Is fantasy better than real life?

Simply put, fantasy is not the superior genre, but realism is no better. The use of fantasy is more popular in the present, but that does not mean that it is better.

A possible reason people read fantasy more often is that the scope of our imagination is fascinating in itself. Impossible ideas, scenarios and characters seem to provide an escape from reality for many readers. Many common readers tend to avoid books about real life, maybe because they are tired of it or it is not interesting for them. In literature, fantasy is more read and well known than realist novels, but does that mean it is better through popularity? This is just one of many points to consider whilst comparing the two genres.

To compare the two genres, one could look at fantasy and real life from a different perspective. In the way that light cannot exist without dark, fantasy cannot exist without real life. Fantasy and the idea of "improbability" only exists because of its counterpart - reality. As mentioned before, reading fantasy is a way of escaping reality - if one idea cannot be without the other, can it be any better? The coexistence of both genres could suggest that fantasy is no better than real life.

To truly understand the two genres, understanding the authors could be another aspect to compare. Works of fiction whether it is fantasy or realism, are both products of an author's imagination (since it is fiction and not devised from facts). If both fantasy and realism are produced by a person's imagination, then comparing two genres could evolve to comparing two sets of writers. Writers of fantasy are no better than writers of realism - they focus on completely different aspects of life - it would be like comparing The Hobbit and The Catcher in the Rye; it wouldn't make sense.