

science fiction: “writing that speculates about the effects of technology, science, or the future on humans” (Between the Lines 11 410).

Science fiction stories have all the same elements as other works of fiction, such as plot, character, and setting. Though it is important to the believability of *any* story to have characters that seem real to the reader, it is *more* important to science fiction stories because the setting and plot of the story may be very unfamiliar. The setting of science fiction, for instance, is often foreign and/or futuristic. It may depict a world after nuclear war or environmental disaster, or it may show a society in the grip of tyrannical government. Whatever the situation, however, science fiction stories always contain a warning to the reader. Science fiction asks the reader to take a look around at the world he lives in and be wary of the path ahead.