***Magic Realism Worksheet - include quotations and page numbers***

Based on the work of Michelle Witte, Caroline Lee Schwenz, and Shmoop

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| Basic Textual Features | | |
| Setting | The real | The magical |
| A realistic feeling and a matter of fact narrative style. Not too obtuse or surreal. | In magical realism, the realism plays a bigger role. The primary plot will be about real things in the real world, but there is an undercurrent of magic. | ‘Magical,’ in magical realism, as with its companion word in translation, ‘marvelous,’ implies an appreciation of the real, rather than a distortion or replacement of it. |
| Setting description: | “the real” description: | “the magical “description: |

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| **Conceptual/Textual Features** | | | | |
| **Characters** | **Authorial Reticence** | **Supernatural/Fantastic** | **Fractured, circular narrative** | **Hybridity / Inharmonious Opposites** |
| Ordinary, average, every-day Joe Schmoes (or Jane Schmanes). | the lack of clear opinions about the accuracy of events and the credibility of the world views expressed by the characters in the text.  “The narrator does not provide explanations about the credibility of events described in the text. Further, the narrator is indifferent; the story proceeds with ‘logical precision’ as if nothing extraordinary took place.” | The fantastic is anything that bends the rules of reality as we know it. Ghosts, flying people, magic, talking animals—that sort of stuff doesn't happen in reality (okay, as far as we know), but it's always just around the corner in Magic Realism. | Magic Realist writers do some weird things with time. In Magic Realist literature, time may be circular instead of linear, or it could jump around and go back and forth from past to future, or it could just seem to stand permanently still. Anything can happen in Magic Realist time. | Magic Realism is all about mixing things up: the fantastic with the mundane, the ordinary with the extraordinary, dream life with waking life, reality and unreality. |
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