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## **POPULAR FICTION: SOME THEORETICAL PERSPECTIVES**



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### **ABSTRACT**

Popular fiction is a very significant area of literature and literary studies. At the same time it is very complicated to be defined as it is the part of ever-pervading popular culture. The field of popular fiction is a very notable part of popular culture. As popular culture is widespread and ever-pervading, popular fiction is also very vast and wide. As there is no clear boundary between the culture and popular culture, it is also very difficult to define popular fiction due to its all-pervading nature. Popular fiction is always seen and defined in contrast with literary fiction. However, many books of literary fiction share the elements of popular fiction. Similarly, many books of popular fiction include the elements of literary fiction. Hence, there is not a clear boundary between literary fiction and popular fiction. Due to this, it becomes very difficult to define the field of popular fiction and distinguish it from literary fiction. However, this difficult task of defining popular fiction can be made something easy with the help of the theory of popular fiction as proposed by some critics who have tried to define popular fiction as a special kind of cultural practice. The present study

incorporates the theory of popular fiction in the light of the perspectives of some of the prominent critics, Ken Gelder, Thomas Roberts and Victor Neuburg. These perspectives are very helpful to understand the concept of popular fiction as a special kind of literary and cultural practice.

**KEYWORDS**

Popular fiction, culture, practice, literary fiction, theory, literary study