

The Factors that Influence the Consumption and Creation of Fanfiction

AP Research

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Abstract

This study examined how outside factors influence fanfiction content creation and consumption. A brief history on the background of fanfiction and a literature review are provided. A group of about 500 fanfiction readers and authors were surveyed and around 150 were interviewed. In this study, those who read fanfiction are influenced by factors of ethnicity, age, sexuality, gender and others. The results discussed the meaning of each influencing factor and what such influences could mean for entertainment and media. It was concluded that influencing factors such as ethnicity, age, sexuality, gender, and trauma were important in the search for stories to read; pre-existing interest being the biggest influencer followed by ethnicity and others. Ultimately, the personal preference of the fan holds the most influence in the search for content.

Keywords: fanfiction, fandom, fanzine, beta, canon

Introduction

Fanfiction was around long before the internet. The first fandom¹ was popularized around the late 1800's with the the literary world's beloved detective Sherlock Holmes. Fanfiction in itself is the creation of an individual who does not wish for a story to end. For instance, the *Star Wars* franchise, before being bought by *Disney*, had a sprawling universe of stories created by independent authors called *The Extended Universe*. These works were published officially with a set of regulatory guidelines set by Lucasfilm, the owners of the *Star Wars* franchise. If the rules were followed, the world of *Star Wars* was open to any author's interpretation.

This type of regulated fiction, however similar, is not the same as fanfiction. Some authors or publishing houses will allow professional writers to continue their series. For example, *Peter Pan and Wendy* by J.M. Barrie was succeeded years after being published by *Peter Pan in Scarlet* by Geraldine McCaughrean as an official sequel. Fanfiction, however, is a different kind of literature altogether. Not exactly sequels, nor prequels, fanfiction can sidle into any narrow crevice and make its own work. Oftentimes, fanfiction is used as an escape for professional authors, a place they can go to write freely without scrutiny from an editor or publishing house. Though, editors of fanfiction do exist and are called betas².

Fanfiction also acts as escapist fiction for readers who find themselves dissatisfied with the stories they've been told. Sometimes it's small details like the food a character ate not being historically accurate, other times it's the notion: "What *would* have happened if Piggy had lived

¹ A group of people who participate in a group culture around a specific media form.

² Not only do they edit for grammar mistakes and punctuation, but story elements. It is not uncommon for a Beta to be a co-author of a fanfiction or for Betas to be solitary writers themselves.

in *Lord of the Flies*?" This curious nature leads all kinds of people to find stories that they love and reimagine them in their own image. The demographic of fanfiction authors varies to all ages and appearances, though there remains a stereotype of the teenage girl who writes alone in her bedroom. Fanfiction and fiction itself, allows authors of all kinds to put themselves into the stories of their liking. Fanfiction also happens to be a place where young authors can experiment in ways of writing. Most who read fanfiction enter an archive with a purpose and an understanding of characters that most might not get from reading a standard novel.

In all stories, whether fantasy or thriller, fiction or bibliography, a character must be introduced with aide of exposition so the reader will have a sense of what the setting is like. For instance, in J. R. R. Tolkien's *The Lord of the Rings*, before the beginning of the story an entire chapter is dedicated to Hobbit culture and the goings-on of the fictional Shire in which the book begins. In fanfiction, the circumstances are very different. Fanfiction readers are those who have already read the original story; they know what Hobbits are and what the Shire is like and by consequence, don't need exposition at the beginning of most fanfiction works. This allows authors more freedom in their written narrative. The readers and writers of fanfiction both approach the stories with anticipation and an expectation that things will be different than what they read yet are the same characters and stories that they loved from the original. This creates a creation and consumption culture of equal footing as everyone knows what to expect and what to produce.

The definition of fanfiction, or "fanfic", as it's referred to by those who read and publish is, has changed over the years to match the times. Often, it is described as transformative works of fiction that seek to fill in the gaps, change, or continue a finished story. A continuation of a

narrative, if you will. In recent years, fanfiction has found a home on blog forums and larger archives. For instance, *Archive of Our Own* (AO3); an archive of fanfiction started in 2007, provides easier ways for readers to filter works. Other websites like *fanfiction.net* or *livejournal.com* allow readers and writers a variety of ways to read fanfiction. Wattpad, a fanfiction app, also allows readers easy access to content through their phones. Additionally, a fan may go on an archive specifically made for those that watch *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* and will only find content about the aforementioned show. Archives such as these are made for an already tailored reading experience, whereas archives like *AO3* and *Fanfiction.net* are broader and require more searching and selecting on a reader's part. Individual archives for fanfiction still exist, but in recent years their use has declined in favor of the aforementioned archives. This does not mean that printed fanfiction does not exist--in fact, the oldest fanfiction was printed.. Physical writings circulate in works like zines³ or anthologies⁴. *Fifty Shades of Grey*, by E.L. James, published in late 2011, was initially *Twilight*⁵ fanfiction. There are countless fanzines that publish written works only for those specific circulations. Most notably, mainstream media have taken to fanfiction due to the ever growing influence of the internet. *Fangirl*⁶, a 2013 novel about a young woman in college who writes fanfiction, taps into that fanfiction craze. Pop culture organizations such as The Nerdist also use fanfiction for monetary gain, their *Erotic Fan Fiction Contest* being a prime example.

Initially, fan culture was not so popular. Fanfiction was something of taboo, passed around at conventions but never something to be spoken of publicly. Authors often openly

³ Magazines dedicated to specific fandoms.

⁴ Collections of art and fanfic dedicated to specific fandoms.

⁵ Written by Stephenie Meyers

⁶ Written by Rainbow Rowell

opposed fan works. For example, in the early 2000's, Anne Rice, the author of *Interview with the Vampire* and other works, repeatedly threatened to sue fans for writing fanfiction about her characters. However, attitudes towards fanfiction started the change with the publication of the book series *Harry Potter*. J.K. Rowling, the author of said series, did *not* oppose fanfiction and in fact encouraged it. J.K. Rowling's support of fandom helped fanfiction become more accepted in the public eye.

With the resurgence of fanfiction as a culture, not just a literary genre, it is easy to ask how so many fans manage to read what *they* want when they are faced with such a vast amount of content. It's no wonder that fans, with so many content options, find ways to filter what they read. However, not all sites function in such a precise way; individual archives have a tendency to tailor their subject matter and therefore provide fewer filtering options. Is the consumption of specific fanfiction merely preferential or is there more purpose to the choices fans make on an almost daily basis? If fans are influenced by events and interactions, what were those outside factors that effect fanfiction content and consumption? This paper seeks to find the prevailing trends of those that read fanfiction and what effects those choices have on the literary content procured and produced.

