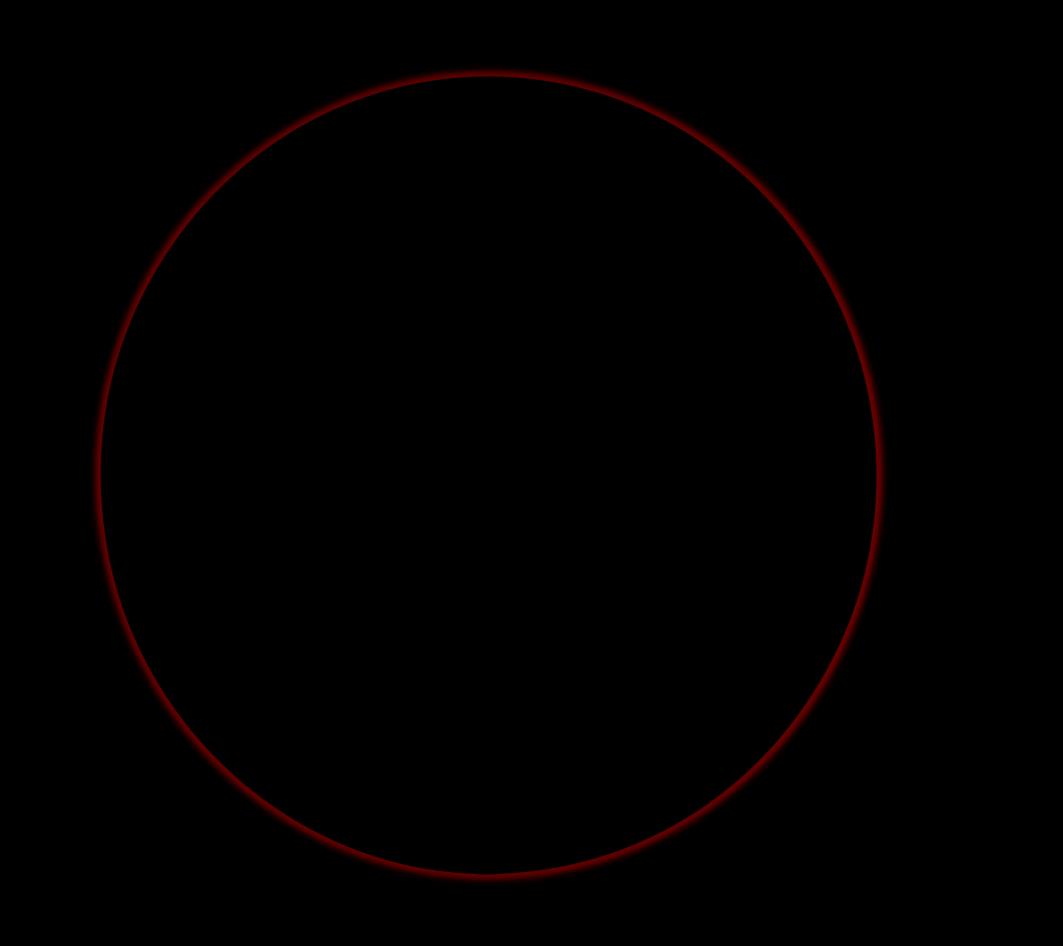
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INTERVIEWER

