



Compiled by Debby Boyce, Dina Wyatt, and
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With help from the following sources:

Herald, Diana Tixier. *Genreflecting: A Guide
to Reading Interests in Genre Fiction.*
5th ed.

Herald, Diana Tixier. *Teen Genreflecting.*

Ramsdell, Kristin. *Romance Fiction: A Guide
to the Genre.*

www.romantictimes.com

www.theromancereader.com

Anjie's ULA Teen Romance Booklist.

Updated 5/2007

Romance Fiction Genre study

Romance Writers to Try, If you Enjoy ...

Adventure

Elizabeth Lowell (*Tell Me no Lies*)

Fantasy

Maggie Shayne (*Eternity*)

Nora Roberts (*Enchanted*)

Gentle

Debbie Macomber

Historical Fiction

J. Suzanne Frank (*Reflections in the Nile*)

Horror

Susan Krinard

Humor

Jennifer Crusie

Rachel Gibson

NOTES

Inspirational

Robin Lee Hatcher (Patterns of Love)
Rachel Nunes (LDS)
Anita Stansfield (LDS)

Mystery

Jennifer Crusie

Romantic Suspense

Heather Lowell
Nora Roberts

Science Fiction

Justine Davis
J. D. Robb

Thriller

Patricia Veryan

Western

Rosanne Bittner (Thunder on the Plains)
Janet Dailey (This Calder Sky)
Kathleen Eagle (The Last True Cowboy)

Women's Lives

Kathleen Gilles Seidel

Adapted from *The Readers' Advisory Guide to Genre Fiction*, by Joyce G. Saricks. P. 223, fig 10.5. Chicago: American Library Association, 2001.

Some suggested Romance Titles by Subgenre

Contemporary Romance

Contemporary Romances are essentially love stories with contemporary settings. (Remember, today's contemporary is tomorrow's historical!) They usually focus on the attempts of a woman to find success and happiness professionally and romantically. Both are usually achieved. A committed, permanent, monogamous relationship that usually includes marriage and family is the ultimate goal. In more recent novels, women also successfully continue their careers. The heroines are usually self-motivated, honest, resilient, independent, and intelligent. The heroes are strong, successful, frequently wealthy, handsome, take-charge men who are frequently seen as aloof, mysterious or unwilling to become emotionally involved with anyone.

Early writers include:

Richardson, Samuel. *Pamela: or Virtue Rewarded* (1740).

Austen, Jane. *Pride and Prejudice* (1813).

Hill, Grace Livingston. *The Chance of a Lifetime; Lo, Michael!*

Loring, Emilie. *There is Always Love; To Love and To Honor.*

Baldwin, Faith. *Rich Girl, Poor Girl; Thursdays Child.*

Sensuality Ratings

G - Love scenes, but little or no sex.

PG - Non-descriptive sex, nothing graphic.

PG-13 - More descriptive, but nothing wild or kinky.

R - Lovemaking, and plenty of it - described in lots of detail.

NC-17 - Ouch! Don't burn yourself. This book is hot, hot, hot!

Short Stories

Brandwyne, Rebecca et al. *Night Magic*.
Hooper, Kay et al. *Yours 2 Keep (PG)*.
Howell, Hannah et al. *Castle Magic*.
Krinard, Susan et al. *Bewitched*.
Kurland, Lynn et al. *Tapestry*.
Palmer, Catherine et al. *Victorian Christmas Tea*.
Palmer, Catherine et al. *Victorian Christmas Cottage*.
Roberts, Nora et al. *Once Upon a Castle*.
Roberts, Nora et al. *Once Upon a Dream*.

Teen

McKinley, Robin. *The Door in the Hedge*.
Vande Velde, Vivian. *The Rumpelstiltskin Problem*.

(RATINGS KEY FOUND AT THE END!)

