

Spotlight on Romance

Created by Inaburra Senior Library, 2016

In romance novels, the main storyline focuses on the unfolding love story between the two main characters. Romances generally have a happy ending.

History

Ever since the earliest stories, fiction has included tales of people falling in love.

During the nineteenth century romantic stories took a dark turn in Gothic literature.

The romance genre as we know it today, where the main plot of the story revolves around the romance, began in the early twentieth century.

Common themes

An idealistic story that often relies on unlikely coincidence

An obstacle to the love that must be overcome

A misunderstanding or disagreement

A happy, emotionally satisfying ending

Links to other genres

Romance links to a lot of genres, with many fantasy, sci-fi and historical novels having romance as a central part of the plot. Inaburra's cry genre includes a lot of romances that have sad endings.

Famous authors

Meg Cabot

Cecilia Ahearn

Nicholas Sparks

Jennifer E Smith

Beth Reekles