Literature Review

In the preliminary study of fanfiction related material, several writings were referred to, articles accessed on the Ebscohost archive of the Archive of Transformative Works and Cultures. Each article and book was peer-reviewed in the examination of its content. Seven papers were used as primary references. The first study, *Exit, pursued by a fan: Shakespeare, Fandom, and*

the Lure of the Alternate Universe, proposes that “the majority of what we call canonical literature...fits the broadest definition of fanfiction” (Finn, McCall, 2016). The article presents itself from a perspective of academic and literature enthusiast, calling into light the many examples of explorative fiction created from the template of Shakespeare’s works. *Exit*, suggests that directors and playwrights that create their own interpretations of Shakespeare’s works, are in a way creating a fanfiction to produce on stage. The article also proposes that fanfiction of Shakespeare’s works can sometimes improve upon the subject matter. The article references a blog post in which all of Shakespeare’s major works are combined and all occur at a high school. This creation of a new “canon,⁷” the article argues, enriches Shakespeare’s original work as they become more accessible to new audiences. Similarly, *J..R..R TOLKIEN, FANFICTION, AND "THE FREEDOM OF THE READER"* delves into the importance of copyright and fair use (Abrahamson. 2013). The article seeks for an author’s (Tolkien’s) perspective on fanfiction and the unofficial continuation of another person’s literary works. The article then draws parallels between Tolkien’s works and several other stories, presenting the question of whether drawing from varied sources and lifting plot points and aspects count as fanfiction or just inspiration. Of the potential of fanfiction, *Fandom: The classroom of the future* explores the possibility of adapting fanfiction into academic circles in order to encourage critical thinking among students (Booth, 2015). The article suggests that it is the responsibility of the educator to teach students how to navigate an increasingly consumerist culture. Further, it presents from the teacher’s perspective what obstacles would be faced in encouraging a community culture in academic circles, similar to that of current fan culture. The article asserts that working in groups and

⁷ Information that comes from an original source material.

writing exploratory fanfiction allows students to learn how to give constructive criticism and encourage growth with their peers. Such academic measures are also considered in *More Than Peer Production: Fanfiction Communities as Sites of Distributed Mentoring* which proposes that the relationship of a mentor and student in the fan community are highly dependent on readership and social dynamics (Davis, Evans, Aragon, 2017). The article studies the apparent “passing of knowledge from one fan to the next”, and the “importance of a guiding hand in fan culture in order to teach social cues and unspoken rules” (Davis, Evans, Aragon, 2017). The power dynamics of fanfiction and fandom participants were also observed in “*We, the Fans*”: *Power in the Democratic Archive of Fanfiction* which is an academic thesis studying the power structure of online fan bases and how the aforementioned power structures mimic that of a democracy (Herzog, 2014). The writing goes into detail on the different types of fans, along with the intricacies of fanfiction writing culture as a social dichotomy.

The types of fanfiction were then explored with *Comparative Stylistic Fanfiction Analysis: Popular and Unpopular Fics across Eleven Fandoms* which presents the results of analysis conducted on one of the leading fanfiction archives: *fanfiction.net* (Girouard, Rubin, 2013). Each study measured the length of the average fanfiction, along with source materials and “favorite” count. The results revealed that length generally related to popularity, but the length was that of an average novel. Fanfiction longer than average tended to be less popular and popularity was not consistently dependent on the quality of writing. However, lexical richness was given credit to the majority of the popular works.

The final major scholarship observed in the study was *Why Fanfiction Is Taking Over the World* which served as a diverse anthology of academic writings on fanfiction (Aleo, Arrow,

Beauty, 2013). The content of the body of work is made up of interviews and qualitative data on different histories and phenomena within fanfiction communities and fanfiction itself. Of the works included, the book contains several accounts from professional authors along with fanfiction hobbyists on the stark changes of fanfiction within a couple of decades.

The primary references chiefly examined fanfiction's affect on the world of academia or the interdynamics of a fandom community itself. There was no examination of the outside influences on fanfiction, nor the greater influence fanfiction has on a reader. The paper will address this gap and seek to add to the miniscule wealth of data on the influence of fanfiction.

Methods

In accordance with the qualitative nature of the question, an effort was made to collect both qualitative and quantitative data on the subject. Three surveys were created for the execution of this paper. The first survey, a general analysis of any who engage in fanfiction, whether is be writing or reading. The second and third surveys contained sets of specific questions about being a writer and reader. Attached to the second and third surveys were interview questions asking on the writing and reading aspects of fanfiction influence. There were nine interview questions in total, starting from more broad questions and then slowly becoming more specific. All surveys and interview questions were optional and were chosen based on the interest of the initial General Survey respondent.

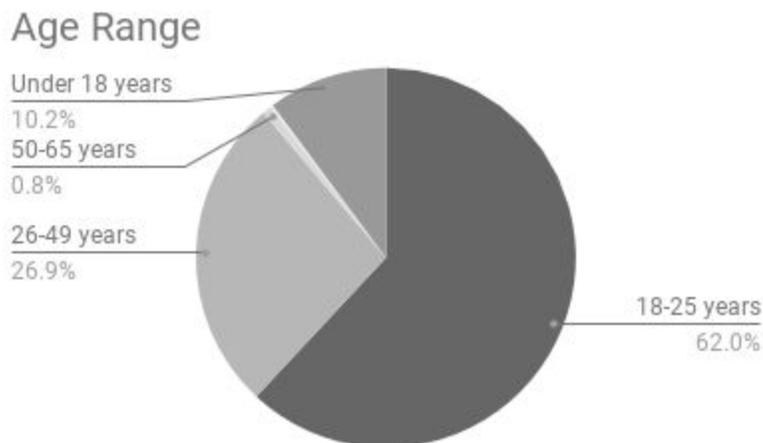
Each survey had optional demographic questions and allotted for the most varied responses as possible given the provided backgrounds to choose from. In length, all surveys were similar, though each had separate sections in order to better organise the responses given. All

surveys were posted online on social media platforms (i.e. Tumblr.com and Twitter.com) in order to insure the largest variant demographic achievable. Of those surveyed, 501 responded to the general survey with 62 responding to the writers survey and 82 responding to the readers. All surveys were closed with the exception of the general survey, when a round number was reached to ensure even results. All surveys were reviewed by the Institutional Review Board before distribution.

Results

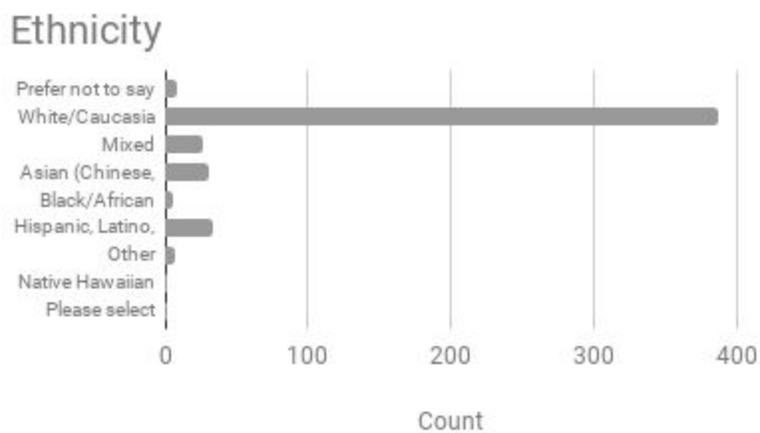
Of the general survey, 501 answered the questions provided. Of the demographic options of the survey, respondents were given the choice of: *under 18 years, 18-25, 26-49, 50-65, and over 65 years*, in choosing their age range; *White/Caucasian, Black/African American, Asian (Chinese, Filipino, Pakistani, etc), Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish Origin, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, Mixed, Other, and Prefer not to say*, in accordance to ethnicity. Respondents were also given the choice of: *Cisgender female, Cisgender male, Transgender female, Transgender male, Agender, Non-binary, Genderfluid, Genderqueer, Several of Given, and Prefer not to say*, in choosing their gender identity; *Straight/Heterosexual, Gay/Lesbian/Homosexual, Bisexual, Pansexual, Asexual, Questioning, and Prefer not to say*, in accordance to sexuality.