Contemporary

Bradford, Barbara Taylor. *Angel; Everything to Gain*.
Bretton, Barbara. *Shore Lights (G)*.
Brockmann, Suzanne. *The Unsung Hero (PG-13); Into the Night (R) (SEAL Team 16 series)*.
Cameron, Stella. *True Bliss*.
Crusie, Jennifer. *Crazy for You (R)*.
Dailey, Janet. *Illusions*.
Delinsky, Barbara. *Flirting with Pete (PG-13)*.
Hannah, Kristin. *Angel Falls (G)*.
Howard, Linda. *Mr. Perfect (PG-13)*.
Krentz, Jayne Ann. *Flash (PG); Wildest Hearts*.
Lowell, Elizabeth. *Fever*.
Macomber, Debbie. *16 Lighthouse Road (G)*.
Neggers, Carla. *The Waterfall (PG)*.
Nunes, Rachel Ann. *Ariana series (LDS)*.
Phillips, Susan Elizabeth. *Breathing Room (R); It Had to be You*.
Pilcher, Rosamunde. *Sleeping Tiger; Coming Home*.
Roberts, Nora. *Concannon (Irish) Trilogy - Born in Fire; Born in Ice; Born in Shame*.
Roberts, Nora. *Chesapeake Bay Series - Sea Swept (PG); Rising Tides (PG-13); Inner Harbor (PG); Chesapeake Blue (PG-13)*.
Spencer, LaVyrle. *Small Town Girl (G)*.
Stansfield, Anita. *First Love and Forever (series) (LDS)*.
Steel, Danielle. *The House on Hope Street; Johnny Angel*.

Teen

Baker, Carin Greenberg. *A Time to Love; Good-Bye to Love*.
Bauer, Joan. *Thwonk*.
Bell, Mary S. *Sonata for Mind and Heart*.
Cabot, Meg. *The Princess Diaries; All American Girl*.
Caseley, Judith. *Kisses*.
Dessen, Sarah. *This Lullaby or the Truth About Forever*
Draper, Sharon M. *Romiette and Julio*.
Frank, Lucy. *Oy, Joy*
Hahn, Mary Downing. *The Wind Blows Backwards*.
Hamilton, Virginia. *A White Romance*.
Hopkins, Cathy. *Mates, Dates and Designer Divas (series)*.
Lane, Dakota. *Johnny Voodoo*.
McDaniel, Lurlene. *Six Months to Live*.
Myers, Walter Dean. *Motown and Didi*.
Plummer, Louise. *The Unlikely Romance of Kate Bjorkman*.
Qualey, Marsha. *Revolutions of the Heart*.
Sones, Sonya. *What My Mother Doesn't Know*
Spinelli, Jerry. *Stargirl*.
Vail, Rachel. *If We Kiss*.
Wittinger, Ellen. *Lombardo's Law*.
Young, Karen Romano. *The Beetle and Me*.

Paranormal Romance

Anything supernatural with a love story – vampires, ghosts, werewolves, witches, spirits, angels, etc.

Delinsky, Barbara. *Three Wishes – near death experience*
Drake, Shannon. *Beneath a Blood Red Moon (PG) – vampire; Deep Midnight (PG-13) – vampire; When Darkness Falls – vampire*.
Krinard, Susan. *Body & Soul –ghost; Prince of dreams – vampire; Touch of the wolf (PG-13) - werewolf; Secret of the Wolf (PG) – werewolf*
Litton, Josie. *(Each trilogy continues the story of a different generation – all have supernatural powers and the latter two trilogies are about a mythical kingdom.) Viking Trilogy – Dream of Me/Believe in Me (PG); Come Back to Me; Kingdom of Moonlight Series – Dream Island (PG-13); Kingdom of Moonlight; Castles in the Mist; Fountain of Dreams; Fountain of Secrets; Fountain of Fire*.
Macomber, Debbie. *Shirley, Goodness and Mercy – angels; The Trouble with Angels – angels; Touched by Angels – angels*.
Roberts, Nora. *Three sisters trilogy – witches - Dance Upon the Air (PG); Heaven and Earth; Face the Fire (PG); Irish Trilogy – ghosts – Jewels of the Sun (PG); Tears of the Moon (PG); Heart of the Sea (PG-13)*.
Sizemore, Susan. *Forever Knight - vampire*

