratives as effective.
In addition to assessing the effectiveness of portraying resilience and activism, we aimed to understand the students’ interpretation of the motivations driving characters’ resilience and activism in young adult dystopian narratives. The responses from students revealed a prevalent association of motivations driving characters’ resilience with qualities like Perseverance, Courage, and Hopefulness. Similarly, motivations behind activism were often linked to character traits such as Resistance against oppression, Protection of human rights, and a Desire for equality. Surprisingly, the students did not identify environmental concerns as motivations driving characters’ resilience and activism, despite it being a prominent theme in dystopian narratives. Another unexpected finding emerged during our research. In addition to engaging with students, we also held discussions with proprietors of publishing houses and bookstores. Surprisingly, it became evident that the interest in translated versions of young adult dystopian narratives is lower than our initial expectations. Upon comparing these outcomes with the study referenced earlier, it became apparent that the impact of young adult dystopian narratives on youth engagement in our country is different.

In the final analysis, when considering which medium, literature or film, is more effective in conveying the themes of resilience and activism, the majority of students favored film. When recommending a young adult dystopian narrative (either literature or film) to a friend with an interest in themes of resilience and activism, the majority of students suggested “The Hunger Games” and “The Maze Runner”. The prevalent choice of these narratives was driven by their compelling portrayals of resilience and activism, making them stand out among other options.

**Approbation of research results.** The main provisions of the article are reflected in the author’s theses submitted to scientific conferences in Azerbaijan and abroad, as well as in scientific articles published in various journals in Azerbaijan and abroad.

**Conclusions.** The emergence of utopian themes in literature represented authors’ endeavors to grapple with real-world political, social, and cultural challenges. The shift from utopia to dystopia marked a continuation of this thematic exploration. Dystopia evolved into a cautionary narrative, forewarning of potential dangers if prevailing issues were left unaddressed. Moreover, dystopia injected vitality into the traditionally stable and passive utopian plots by introducing elements of struggle, protest, and resilience. A notable contemporary development in dystopian literature is its concentrated focus on young people, both as the primary audience and protagonists, resulting in the emergence of the distinct subgenre known as young adult dystopia, which has gained considerable popularity in recent years.

In the exploration of young adult dystopian narratives, it is evident that this genre, evolving from the rich history of utopia and aligning with the progress of science fiction, has successfully established itself in both fiction and cinematic art. Traditionally, utopias were characterized by idealized, harmonious societies, but contemporary modifications in dystopian narratives have brought forth a shift in power dynamics, revealing oppressive regimes and the consequences of unchecked authority. The tension between personal liberties and sacrifices required for societal stability, as well as the examination of the dark side of technological advancements, further distinguishes this dynamic genre.

Young adult dystopian narratives, with their focus on issues relevant to the younger generation, have garnered significant interest. Analyzing works such as “The Hunger Games”, “The Maze Runner”, “The Road”, “The Uglies” and “The Giver”, it is apparent that these narratives, often centered around young protagonists, play a pivotal role in shaping the strength and activism of future generations. They contribute to the development of qualities essential for navigating a complex and challenging world.

In our investigation into the interest in young adult dystopian narratives in our country, we encountered a notable surprise with a lower-than-expected familiarity with the genre. However, among those who have engaged with the works, a high level of analysis was evident. This underscores the potential impact of these narratives on readers and viewers, as they delve into the motivations and characteristics of the protagonists.
Looking ahead, it is essential to consider strategies for increasing awareness and engagement with young adult dystopian narratives. Educational initiatives, book clubs, and film screenings can provide platforms for discussions and deeper exploration of the themes presented in these narratives. By fostering a greater understanding of the genre, we can empower young individuals to critically assess societal issues and cultivate the resilience and activism needed for positive social and political engagement. As dystopian narratives continue to evolve, they remain a potent medium for shaping the perspectives and actions of future generations.

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