Figure 1



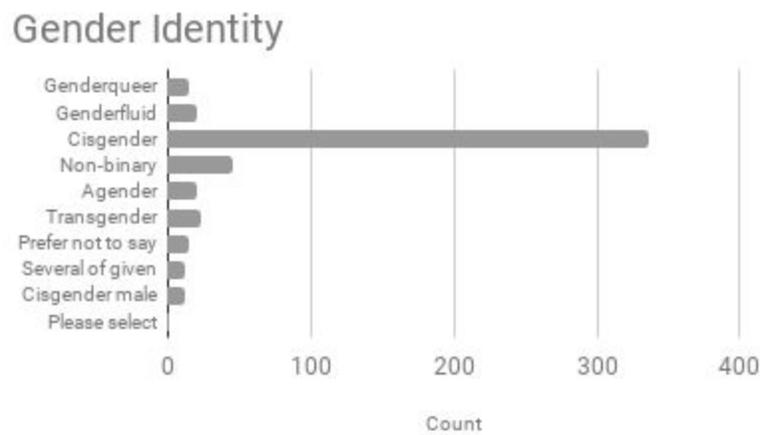
As indicated in *Fig. 1*, the majority of Respondents were of the age of 18-25, 26-49 and “Under 18 years” being second only to that result.

Figure 2



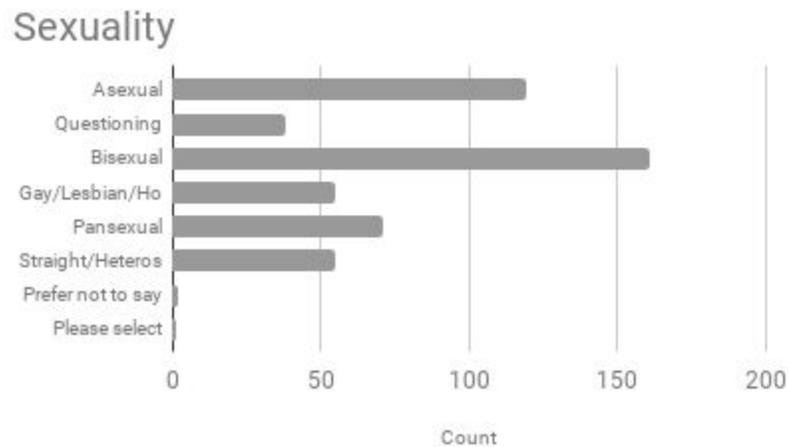
As indicated in *Fig. 2*, the majority of those surveyed were *White/Caucasian*, the second most frequent being *Asian (Chinese, Filipino, Pakistani, etc)* and *Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish Origin*. This result was expected as the typical stereotype of a fan-author is one of a young caucasian girl typically of the age of 18 and younger.

Figure 3



As indicated in *Fig. 3*, the majority of those who answered the general survey were *Cisgender female*, a significant majority difference from the other options selected.

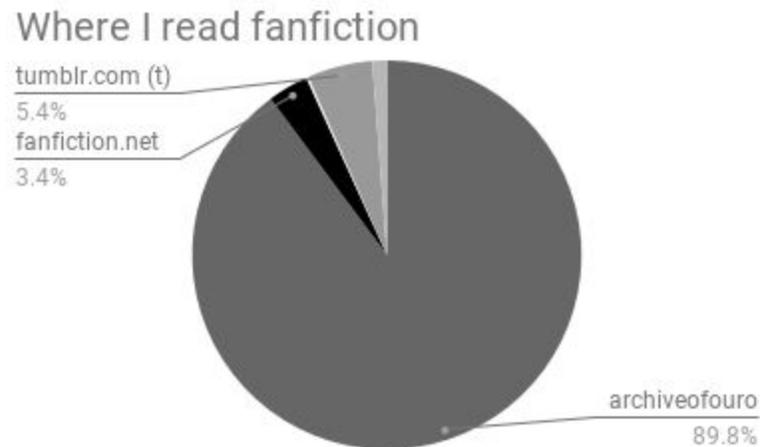
Figure 4



As indicated in *Fig 4*, the majority respondents of the general survey identified their sexualities as *Bisexual* and *Asexual*.

The statistics previously presented correlate similarly in the Writers and Readers surveys, the exception being that there were no readers in the demographic of *50-65* nor *over 65 years*. Respondents taking the general survey were asked where they read fanfiction, the majority stating that they read their fanfiction on the website *AO3* as indicated in *Fig. 5*. *Tumblr.com* being the second largest amount, but *AO3* being the largest by a significant margin.

Figure 5



Participants of the general survey were given the choice of a variety of filter options, based on what resource they used to read fanfiction. Of the choices, the most notable were *Pairing*, *Fandom*, *Kudos*, and *I don't filter*. The results of all 501 choices were then sorted and compared to each respondents' sexuality to search for trends in reading choice and material. The filter system on *AO3* being the greatest example of varied selections for a reader and/or writer as indicated in *Fig. 6*. Of the chosen filters, the highest were *Pairing* and *Fandom*, with *Kudos* being the third top choice. *I don't filter* is an exception as that was only the highest choice for those that identified as *Asexual*, the comparative data can be observed in *Fig. 7*, *Pairing* being the average highest choice among included filters.

Figure 6

Sort and Filter

Sort by

Date Updated ▼

Top 10 Tags ?

- ▶ Ratings
- ▶ Warnings
- ▶ Categories
- ▶ Fandoms
- ▶ Characters
- ▶ Relationships
- ▶ Additional Tags

Other Tags ?

Search within results ?