Teen

Cabot, Meg. *Shadowland*. - ghosts (Mediator series)
Chandler, Elizabeth. *Kissed by an Angel – angels*.
Hodgman, Ann. *Dark Music – werewolves*.
Klause, Annette Curtis. *The Silver Kiss – werewolves*
Meyer, Stephanie. *Twilight – werewolves*
Wrede, Patricia. *Sorcery and Cecelia, or, the Enchanted Chocolate Pot – wizardry*.

Time Travel

Characters are transported from one time period to another with the hero and heroine usually from different time periods. Diana Gabaldon is the standard for this subgenre.

Bretton, Barbara. *Tomorrow and Always; Destiny's Child.*

Chapman, Janet. *Charming the Highlander*

Deveraux, Jude. *Knight in Shining Armor; Remembrance; Legend.*

Frank, Suzanne. *Reflections in the Nile; Shadows on the Aegean; Sunrise on the Mediterranean.*

Gabaldon, Diana. *Outlander; Dragonfly in Amber; Voyager; Drums of Autumn; Fiery Cross.*

Grant, Susan. *Once a Pirate*

Hill, Sandra. *The Last Viking; Truly Madly Viking; The Very Virile Viking.*

Kurland, Lynn. *The Very Thought of You; The More I See You.*

Miller, Linda Lael. *Pirates; Knights; My Outlaw.*

Riley, Eugenia. *Timeswept Bride; Phantom in Time; Waltz in Time.*

Speer, Flora M. *A Time to Love Again; Christmas Carol; Timestruck.*

Weyrich, Becky Lee. *Once Upon Forever; Sands of Destiny; Swan's Way.*

Teen

Cooney, Caroline B. *Both Sides of Time; Out of Time; Prisoner of Time; For All Time.*

Historical Romance

These are love stories with historical settings. The setting must be far enough removed in time and place to have an aura of unfamiliarity and mystery – rarely anything later than the Edwardian period (1901-1910). *Romantic Historicals* use accurate historical settings, information and characters as essential parts of the story. A *Period Romance* is a more generic love story in a historical setting. The historical atmosphere created by describing food, clothing, houses, entertainments, etc. are more important than events and historical characters. Historical romances are frequently categorized by the time period or setting.

Early writers include:

Scott, Sir Walter. *Ivanhoe (1819).*

Dumas, Alexandre. *Three Musketeers (1844); Count of Monte Cristo (1845).*

Dickens, Charles. *A Tale of Two Cities (1859).*

Heyer, Georgette. *The Conqueror (1931); My Lord John (1975).*

Sutcliffe, Rosemary. *The Sword at Sunset (1963).*

Romantic Historicals

Caldwell, Taylor. *Dear and Glorious Physician; Captains and Kings .*

Costain, Thomas. *The Black Rose; The Silver Chalice.*

Gellis, Roberta. *A Tapestry of Dreams; Masques of Gold.*

Holland, Cecelia. *City of God; The Soul Thief.*

Holt, Victoria. *The House of a Thousand Lanterns.*

Kaye, M. M. *Shadow of the Moon; The Far Pavilions.*

Plaidy, Jean (also writes as Victoria Holt & Philippa Carr). *Queens of England Series; Norman Trilogy.*

