

Annotation categories and subcategories

Waarover gaat deze boek review? (Work in progress)

In the first column are the top categories. For some of those, there are subcategories in the second column. The third column gives a description. The fourth column gives some examples. For some of the examples we indicate that multiple annotations are appropriate. There are also some negative examples (examples where the category should not be applied).

| Category | Subcategory | Description | Examples |
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| <u>Classification</u> | (none) | Genre of the book (Suspense, Literary novel, Fantasy etc.), canonisation (e.g. classics, real thriller) and references to genre standards, or to period/literary epoch. If there is any mention of style, use the tag Style>Context instead of Classification. | <i>It is a classic for suspense novels.</i> <i>The book revolutionizes the horror conventions.</i> <i>It contains many elements of Romantic literature.</i> |
| <u>Reader response</u> | Evaluation of quality | Any explicit positive or negative evaluation of the book. It may be general (good, bad, interesting) or referring also to emotional response (boring, exciting). In this case also assign the subtag "Feelings". When referring to Style (well written, skillfully composed) or Content (well structured plot, deeply developed characters) also assign those tags. | <i>It was a good novel without a doubt.</i> (Evaluation) <i>The book is not very innovative.</i> (Evaluation) <i>I hated the fact that it was so scary</i> (Evaluation ('hate') + Emotions ('scary')). <i>I enjoyed the way the characters are described</i> (Evaluation of quality (because of 'enjoyed') + Style (because of 'described') + Narrative (because of 'characters')). 'Heerlijk' (delightful) should be annotated as Evaluation (not as feeling). <i>dat ze zich tot de top van vrouwelijke thrillerauteurs mag rekenen</i> (Author, Classification ('thriller') , Evaluation of quality ('top')) <i>schattige verhaaltjes</i> (Stylistic features + Evaluation of quality) <u>Negative example:</u> <i>I liked her earlier books</i> (is not about quality of |

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| | | | reviewed book; annotate as 'Other work') |
| | Feelings | Any expression of feelings and emotions related to the book, both when referring to the content or referring to personal feelings and desires including the desire to read on. If there is an emotional response to the expectations of the reader being met or not, tag it as 'feelings'. If the feeling/emotion is clearly positive or negative it should be also annotated as 'Evaluation' (e.g. Drie intrigerende verhalen - Feeling + Evaluation of q.) | <p><i>This book hit me right in the heart.</i> (Feelings) <i>It was a sad story.</i> (Feelings) <i>It made me feel sad.</i> (Feelings) <i>I found this novel quite boring</i> (Feelings + Evaluation). <i>I had a hard time reading it as it was written</i> (Feelings + Stylistic Features) <i>Ik bleef op mijn honger zitten</i> (Feelings and Evaluation) <i>Een spannend verhaal</i> (Feelings and Evaluation)</p> <p>Negative example: <i>Ik heb het met zeer veel plezier gelezen!</i> (Pleasure is not a real feeling, this is just Evaluation of quality.)</p> |
| | Identification and immersion | Any process of reader's identification with the book, in terms of immersion in the story, identification with the characters, connection of the content of the book with the reader's biography. | <p><i>The pain of the husband has become mine.</i> <i>It made me think about how children have experienced the war.</i> <i>Het merendeel van het boek was ik dan ook helemaal méé ...</i> <i>Everyone feels lonely from time to time.</i></p> |
| | Reflection | Reflections about (own) life and society, including changes in the reader's perceptions or appreciations. Use this tag also if the reflection is driven by the content/theme of the book, but it is not clearly mentioned. | <p><i>Eerlijk gezegd denk ik dat ik dit boek beter gelezen had toen ik het kocht zo'n 10 jaar geleden.</i></p> <p><i>It helps you understand what it is to lose a child</i></p> |
| | Reading context | Any mention of time, place, medium of reading, as well as reading plans, order of reading, read/not read and prepublication reading. Expectations for the book caused by the other parts of a series or other books of the author are also in this category. Including the context in which they bought the book. | <p><i>I read the book in three days.</i> <i>I read it a few years ago for the first time, then I read it again for a reading group.</i> <i>I mostly read it on the train, on a tablet.</i> <i>I received a book from the publisher.</i> <i>Na haar debuut Zus, ... waren mijn verwachtingen</i></p> |