Language

▼

Status

Complete only

Sort and Filter

Figure 7

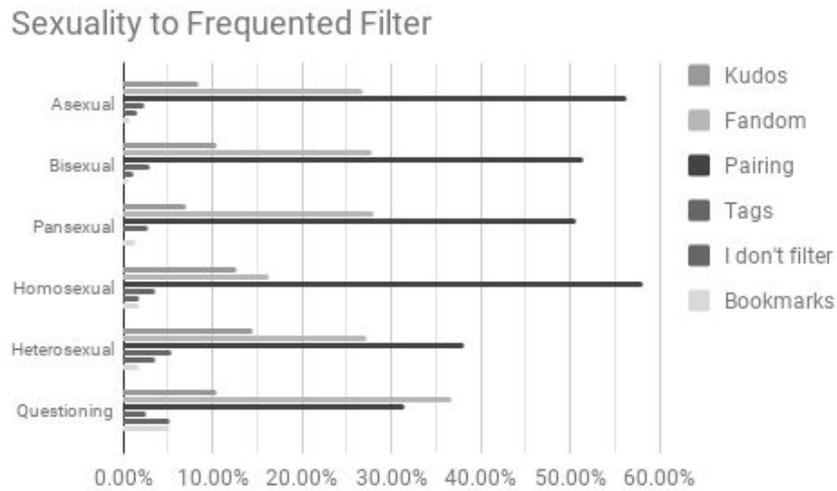
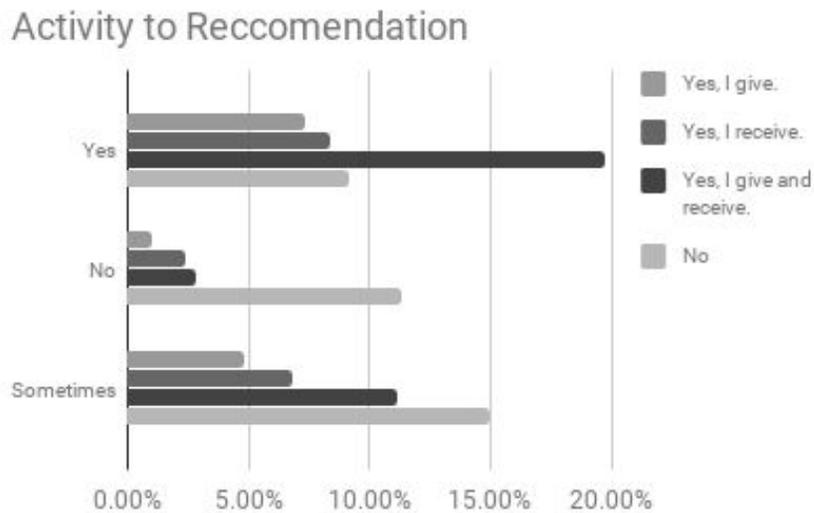


Figure 8



Participants of the general survey were provided two questions in order to determine the frequency of fan interaction with fanfiction content. The two questions being:

1. “Are you active in an online community? (Fandom)” and 2. “Do you receive/give recommendations for fan-fiction? (Fic Recs)”; the correlation between the two answers was then

observed in order to determine which answer would come out as the highest margin as seen in *Fig. 8*.

Figure 9

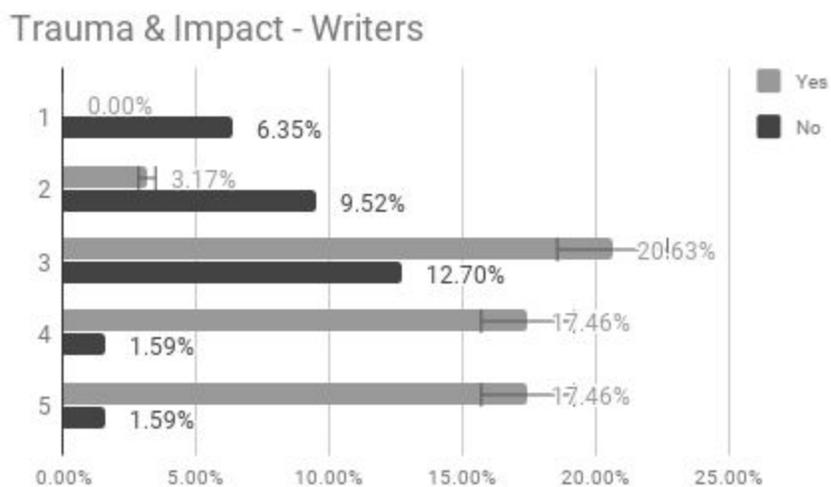


Figure 10



In both writer and reader specific surveys, respondents were given two correlating questions: “Do the experiences of the aforementioned events affect your reading/writing habits?” and “Describe how impactful experienced traumatic events are to your reading/writing habits.” The first question being in the form of a scale in which the respondent rated the impact of their trauma on a 1-5 measure; the second question being in the form of a “Yes or No” response. The culmination of both answered questions can be observed in *Fig. 9* and *Fig. 10*. Those that rated highly on traumatic impact were more likely to give a “Yes” response to the follow up question.

As a final addition to the writer and reader specific surveys, respondents were given the option to answer nine interview questions regarding the topic of archival selection and their personal views on fanfiction. The nine questions⁸ were as follows:

1. “How would you define fanfiction,”
2. “What does fanfiction mean to you,”
3. “How do you decide what fanfiction you read/write,”
4. “Do you filter what content you read/create,”
5. “Do you read/write fanfiction for one specific fandom,”
6. “Is the filtering system on your preferred archive easy to use,”
7. “Do the filtering systems on archives help you find/organize the fanfiction you read/write,”
8. “Do you believe fanfiction genres are applicable to other types of literature,”
- and 9. “On what website/archive do you commonly upload fanfiction?”

In response to the question: “How do you decide what fanfiction you read/write?”, the majority of the readers survey wrote that they search for “favourite characters or pairings in a fandom” and “whatever catches their eye at the time” (Rogers, 2017). The majority consent was that the search for reading content remained tied to the filtering system of the archive and personal preference of the reader. In response to the writer survey variation of the aforementioned question, a majority

⁸ Questions were tailored for the survey they were included in. Therefore, words like “read” and “find” were only used for the Reader specific survey whereas words like “write” and “organize” were used only for the Writer specific survey.

of respondents wrote that their choice depended on inspiration and the show or book they were fans of. As one interviewee described it:

Sometimes it's a sudden burst of theoretical inspiration (whether from a prompt or an AU⁹ notion like 'what if x never happened?'), other times it's a nagging sense that something wasn't done right in a series that resolves itself with a determination to fix it, and sometimes things develop through conversations with friends where we share ideas that develop into something new (Rogers, 2017).

In response to the question: “Do you read/write fanfiction for one specific fandom?” the majority of the readers survey answered that they read fanfiction from fandoms that they were “active¹⁰” in, depending on preference. In the writers survey, the majority wrote that they usually wrote for one fandom at a time. As one responder put it: “I'm serially monogamous with my fandoms, for the most part, though I do occasionally have one-night stands with fandoms other than my current one” (Rogers, 2017). In response to the question: “Is the filtering system on your preferred archive easy to use?” the majority of the readers survey said that their preferred archive was the website AO3 and the filtering system of said website was very user friendly and easy to navigate. The respondents of the writers survey answered similarly, the majority citing AO3 as their preferred archive and claiming that it was helpful and useful in its filtration. In response to the question: “Do the filtering systems on archives help you find/organize the fanfiction you

⁹ Abbreviation for Alternate Universe

¹⁰ When a fan invests themselves in a fandom and interacts frequently with other fans and the content created for said fandom.

read/write?” the majority of the readers survey said that the filtering systems helped them find fanfiction to read. The majority of the writers survey responded that the filtering system did help them organize what to write, but many said that the filtering system did not necessarily organize or focus what they were writing. Of the data collected, it became clear that the background of the reader and writer has a greater effect on the creation and consumption of fanfiction than was previously anticipated.

