World-Building

World building is exactly what it sounds like. It's building your own world, your own universe. Wikipedia defines world building as "the process of constructing an imaginary world, sometimes associated with a whole fictional universe." The thing about world-building is that it is extremely creative and imaginative. You kinda have to be, if you want to construct an entire world. This world can be anything you want.

One famous example is the wizarding world of Harry Potter, where magic exists. There's wizards, witches, spells, mythical creatures. Another famous example is Star Wars, Star Wars is incredible huge, it has its own universe. Whereas Harry Potter takes place in our world, with the twist that magic and wizards exist; Star Wars literally has people traveling to different and distance planets. The plot of Star Wars take place in space. In it, there are Jedi’s, the rebel, spaceships, the force, lightsabers, and more. That's what world building is, it can be a small, slight twist, like for Harry Potter, everything is exactly the same, but the only difference is that magic exist. And in it, it is told that magic and wizards are apart of an entirely unknown society in real life. For example, in Harry Potter, there's a wizard school, and if you graduate, you can either decide to go out in the real life and interact with non-magical non-wizardry people, or you can stay in the wizard society and be apart of the community there. This is just a small twist, the twist that magic exists and that there's an entirely new society that normal wouldn’t know about. Or, the twist, the world building can be as big as you want it to be. Like in Star Wars, there are so many different planets, different planets, different inhabits, different aliens - like, that's a massive difference. Everything is changed, for example some and even of the main characters of Star Wars aren’t even human, they are aliens.

The point that I’m trying to make is that world building is extremely creative and imaginative, it can be as different or as similar as you want it to be compared to the real life. Another famous world building example is Monster Inc., from Pixar. In it, the world is entirely like our own, the difference? Monsters exist, and they scare children for a living. Everything is exactly the same, except that monsters exist and they scare children. In the movie, the story explores the monster universe. And it’s very similar to what humans do, they have hobbies, they have jobs, they have children, they have romance, they have fears. It’s incredibly original.

Another important thing that I would like to point out is that while it is true that world building is extremely creative and imaginative, it is also extremely difficult to do. It took JK Rowling, the author of Harry Potter, six years for her to write it, edit it, and publish it. For Monsters Inc., it took about 12 years for them to actually create the story, develop the story, and to animate it into an animated movie. These incredible books and movies have incredible world building, but it also so long. The authors, the writers – they put so much time and effort into their universe, into building their universe.

But, don’t let that deter you. Yes, it took 6 years to write Harry Potter, it took 12 years to write and animate Monsters Inc., but that’s not the main thing. The main point is that those stories were made with love and care. They cared about their stories, and they were willing to put so much time and effort, despite not knowing when the book, the film was actually going to be finish. They didn’t know when their stories were going to be completed, but they didn’t stop, they continued on because they did what they loved, which was world building. Building their world, their universe, the characters, the character’s relationship, friendship, character’s development – all of it.