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| | | | <i>hooggespannen ...</i> |
| | Reception | Reception by others, official reception, prizes | <i>I don't understand why everybody criticized this book.</i> <i>It was awarded best Sci-fiction in 2023.</i> <i>In another review I read ...</i> |
| <u>Content</u> | Narrative | Narrative features such as plot, characters, emotion of characters, setting, etc. | <i>It is the story of two kids who encounter several obstacles.</i> <i>The story is set during the IIWW.</i> <i>The main character experiences loneliness and defeat.</i> <i>Drie intrigerende verhalen (Three stories) - should NOT be style/structure unless more explicitly noticed (e.g. Three stories that are told one after another).</i> |
| | Quote | All and only direct quotes from the reviewed book (no quotes from reviews, these should be annotated as Reader response / reception). | |
| | Theme | Topic/subject of the book (when not referring explicitly to the plot), also when containing personal interpretation, or referring to facts of reality or specific period/place/culture. If the sentence does not have an explicit notion about the theme of the book, do not use this tag. A reference to 'the theme of the book' without an explicit notion of a theme should not be tagged as Theme, but as Identification and immersion. | <i>The book is about love.</i> <i>It is a metaphor for father-son relationship etc.</i> <i>It took inspiration from the protests which followed George Floyd's death.</i> Negative: <i>Everyone feels lonely once in a while</i> (general reflection about life -> Identification and immersion) |
| | Other | Other non-linguistic features of the book, e.g. illustrations, length (even if number of words is textual/linguistic aspect), cover page etc. | <i>The book also contains a map of Middle Earth.</i> (Other). <i>I bought it because of the cover.</i> (Evaluation + Other) |

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| <u>Style</u> | Stylistic features | Any reference to stylistic features such as tone, formality, complexity, narrative perspective, focalization etc. It may also contain evaluation elements (in these cases, assign both tags). Humor is also related to style. | <i>The book is tersely written.</i> (Evaluation + Stylistic Features) <i>The style is bland.</i> (Evaluation + Stylistic Features) <i>Beautifully described characters.</i> (Evaluation + Stylistic Features) <i>It is told in third person but from the perspective of the mother.</i> (Stylistic Features) |
| | Context | Contextualization (period, region, author, translation). | <i>It resembles the style of Romantic literature.</i> <i>I do not like the style of Dan Brown.</i> (Style-Context + Evaluation) |
| | Structure | Formal organization of book's contents. If it contains reference to narrative features or focalization also tag as Stylistic features. | <i>The book is divided into two main parts and several chapters.</i> <u>Negative examples:</u> <i>verrassende ontknoping</i> (surprising ending) - has to do with narrative and not with style <i>benieuwd naar hoe de drie verhalen zouden samenkomen</i> (narrative, not structure) |
| <u>Author</u> | (none) | General discussion about the author (also addressing the author), biography and contextualization of the author. Do not tag Evaluation unless it refers to the book reviewed. If there is any mention of the style of the author, use the tag Style>Contextualization instead of Author. If the other books of the author are listed/mentioned without the discussion of the author - use 'Other works'. | <i>Vermeer turned this simple story into a great thriller.</i> (Author + Evaluation + Classification) <i>I love Vermeer's books.</i> (Author) <i>Suzanne, you did it again!</i> (Author) <i>In haar debuut Zus, haar tweede boek Na Delfine...</i> (Author) |
| <u>Other works</u> | (none) | Reflection on other works of the author (including mentions of book's serie) or other authors or adaptations. Do not tag Evaluation unless it refers to the book reviewed. | <i>It was inspired by the wonderful novel "Frankenstein" by Mary Shelley.</i> (Other works) <i>I haven't seen the film yet, but the book was great</i> (Other works + Evaluation). |

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| | | | <u>Negative example:</u> <i>Het verlangen van de egel is één van de beste werkjes van Tellegen</i> (no mention of specific works) |
| <u>Recommendations</u> | (none) | General and specific reading recommendation. | <i>Read this book!</i> <i>Especially recommended for those who vote PVV.</i> |