Discussion

This paper sought to find the prevailing trends of fans who read and wrote fanfiction along with the effects of what those fans created on others. In examination of the collected data, it was found that the influencing factors of both fanfiction content creation and consumption hold one single commonality: a fan’s initial interest in canon material. As some fans wrote in response to the question “What does fanfiction mean to you?”: “[Fanfiction is a form of] escapism and [a] process”, a “safe-space”, and “an outlet for when [people] are overwhelmed by the real world” (Rogers, 2017). Fanfiction is a medium created out of love for source-material, and it is this love that keeps drawing fans back to the content they create and consume. The majority of those who had high activity in fandom communities, had a higher chance of giving out and receiving fanfiction recommendations. Therefore, fans are circulating the content they love, even if the participation in fan activities they are doing is small. This sharing and creative communities works communally to produce and distribute content to others. The communal effort of all fan communities encourages the “safe-space” environment that readers and writers both enjoy.

Through the use of filters, fans can also choose what to read and know whether the story will perhaps trigger a traumatic response. Of those who said that their trauma affected their fanfiction creation and consumption they also answered that the trauma they experienced had a greater effect on them as indicated on a 1-5 scale. Those that gave affirmation to previous trauma also tended to have a greater reliance on the filter system on their preferred archive as a whole. The filtration system of a preferred archive helps readers who do not feel comfortable reading stories about experiences that may hit too close to home. Therefore, previously experienced trauma can greatly affect what a fan is going to read.

The structure of a website of a whole is the third important influencing factor in the consumption of fanfiction content. *Fig. 6* illustrates a comprehensive sorting system that allows fans to find what they're looking for. Similarly, fans who read stories from Wattpad, fanfiction.net, livejournal.org, etc, utilise the filtration systems to the best of their ability. Without the help of a filtration system, a fan would definitely have trouble finding the stories they were searching for. Therefore, the easier accessible archives online are crucial in the search for fanfiction.

Fanfiction creation was found to be less impacted by trauma or website structure. The majority of respondents of the writer survey and interview questions said that they relied less on the filtration system of the archives they posted on as the stories they were writing were of a more creative nature. Writers were not necessarily tailoring the stories for the archive, but instead using the system as the means to categorize in order to make the search for their stories easier.

Though it is of a lesser effect on consumption, it can be postulated that fanfiction creation is being used as an exploratory medium in terms of sexuality and gender identity. As the data suggests, the majority of those reading fanfiction are bisexual or asexual women of the ages of 18-25, a time in which many people leave to college, a career, and begin expanding on the persona they made for themselves in high school. Therefore, fanfiction provides the perfect space for such women to become exposed to various examples of sexual and gender identity.

Respondents often said that the focus of their fanfiction was on the homosexual relationships between two characters who were primarily men. For example, the characters Spock and Kirk from the television show Star Trek are often paired together. Their relationship and the stories written about their interactions, helped popularize the distribution of fanzines in fandom circles. Stories about such characters as Kirk and Spock allow fans to explore relationships and dynamics they may never have considered before. Therefore, the method of finding pairings is not unexpected. As evidenced in *Fig. 6* of the above data analysis, most fans of different sexualities still chose “pairing” as the filter that they selected the most when searching for fanfiction to read. The main aspect of fanfiction as a functioning medium is that it is exploratory and transformative by nature. Fans wish to live outside of their real life experiences, thus they use fanfiction as an aid to reach those scenarios. These fans are using fanfiction as an experimental medium in order to discover their likes and dislikes away from public eye.

Those who create fanfiction of the ages 18-25 are also fans with the most free time. Fans who are still in school or have stable careers are allowed the space they need in which to write

about the stories they enjoy. This allowance of free time is another key influencer in fanfiction and should be investigated further along with all other contributing factors of influence.

Limitations

The overall limitations of this paper include sample bias, sample size, word choice, and platform. If conducted again, all three surveys and interview questions would be spread randomly to avoid affected choice from respondents. The distribution of the surveys was not broad enough to encapsulate an unbiased ethnicity sample. Surveys were also distributed by the aid of peers in order to increase sample size. Sample size would be expanded, as the initial surveys were put out on only two websites. The questions provided in each survey would also be rewritten in order to minimize the bias of language and make some questions clearer in their purpose. The survey would also be provided to those in local proximity, not just online. Nationality questions would also be added to the demographic portion of the provided surveys in order to examine the correlation between nationality and reading preference.

Conclusion

Factors like age, sexuality, gender identity, ethnicity, and trauma sit at the heart of the influencers of fanfiction creation and consumption. The world experience of an author will almost always come into play in the creation of a story. Therefore, it is important to always examine any kind of literature in such context. The use of filtering systems in fanfiction archives

remains a crucial part of the fanfiction process. As evidenced by the results of the General and Writer/Reader surveys, the filtering of fanfiction allows for a greater ease in which to read a provided story. The influence of filtration remains also a great factor in the reading process of fans, as without it, stories would be harder to find and harder to distribute. However, the most effective influencing factor in the reading and writing of fanfiction is pre-existing interest.

Without the initial interest in canon content, fans would have no reason to create and consume stories. Fan content is made from the enjoyment and interest in content. Therefore, fan content will always be generated as long as there are stories to be told.

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The article outlines and describes J.R.R. Tolkien's personal and professional relationship to fanfiction. Then, it continues in description of Tolkien's career and the references and story elements used in his stories. The article then argues on the freedom of the reader and the independence and agency of those who write fanfiction.

Booth, Paul J. "Fandom: The Classroom of the Future." *Transformative Works and Cultures*, Transformative Works and Cultures Archive, 2015, journal.transformativeworks.org/index.php/twc/article/view/650.

The article outlines the benefits of introducing fanfiction into a literary analysis curriculum as it would greatly benefit students who seek to work in academia. The article continues with arguments that fandom attitudes as a whole should be introduced to academic writing classes so as to encourage creativity and inclusivity among peers. The article closes on the antagonism within fandom spaces and how academics can use those examples to create safer spaces to share ideas within a classroom.

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The article outlines how fanfiction authors are able to hone their writing skills through community practices and mentorships from other fans. The article continues using evidence from a 9-month ethnographic survey and several interviews on the dynamic and teacher-student-esc relationships between peers in fandom.

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Appendices

Appendix A: General Survey Questions

1st Section - 4 questions

2nd Section - 2 questions

3rd Section - 1 question

4th Section - 1 question

5th Section - 1 question

6th Section - 1 question

7th Section - 1 question

8th Section - 1 question

9th Section - 1 question

10th Section - 3 questions

11th Section - 5 questions

12th Section - 2 questions

Required Questions = *

1st Section: Identifying Questions

-Please select your age range:*

- a. Under 18 years
- b. 18-25 years
- c. 26-49 years
- d. 50-65 years
- e. Over 65 years

-Please select your ethnicity:

- a. White/Caucasian
- b. Black/African American
- c. Asian (Chinese, Filipino, Pakistani, etc)

- d. Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish Origin
- e. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
- f. Mixed
- g. Other
- h. Prefer not to say

-Please select your gender identity:

- a. Cisgender female
- b. Cisgender male
- c. Transgender female
- d. Transgender male
- e. Agender
- f. Non-binary
- g. Genderfluid
- h. Genderqueer
- i. Several of given
- j. Prefer not to say

-Please select your sexual orientation:

- a. Straight/Heterosexual
- b. Gay/Lesbian/Homosexual
- c. Bisexual
- d. Pansexual
- e. Asexual
- f. Questioning
- g. Prefer not to say

2nd Section: Fanfiction Specific Identifying Questions

-Do you read and/or write fan-fiction?*

- a. Yes, as a reader.
- b. Yes, as a writer.

