

Transmedia Storytelling – Session 2

Reader Writer Contract
Stableford – 3rd Generation Science Fiction (SF) –

SF moving from print to media?

Always has been in media but –
PNH@Tor now declares it a “TV Genre”

Start w/Stableford - Babylon 5 – 1st of long arc
written in 97 Battlestar Galactica – long story
new kinds of TC SF - (Orphan Black!)
Firefly?? = Western!

Morality embedded in the medium – (Stableford argues it is – at least in SF)

morality OF SF –
of today but towards better
does TV as a medium stifle/restrict that?
Other media?

Books in TV universes –
Restricted – YES –
(I can tell about Trek books)

Why the restrictions in TV and not books/stories?
Other media?
How can we work with those restrictions?
Use them to advantage?

What has happened in TV since this article? (Arc of story expanded)

All media have restrictions & expectations, these are not always necessarily a function of the medium –
though perhaps –

Why the change in TV to series with long arcs of story where you can't miss anything?
VCRs (now DVRs, streaming, TIVO)
technology so that people don't miss points in story

but still –
moving from a minority to a popular genre
no longer “insider”

Reader/Writer Contract (maker/audience contract)
What is it?

They pay, they give: Time, Attention, Disbelief

[(writer, not Trek!) Checkov said gun on mantle, shoot it!]

We give: a particular experience
play fair
fulfill the genre/style

Do not hang disbelief until Dead

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