Period Romances - General

Barnett, Jill. *Just a Kiss Away; Carried Away.*
Beverley, Jo. *Forbidden; Lord of Midnight (PG-13).*
Blake, Jennifer. *Arrow to the Heart; Silver-Tongued Devil.*
Brockway, Connie. *A Dangerous Man.*
Cameron, Stella. *Beloved.*
Canham, Marsha. *Across a Moonlit Sea.*
Cartland, Barbara. *Look with Love; Love in Hiding.*
Coulter, Catherine. *Song Trilogy - Fire Song; Earth Song; Secret Song. Legacy Trilogy – Wyndham Legacy; Nightingale Legacy; Valentine Legacy.*
Deveraux, Jude. *James River Trilogy – Counterfeit Lady; Lost Lady; River Lady.*
Dodd, Christina. *The Greatest Lover in All England; A Knight to Remember.*
Feather, Jane. *Virtue; Velvet; The Diamond Slipper.*
Garwood, Julie. *The Bride; The Prize.*
Graham, Heather. *Civil War Trilogy – One Wore Blue; And One Wore Gray; And One Rode West.*
McNaught, Judith. *A Kingdom of Dreams; Whitney, My Love.*
Putney, Mary Jo. *Dancing on the Wind; One Perfect Rose (PG-13).*
Quick, Amanda (Jayne Ann Krentz). *Mistress; With This Ring (PG-13).*
Wiggs, Susan. *The Lightkeeper; Circle in the Water.*

Teen

Holder, Nancy. *The Rose Bride.*
Jordan, Sherryl. *Raging Quiet.*
Moore, Margaret. *Gwyneth and the Thief.*
Voigt, Cynthia. *Jackaroo.*

Futuristic/Science Fiction

Asaro, Catherine. *Catch the Lightning (R); The Quantum Rose.*
Castle, Jayne (Jayne Ann Krentz). *Amaryllis; Zinnia; Orchid (R); After Dark (PG).*
Grant, Susan. *Contact (PG); The Star King (R); The Star Prince (R); The Star Princess (PG-13).*
Joy, Dara. *Knight of a Trillion Stars (R); Ritual of Proof (NC-17)*
Robb, J. D. (Nora Roberts). *Immortal in Death (and the rest of the ... in death series).*

Alternative Reality Romances

Alternative Reality romances fall into four main subgenres – Fantasy, Futuristic, Time Travel, and Paranormal. These follow the Science Fiction/Fantasy genre, but with the focus on a romance instead of the fantastical.

Fantasy

Draws heavily from myth, legend and fairy tales and magic plays a big part in the romances.

Barnett, Jill. *Imagine*.
Cach, Lisa. *George & the Virgin*
Carroll, Susan. *Bride Finder; Night Drifter; Midnight Bride*.
Cates, Kimberly. *Briar Rose*.
Fobes, Tracy. *My Enchanted Enemy*.
Lindsey, Betina. *Swan Bride, Swan Witch*.
Morgan, Kathleen. *Demon Prince; A Certain Magic*.
Shayne, Maggie. *Forever Enchanted; Annie's Hero*.

Teen

Haddix, Margaret Peterson. *Just Ella*.
Kindl, Patrice. *Owl in Love*.
Levine, Gail Carson. *Ella Enchanted*.
Loggia, Wendy. *Ever After*.
McKinley, Robin. *Beauty; Rose Daughterr; Spindle's End*.
Napoli, Donna Jo. *Beast*.
Wrede, Patricia. *Enchanted Forest Chronicles – Dealing with Dragons; Searching for Dragons; Calling on Dragons; Talking to Dragons*.

Sensual Historical

Sweet/Savage Romance - Sexy, fast-paced, adventurous – “Bodice Rippers” - Popular in the 70's.

Busbee, Shirlee. *Whisper to Me of Love; Love a Dark Rider*.
Joyce, Brenda. *The Game; Splendor*.
Lindsey, Johanna. *Captive Bride; Gentle Rogue; Surrender My Love*.
Rogers, Rosemary. *The Wildest Heart; A Dangerous Man*.
Woodiwiss, Kathleen E. *The Flame and the Flower (the ORIGINAL title of this genre); The Wolf and the Dove; Ashes in the Wind; Shanna*.

Americana Period

General – everyday life in the American past in small-town or rural settings.