- c. Yes, as a reader and writer.
- d. No.

-Where do you read fan-fiction? (Check your top answer that applies)

- a. Archiveofourown.org (ao3)
- b. Fanfiction.net (ff)
- c. Livejournal.com (lj)
- d. Tumblr.com (t)
- e. Wattpad (w)
- f. Fanzines (f)
- g. Other

3rd Section: AO3 Specific Questions

-How do you filter preferred content? (Check the top answer that applies)

- a. Fandom
- b. Pairing
- c. Author
- d. Title
- e. Date Posted
- f. Date Updated
- g. Word Count
- h. Hits
- i. Kudos
- j. Comments
- k. Bookmarks
- l. I don't filter

4th Section: FF Specific Questions

-How do you filter preferred content? (Check the top answer that applies)

- a. Fandom

- b. Pairing
- c. Anime
- d. Books
- e. Cartoons
- f. Comics
- g. Games
- h. Misc
- i. Plays
- j. Movies
- k. TV
- l. I don't filter

5th Section: LJ Specific Questions

-How do you filter preferred content? (Check the top answer that applies)

- a. RSS Reader
- b. Communities
- c. I don't filter

6th Section: T Specific Questions

-How do you filter preferred content? (Check the top answer that applies)

- a. Tags
- b. Fic Rec Blogs
- c. I don't filter

7th Section: W Specific Questions

-How do you filter preferred content? (Check the top answer that applies)

- a. Fandoms
- b. Pairings
- c. Featured

- d. Watty Awards
- e. Undiscovered Gems
- f. What's Hot
- g. What's New
- h. Genres (Romance, Fantasy, Paranormal, etc...)
- i. I don't filter

8th Section: F Specific Questions

-How do you filter preferred content?

9th Section: Other Specific Questions

-How do you look for preferred content when you do not use filters?

10th Section: Interactivity Questions

-How do you pick what you read? (Do you follow authors? Fandoms? Characters? Pairings?)

-Do you favorite/kudos?

- a. 1 (Almost never)
- b. 2
- c. 3
- d. 4
- e. 5 (Almost always)

-Do you comment?

- a. 1 (Almost never)
- b. 2
- c. 3
- d. 4
- e. 5 (Almost always)

11th Section: Activity Questions

-Are you active in an online community? (Fandom)

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Sometimes

-Do you receive/give recommendations for fan-fiction? (Fic Recs)

- a. Yes, I receive.
- b. Yes, I give.
- c. Yes, I give and receive.
- d. No

-Do you believe your preferences for fan-fiction been shaped by your experiences?*

- a. Yes
- b. No

-If you marked "Yes," why?

-If you marked "No," why?

12th Section: End Questions

-Would you be willing to follow up with an interview on your views of fan-fictions and reader influence?*

- a. Yes, I am willing
- b. No, I am not willing

-If "Yes," please enter your email for further questions.

Appendix B: General Survey Data Results

A	B	C	D	E
18-25 years	Prefer not to say	Genderqueer	Asexual	
18-25 years	White/Caucasian	Genderfluid	Questioning	
18-25 years	White/Caucasian	Cisgender female	Bisexual	
18-25 years	White/Caucasian	Cisgender female	Gay/Lesbian/Homosexual	
18-25 years	White/Caucasian	Non-binary	Bisexual	
18-25 years	White/Caucasian	Agender	Bisexual	
18-25 years	White/Caucasian	Cisgender female	Bisexual	
18-25 years	White/Caucasian	Cisgender female	Questioning	
18-25 years	White/Caucasian	Cisgender female	Gay/Lesbian/Homosexual	
18-25 years	White/Caucasian	Transgender male	Pansexual	
18-25 years	White/Caucasian	Cisgender female	Pansexual	
18-25 years	White/Caucasian	Non-binary	Asexual	
18-25 years	Mixed	Cisgender female	Questioning	
18-25 years	White/Caucasian	Cisgender female	Pansexual	
18-25 years	White/Caucasian	Transgender male	Pansexual	
18-25 years	White/Caucasian	Non-binary	Bisexual	
18-25 years	White/Caucasian	Cisgender female	Bisexual	
18-25 years	White/Caucasian	Transgender male	Gay/Lesbian/Homosexual	
18-25 years	White/Caucasian	Cisgender female	Asexual	
18-25 years	White/Caucasian	Cisgender female	Asexual	
18-25 years	White/Caucasian	Cisgender female	Asexual	
18-25 years	White/Caucasian	Cisgender female	Asexual	
18-25 years	White/Caucasian	Genderfluid	Pansexual	
18-25 years	White/Caucasian	Cisgender female	Bisexual	
18-25 years	White/Caucasian	Prefer not to say	Asexual	
18-25 years	White/Caucasian	Prefer not to say	Bisexual	
18-25 years	White/Caucasian	Agender	Gay/Lesbian/Homosexual	
18-25 years	White/Caucasian	Cisgender female	Bisexual	
18-25 years	White/Caucasian	Cisgender female	Asexual	

O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W
I usually follow pairings. s	4		3 Yes	No	Yes	Your experiences shape what you like to see in me	No, I am not willing	
	3		2 Yes	No	No	I see fanfiction preferen	Yes, I am willing	
Pairings, authors	3		4 Sometimes	Yes, I give.	Yes	Used a lot of pairing fanfiction as a coping mechanis	No, I am not willing	
Pairings and fandoms	5		4 Yes	Yes, I give.	Yes	Some things I can't read because of reasons, and I	Yes, I am willing	
I subscribe to a number o	5		4 No	No	Yes	Maybe if I've had a rough time I want to read about	No, I am not willing	
I usually follow pairings bi	4		2 Yes	Yes, I give and receive.	No	I mostly just read what I w	No, I am not willing	
	4		2 Sometimes	Yes, I receive.	Yes	Freud was right	No, I am not willing	
I follow authors and searc	5		1 Yes	Yes, I receive.	Yes	I prefer well-written fics and fics that are beyond sur	Yes, I am willing	
I follow authors I really tru	5		3 Yes	Yes, I give and receive.	Yes	I tend to read a lot of fiction that is "further from hor	Yes, I am willing	
Fandom first, then pairing	1		1 Sometimes	No	Yes	I'm kinda a hopeless romantic, and so I read all type	No, I am not willing	
Characters	4		2 Yes	Yes, I receive.	Yes	To see how fictional characters might deal with cert	No, I am not willing	
Pairings	5		1 Sometimes	Yes, I give and receive.	Yes		No, I am not willing	
Characters	5		5 Sometimes	Yes, I receive.	No	Most fanfics I read never	No, I am not willing	
Fic recs, tags, sometimes	5		5 Sometimes	Yes, I receive.	Yes	Sometimes it's nostalgia, other times is something I	Yes, I am willing	
	5		3 Sometimes	No	No		No, I am not willing	
	5		4 Sometimes	Yes, I receive.	Yes	Idk I just think the way you experience things like fa	No, I am not willing	
I go by the tags.	5		2 No	No	Yes	Because of my own personal experiences, there are	No, I am not willing	
	5		2 Sometimes	Yes, I receive.	Yes	I usually prefer to read about things can't experien	No, I am not willing	
	4		2 Yes	Yes, I receive.	No	my life is pretty uneventfu	No, I am not willing	
I scroll through pairing or	1		1 Yes	No	No	Nothing has happened to	Yes, I am willing	
	3		1 No	No	No		Yes, I am willing	
I usually follow pairings. a	4		1 Sometimes	Yes, I receive.	Yes		No, I am not willing	
I usually look for a prefer	5		1 Yes	No	Yes	Yes I usually do as some aspects of myself can't be	Yes, I am willing	
	2		1 Yes	Yes, I receive.	Yes	Some things that I've read have lead me to want to	No, I am not willing	
	5		1 Sometimes	No	Yes	I mean... everything's influenced by our life experie	No, I am not willing	
	5		2 No	No	Yes	Idk, it just seems like the right answer	No, I am not willing	
	3		1 Yes	No	No	I haven't had all too many	Yes, I am willing	
	4		2 Sometimes	Yes, I give and receive.	Yes	I always read a lot and I think the fan fiction I tend to	No, I am not willing	
I search for the pairing/rat	5		5 Yes	Yes, I give.	Yes	Because I'm gay and I never see myself anywhere t	Yes, I am willing	

