BACKGROUND: In general, literary resources are assigned genre/form terms according to the guidelines in J 110, but there are certain aspects of literary resources that require special provisions that are not applicable to other resources. This instruction sheet presents guidelines on those special provisions.

1. Fiction.

a. Fiction for adults. In addition to terms assigned in accordance with the guidelines in J 110, assign a term that indicates the length of the resource when it is readily apparent (e.g., Novels; Novellas; Short stories; Flash fiction). Examples:

   Title: Beloved / Toni Morrison.
   Terms: Historical fiction.
   Novels.

   Title: The fall of the House of Usher and other tales / Edgar Allan Poe.
   Terms: Horror fiction.
   Short stories.

b. Fiction for children and young adults. In addition to terms assigned in accordance with the guidelines in J 110, assign the term Novels to novels for children and young adults, although they may be only as long as a short story or novella for adults. Assign Novellas, Short stories, or Flash fiction only if the title, introduction, cover information, etc., present the resource as such. Assign the term Picture books to resources for young children that consist chiefly of illustrations that are coordinated with simple text. Examples:

   Title: The secret of the old clock / Carolyn Keene.
   Terms: Detective and mystery fiction.
   Novels.

   Title: Outside rules : short stories about nonconformist youth.
   Term: Short stories.

   Title: The very hungry caterpillar / Eric Carle.
   Terms: Picture books.
   Toy and movable books.
2. **Poetry.** The general guideline to assign genre/form terms only as they come readily to mind after a superficial review of the resource being cataloged (see J 110) is particularly important for poetry. For both individual poems and collections of poetry, rely chiefly on the title, introduction, cover information, etc., to determine whether the poetry is of a specific genre or form. If after a superficial review a specific genre or form cannot be determined, assign the term **Poetry.**

**Examples:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Terms</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sonnets / William Shakespeare.</td>
<td>Sonnets.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For you with love / compiled by Kay Anne Carson.</td>
<td>Love poetry.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Half of the world in light : new and selected poems / Juan Felipe Herrera.</td>
<td>Poetry.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2. Poetry. (Continued)

Title: The hunting of the Snark / Lewis Carroll
Data: “The Hunting of the Snark tells the story of how the Bellman and his eccentric crew, who include a butcher, a baker, a beaver, and a tailor, set off in quest of that most mysterious and elusive of creatures, the Snark.”–Page 4 of cover.
Terms: Narrative poetry.

If the genre or form of a poem or collection of poetry is known to the cataloger due to the cataloger’s academic or cultural background, etc., one or more genre/form terms may be assigned to represent the genre or form. Examples:

Title: The Odyssey / Homer.
Terms: Epic poetry.

Title: The rape of the lock / Alexander Pope.
Terms: Mock-heroic poetry.