Garlock, Dorothy. *With Hope (PG-13); Mother Road*.
Hatcher, Robin Lee. *In His Arms (PG); Where the Heart Is*.
Holm, Stef Ann. *Weeping Angel; Harmony*.
Landis, Jill Marie. *Until Tomorrow; Last Chance*.
Miller, Linda Lael. *Orphan Train Trilogy – Lily and the Major; Emma and the outlaw; Caroline and the Raider*.
Spencer, LaVyrle. *Morning Glory; November of the Heart; That Camden Summer*.

Teen

Hurwitz, Johanna. *The Unsigned Valentine*.
Holm, Jennifer. *Boston Jane*.
Jenkins, Beverly. *Bell and the Bean*
Rinaldi, Ann. *Quilt Trilogy – A Stitch in Time; Broken Days; The Blue Door*.

Western Period

Usually set west of the Mississippi during the 2nd half of the nineteenth century.

Bittner, Rosanne. *Embers of the Heart*.
Criswell, Millie. *Mail Order Outlaw*.
Deveraux, Jude. *Mountain Laurel; Eternity*.
Garlock, Dorothy. *The Listening Sky; Sweetwater; Sins of Summer*.
Garwood, Julie. *For the Roses; One Pink Rose; One Red Rose; One White Rose; Come the Spring*.
Lindsey, Johanna. *Love Only Once; Tender is the Storm*.
Osborne, Maggie. *The Promise of Jenny Jones; The Best Man (PG-13)*.

Native American Period

Baker, Madeline. *Wolf Shadow (PG-13); Apache Flame*.
Bittner, Rosanne. *Mystic Dreamers (PG-13); Mystic Visions; Mystic Warriors (PG-13)*.
Dailey, Janet. *The Pride of Hannah Wade; The Proud and the Free; Legacies*.
Eagle, Kathleen. *Fire and Rain; Sunrise Song; The Night Remembers*.
Edward, Cassie. *Savage... series*.
Taylor, Janelle. *Chase the Wind; Destiny Mine*.

Teen

Garland, Sherry. *Indio*.
Hudson, Jan. *Sweetgrass*.

Contemporary Romantic suspense

Blair, Kerry. *Closing In (LDS), Digging Up the Past (LDS)*.
Brown, Sandra. *Envy (PG-13)*.
Forster, Suzanne. *The Morning After (PG-13)*.
Gerritsen, Tess. *Never Say Die*.
Hannah, Kristin. *Waiting for the Moon (telepathy)*.
Hinze, Vicki. *Lady Liberty (PG)*.
Howard, Linda. *Open Season (R)*.
Johansen, Iris. *Face of Deception (G)*.
Krentz, Jayne Ann. *Light in Shadow (PG-13)*.
Lowell, Elizabeth. *Donovan Family Saga - Amber Beach; Jade Island (R); Pearl Cove (PG-13); Midnight in Ruby Bayou(R)*.
Lowell, Heather. *When the Storm Breaks (PG)*
Pozzessere, Heather Graham. *Slow Burn*.

Historical Romantic Suspense (Gothic)

Brent, Madeleine. *Moonraker's Bride*.
Carr, Philippa. *Midsummer's Eve*.
Coulter, Catherine. *Hellion Bride; Sherbrooke Bride; Rebel Bride*.
Howard, Linda. *Now You See Her (psychic) (PG-13)*.
Johansen, Iris. *Lion's Bride*.
Kaye, M.M. *Death in... series*.
Peters, Elizabeth. *Amelia Peabody series*.

Teen

Pullman, Philip. *The Ruby in the Smoke*.

Romantic Mystery/Suspense

This is the female equivalent to the male adventure story. While full of adventure and suspense, neither is allowed to diminish the heroine's romantic involvement. Usually the heroine is threatened and thrown into a dangerous, mysterious or puzzling situation that she seeks to unravel while becoming romantically involved with the hero. The background may be basically domestic (girl marries, goes to family estate, and husband dies or disappears, family secret leads to murder, scandal, and so forth), exotic/foreign (archaeological dig, jewel trade) or have the trappings of period romance. Mary Stewart is the standard for this genre.

