Stroupe

WRIT 4250

**Genre Exercise**

**1. Choose a Genre**

Identify a genre of writing that you will to translate to augmented space in your WAS project.

*Generally speaking, the "genre" of a piece of writing is the form it takes: for example, a detective novel, a magazine feature article, a biography, a sonnet, an academic analysis, a personal essay, etc.

A genre is defined not only by the textual features and structures, but by the medium and the audience for the piece of writing.*

Try to choose a genre that you're familiar with—ideally that you are a fan of.

*Attempting to work in a genre that you don't know or like is a recipe for disaster. An analogy would be genres of music: can you imagine getting up on stage and trying to sing Rockabilly (or Comic Opera, or Hair Metal, or Swamp Pop) if you never particularly listened to or cared about it? Imagine yourself performing for audience who did.*

**2. Make a List**

Make a list of 3-5 specific examples of that genre.

Think about the ultimate effects and meanings of these works. What do they *do* for their audiences? What makes each one good?

**3. Research Some Reviews or Commentaries**

Do a Google search for reviews or other commentaries on 2 or 3 of your examples

Beyond the factual content of the writings (Circle A and B in our Concentric Circles Diagram), what are the possible kinds of meanings, emotions, perspectives, ideologies, universal ideas, etc. do examples of this genre achieve out in Circle C?

**4. Write a One-Page Commentary**

In one, double-spaced page, write an analysis of what is possible in this genre: the directions and destinations that are possible: the meanings and ideas, the emotions and experiences, the reasons why people like it.

**5. Come in Prepared to Discuss**

Come to class ready to discuss what you've realized about your chosen genre,
what might be possible when that genre is translated to augmented space, and
how this translated genre might be utilized as a vehicle for the ideas you have for your project.