Appendix C: Writer Specific Survey Questions

1st Section - 4 questions

2nd Section - 12 questions

3rd Section - 1 question

Required Questions = *

1st Section: Identifying Questions

-Please select your age range:*

- a. Under 18 years
- b. 18-25 years
- c. 26-49 years
- d. 50-65 years
- e. Over 65 years

-Please select your ethnicity:

- a. White/Caucasian
- b. Black/African American
- c. Asian (Chinese, Filipino, Pakistani, etc)
- d. Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish Origin
- e. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
- f. Mixed
- g. Other
- h. Prefer not to say

-Please select your gender identity:

- a. Cisgender female
- b. Cisgender male
- c. Transgender female

- d. Transgender male
- e. Agender
- f. Non-binary
- g. Genderfluid
- h. Genderqueer
- i. Several of given
- j. Prefer not to say

-Please select your sexual orientation:

- a. Straight/Heterosexual
- b. Gay/Lesbian/Homosexual
- c. Bisexual
- d. Pansexual
- e. Asexual
- f. Questioning
- g. Prefer not to say

2nd Section: Writer Specific Questions

-Do you tailor your writing to specific genres/filters?*

- a. Yes
- b. No

-If "Yes" why?

-If "No" why?

-Describe the frequency of your use of provided filters on your preferred fan-fiction archive*

- a. 1 (Almost never)
- b. 2
- c. 3
- d. 4
- e. 5 (Almost always)

-What kind of fan-fiction do you write? (Check the top answer that applies)

- a. Fluff
- b. Angst
- c. Hurt/Comfort
- d. Humor
- e. Sexual Content
- f. Slash
- g. One Shot
- h. Other

-Is filtering content on fan-fiction archives important?*

- a. Yes
- b. No

-If "Yes" why?

-If "No" why?

-Describe the frequency of your participation in Group Events (Big Bangs, Secret Santas, etc...)*

- a. 1 (Almost never)
- b. 2
- c. 3
- d. 4
- e. 5 (Almost always)

-Does your participation of the aforementioned events affect your writing habits? (If it applies)

- a. Yes
- b. No

-Describe how impactful experienced traumatic events are to your writing habits.*

- a. 1 (Never impactful)
- b. 2
- c. 3
- d. 4
- e. 5 (Always impactful)

-Do the experiences of the aforementioned events affect your writing habits? (If it applies)

- a. Yes
- b. No

3rd Section: End Questions

-In participating in this survey, your results will be published in an academic paper. If asked, are you willing to continue further for an interview on this survey's subject?*

- a. Yes. I am willing.
- b. No. I am not willing.

Appendix D: Writer Specific Survey Data Results

A	B	C	D	E
18-25 years	White/Caucasian	Questioning	Bisexual	
Under 18 years	White/Caucasian	Genderfluid	Gay/Lesbian/Homosexual	
Under 18 years	Other	Cisgender female	Bisexual	
50-65 years	White/Caucasian	Cisgender female	Straight/Heterosexual	
26-49 years	White/Caucasian	Cisgender female	Questioning	
26-49 years	White/Caucasian	Agender	Asexual	
26-49 years	Hispanic, Latino,	Cisgender female	Bisexual	
26-49 years	White/Caucasian	Cisgender female	Bisexual	
26-49 years	Other	Transgender male	Bisexual	
26-49 years	White/Caucasian	Cisgender female	Straight/Heterosexual	
26-49 years	White/Caucasian	Non-binary	Gay/Lesbian/Homosexual	
26-49 years	White/Caucasian	Cisgender female	Bisexual	
26-49 years	Hispanic, Latino,	Cisgender female	Gay/Lesbian/Homosexual	
26-49 years	White/Caucasian	Cisgender female	Straight/Heterosexual	
26-49 years	White/Caucasian	Cisgender female	Straight/Heterosexual	
26-49 years	White/Caucasian	Cisgender female	Bisexual	
26-49 years	White/Caucasian	Cisgender female	Bisexual	
26-49 years	Asian (Chinese,	Questioning	Bisexual	
26-49 years	Prefer not to say	Cisgender female	Prefer not to say	
26-49 years	White/Caucasian	Questioning	Questioning	
26-49 years	Hispanic, Latino,	Questioning	Questioning	
26-49 years	White/Caucasian	Cisgender female	Bisexual	
26-49 years	White/Caucasian	Cisgender female	Bisexual	
26-49 years	White/Caucasian	Cisgender female	Gay/Lesbian/Homosexual	
26-49 years	White/Caucasian	Cisgender female	Asexual	
26-49 years	White/Caucasian	Cisgender female	Questioning	
18-25 years	White/Caucasian	Cisgender female	Asexual	
18-25 years	White/Caucasian	Cisgender female	Bisexual	
18-25 years	Mixed	Agender	Pansexual	

Appendix D: Writer Specific Interview Questions

Required Questions = *

1. How would you define fanfiction?*
2. What does fanfiction mean to you?*
3. How do you decide what fanfiction you write?*
4. Do you filter what content you create?*
5. Do you write fanfiction for one specific fandom?*
6. Is the filtering system on your preferred archive easy to use?*
7. Do the filtering systems on archives help you organize the fanfiction you write?*
8. Do you believe fanfiction genres are applicable to other types of literature?*
9. On what website/archive do you commonly upload fanfiction?*