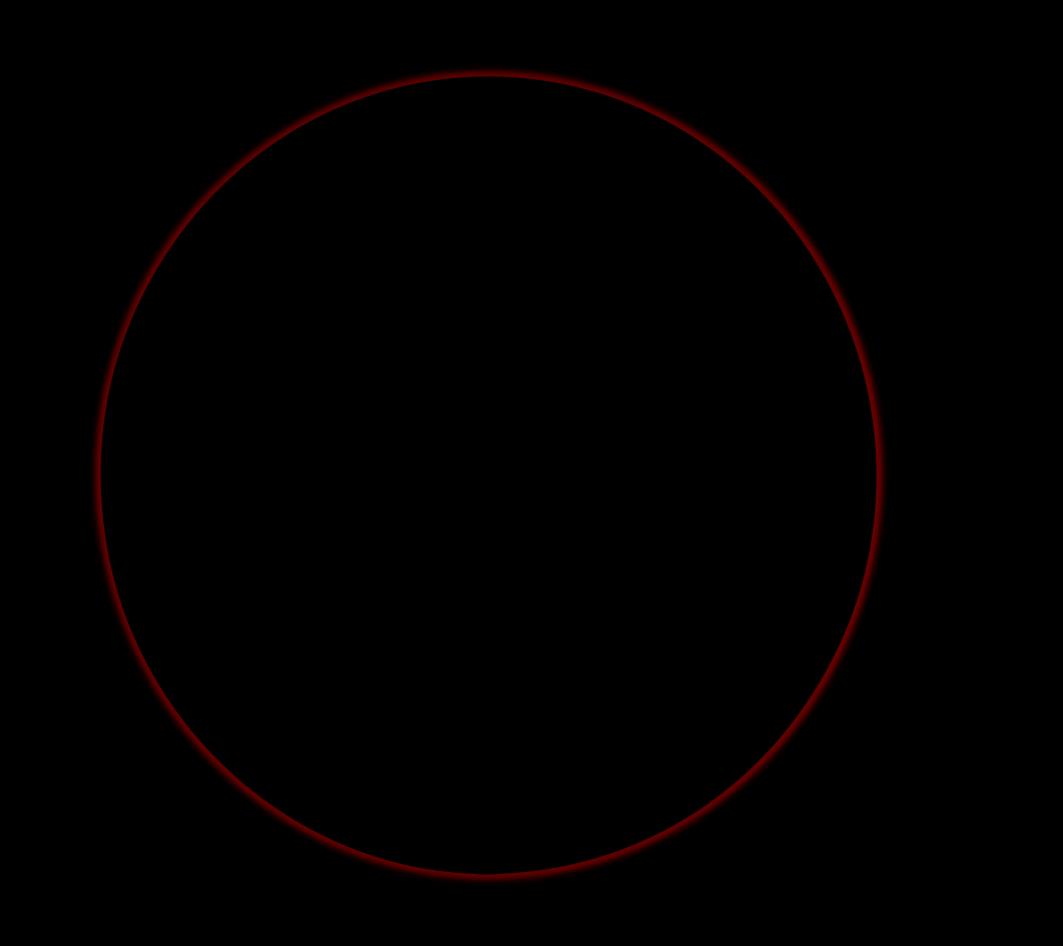
What are normal novels?

COOPER

Too much story, too much realism, too much overfamiliarity in general. They bought into the traditional, majority approach and opinion among American writers and arbiters of literature that life is most effectively depicted in fiction via one streamlined, timeproven method—the narrative arc, the sympathetic character, the snowballing plot, et cetera—and when I read work like that, all I saw were the writers' slight variations on a central formula that seemed reductive and arbitrary and bogus.





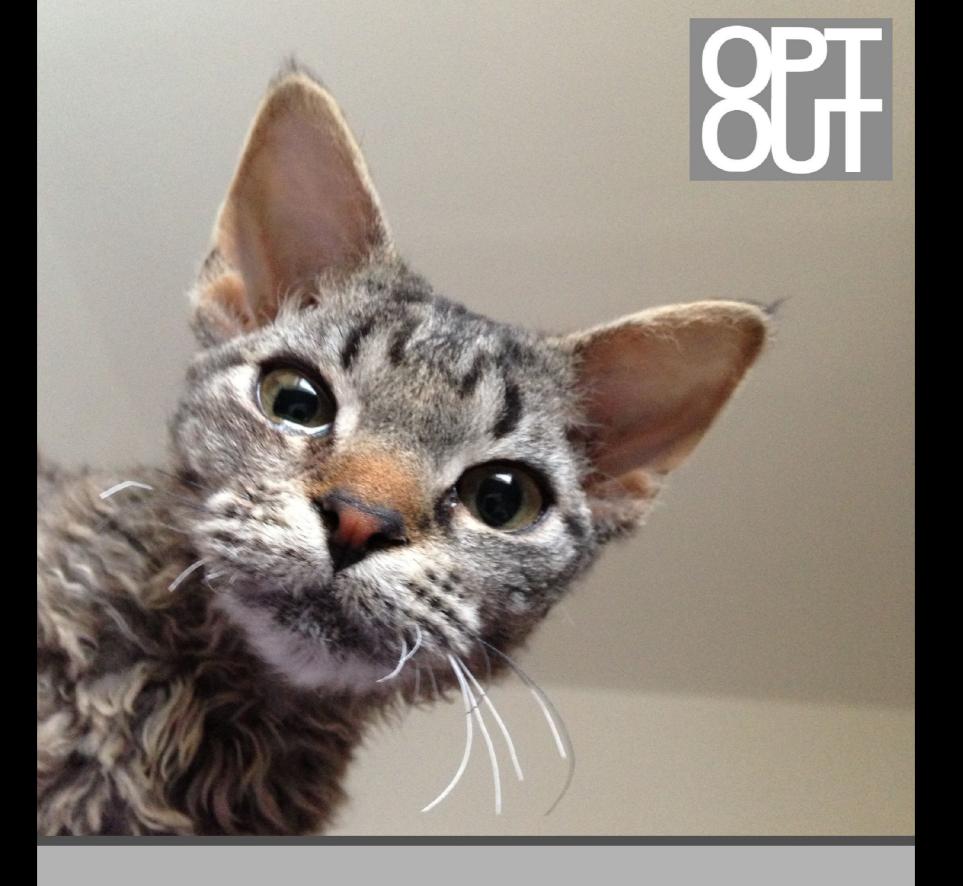








This is a protest



This is a pussy