Early writers include:

Bronte, Charlotte. *Jane Eyre* (1847).
Bronte, Emily. *Wuthering Heights* (1847).
Du Maurier, Daphne. *Rebecca* (1938).
Holt, Victoria. *Pride of the Peacock* (1976).
Michaels, Barbara (also writes as Elizabeth Peters).
Ammie Come Home; Into the Darkness.
Stewart, Mary. *Nine Coaches Waiting; Touch Not the Cat.*
Whitney, Phyllis. *The Singing Stones; Rainbow in the Mist.*

Medieval Period

Deveraux, Jude. *Montgomery Family Saga – Velvet Song; Velvet Angel; Highland Velvet; Velvet Promise; and many more!*
Fields, Hillary. *Heart of a Lion* (R).
Garwood, Julie. *Saving Grace; The Bride.*
Henley, Virginia. *The Hawk and the Dove; A Year and a Day* (R).
Kaufman, Pamela. *Shield of Three Lions; Banners of Gold.*
Lindsey, Johanna. *Prisoner of My Desire.*
Lowell, Elizabeth. *Enchanted.*
Woodiwiss, Kathleen E. *The Wolf and the Dove.*

Teen

Temple, Frances. *The Ramsay Scallop.*

Regency Period

Set in England from 1811-1820 when "Prinny" (later George IV) was Regent for his father, George III. Usually short with witty repartee and involves the world of high society. London seasons of the wealthy and titled enjoying the assemblies at Almack's, dandies in fashionable garb, country estates and Bath are usually featured. Frequently, the heroine is impoverished, the daughter of a poor country parson or orphan, but always a lady. Manner and dress are of utmost importance. Regencies typically did not include sex. Georgette Heyer is the standard for this period.

Balogh, Mary. *Slightly Married (PG-13), Slightly Scandalous (PG-13); Slightly Tempted (PG-13)*.
Cartland, Barbara. *Love, Lords and Lady-Birds*.
Chesney, Marion. *Traveling Matchmaker Series – Emily Goes to Exeter; School for Manners Series – Refining Felicity*.
Darcy, Clare. (best since Heyer) *Elyza*.
Hern, Candice. *A Change of Heart; The Best Intentions (PG)*.
Heyer, Georgette. *Bath Tangle; April Lady; A Civil Contract; Lady of Quality*.
Putney, Mary Jo. *The Rake and the Reformer (rewritten into The Rake(PG-13)); The Diabolical Baron*.

Teen

Cabot, Meg. *Victoria and the Rogue; Nicola and the Viscount*.

Inspirational Historical

A love story infused with usually Christian value and beliefs. Can have either contemporary (C) or historical settings (H).

Bacher, June Masters. *Love is a Gentle Stranger Series (HI)*.
Hatcher, Robin Lee. *The Forgiving Hour (C); Firstborn (C)*.
Hill, Grace Livingston. *According to the Pattern; Stranger Within the Gates (early to mid 20th Century – C)*.
Hunt, Angela Elwell. *Keeper of the Ring Series (H); Heirs of Cahira O'Connor (H/C mix)*.
Oke, Janette. *Canadian West Series (H); Seasons of the Heart Series (H); Love Comes Softly Series (H)*.
Peart, Jane. *Brides of Montclair Series (H); American Quilt Series (H); Orphan Train West trilogy (H)*.
Palmer, Catherine. *A Town Called Hope Series (H); English Ivy (H)*.
Wick, Lori. *The Californians Series (H); The Kensington Chronicles (H)*.

Teen

Armstrong, Jennifer. *Wild Rose Inn series – Ann; Bridie; Emily; Laura*.
Kincaid, Nancy. *Crossing Blood*.
Magorian, Michelle. *Not a Swan*.
Qualey, Marsha. *Come in from the Cold*.
Turnbull, Ann. *No Shame, No Fear*.