Appendix E: Writer Specific Interview Data Results

How would you d	What does fanfic	How do you deci	Do you filter wha	Do you write fanf	Is the filtering sys	Do the filtering s	Do you believe fa	On what website/archive do you
I already answer	I already answer	I always have stc	Yes, because the	I write fanfiction f	Yes.	I haven't written t	I already answer	AO3 (And I always link it on my t
A work of literatu	A work of literatu	Depends on the f	Yes!	Multiple, though	Yes! Self tagging	Yes!	Of course	Ao3/Archive of Our Own
Fanfiction is the	It's the chance to	I stick to what I k	Always	Yes, but I have s	Yes	Yes	Yes	Archive of Our Own
Writing that takes	A way to improve	An equal balance	Mildly.	No, I decide base	Yes.	Yes.	Yes.	archiveofourown.org
Fiction written ab	It's a place for m	I just write what I	Not sure what yo	Yes, Voltron	Yes	Yes	Yes. I believe the	Ao3
Creating new an	It's like a book in	Sometimes a cer	I stay away from	Yes I started out	Yes you can filter	Not really	Definitely. Most c	Archiveofourown
Fanfictions are a	Fanfiction is a wr	I write about thin	I do my best to d	I write for many f	Very much so	So far I've only w	Yes I do	Ao3
fanfiction is any v	fanfiction means	usually it's for the	yes! to make it ea	right now it's only	yes!	yes! I can usually	hell yes	archiveofourown but I've used far
1 An exploration of	An escape from	Whatever inspire	Yes	No, I write based	Yes	Yes	Yes, considering	Archive of our own, tumblr.
2								
3 Writing that adds	It allows me corr	Stories about the	No	For a handful. Bu	I don't know wha	Again, I don't use	Some of them, or	AO3
4 Fiction written to	It's a huge part o	I get mad when S	No?	I've published for	Yes, though I wis	Don't write enoug	Not really, the ge	Ao3
5 Fanfiction is writ	To me, fanfiction	I was reading oth	yes	No I move betwe	Yes it is a wonde	Yes. It forces me	Yes absolutely.	Archive of Our Own
6 Fan fiction is a w	Fan fiction is imp	If I come up with	I definitely put fil	No I write fan fic	Yes it is.	They don't partic	Oh definitely.	Archive of our own.
7 Transformative w	A way to further	Based on what fan	fandom I am into a	A few fandoms, y	Yes	Yes	Yes (please see	AO3
8 Fanfiction is a pi	Fanfiction is a wr	I don't usually ha	Yes. I don't have	Yes. I tend to be	Yes. Ao3 is well	Not in any huge	Of course, and it	Ao3
9 Fanfiction is by f	Fanfiction means	I usually write wh	Yes.	At the moment, y	Yes.	Yes.	Yes.	Archive of our own
0 Fiction set in an	Fanfiction is a wr	I write fanfiction	Not usually	Yes, though I hav	Yes	Yes	Yes	Fanfiction.net and Archive of Our
1 Fanfiction is a pi	I'm not entirely s	At the time, what	Yes, as best as I	Nope! I dabble in	Yes! Ao3 is a god	Yes.	They can be, and	Archive of our Own
2 fanfiction is inde	It's a way of esc	inspiration can st	yes. with archiv	at the moment, y	yes	yes	some of them, or	archiveofourown
3 A fanfiction is a fi	A great way to pi	It depends on ho	Sometimes.	Yes.	Yes.	Yes.	Yes.	Ao3
4							(I don't really unc	
5 Every written pie	It is the best pos	I write something	when I have an i	Mostly	Yes, very	No (not enough v	I'd say that fanfic	AO3
6 Works of fictions	Its an outlet.	It depends, partly	Yes	I've mostly writte	Yes	Yes	I tend to consider	Archive of Our Own
7 Fanfiction is a ch	A way to show m	Usually I allow fo	It depends. But fi	No, I write for m	Yes and no. It de	I feel that it helps	Yes, I do believe	I commonly upload on Archive of

Appendix F: Reader Specific Survey Questions

1st Section - 4 questions

2nd Section - 12 questions

3rd Section - 1 question

Required Questions = *

1st Section: Identifying Questions

-Please select your age range:*

Under 18 years

- a. 18-25 years
- b. 26-49 years
- c. 50-65 years
- d. Over 65 years

-Please select your ethnicity:

- a. White/Caucasian
- b. Black/African American
- c. Asian (Chinese, Filipino, Pakistani, etc)
- d. Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish Origin
- e. Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
- f. Mixed
- g. Other
- h. Prefer not to say

-Please select your gender identity:

- a. Cisgender female
- b. Cisgender male
- c. Transgender female

- d. Transgender male
- e. Agender
- f. Non-binary
- g. Genderfluid
- h. Genderqueer
- i. Several of given
- j. Prefer not to say

-Please select your sexual orientation:

- a. Straight/Heterosexual
- b. Gay/Lesbian/Homosexual
- c. Bisexual
- d. Pansexual
- e. Asexual
- f. Questioning
- g. Prefer not to say

2nd Section: Reader Specific Questions

-What kind of fan-fiction do you read? (Check the top answer that applies)

- a. Fluff
- b. Angst
- c. Hurt/Comfort
- d. Humor
- e. Sexual Content
- f. Slash
- g. One Shot
- h. Other

-Do you look for specific genres/filters?*

- a. Yes
- b. No

-If “Yes” why?

-If “No” why not?

-Describe the frequency of your use of provided filters on your preferred fan-fiction archive*

- a. 1 (Almost never)
- b. 2
- c. 3
- d. 4
- e. 5 (Almost always)

-Is filtering content on fan-fiction archives important?*

- a. Yes
- b. No

-If “Yes” why?

-If “No” why?

-Describe the frequency of your participation in Group Events (Big Bangs, Secret Santas, etc...)*

- f. 1 (Almost never)
- g. 2
- h. 3
- i. 4
- j. 5 (Almost always)

-Does your participation of the aforementioned events affect your reading habits? (If it applies)

- c. Yes
- d. No

-Describe how impactful experienced traumatic events are to your reading habits.*

- f. 1 (Never impactful)
- g. 2
- h. 3
- i. 4
- j. 5 (Always impactful)

-Do the experiences of the aforementioned events affect your reading habits? (If it applies)

- c. Yes
- d. No

3rd Section: End Questions

-In participating in this survey, your results will be published in an academic paper. If asked, are you willing to continue further for an interview on this survey's subject?*

- c. Yes. I am willing.
- d. No. I am not willing.

Appendix G: Reader Specific Survey Data Results

B	C	D	E	F
18-25 years	Asian (Chinese)	Cisgender female	Pansexual	
Under 18 years	White/Caucasian	Cisgender female	Asexual	
Under 18 years	Other	Cisgender female	Bisexual	
Under 18 years	White/Caucasian	Cisgender female	Bisexual	
Under 18 years	White/Caucasian	Cisgender female	Bisexual	
26-49 years	White/Caucasian	Agender	Asexual	
26-49 years	White/Caucasian	Cisgender female	Asexual	
26-49 years	White/Caucasian	Cisgender female	Asexual	
26-49 years	White/Caucasian	Cisgender female	Asexual	
26-49 years	White/Caucasian	Cisgender female	Asexual	
26-49 years	White/Caucasian	Cisgender female	Asexual	
26-49 years	White/Caucasian	Cisgender female	Asexual	
26-49 years	Hispanic, Latino,	Cisgender female	Bisexual	
26-49 years	Hispanic, Latino,	Cisgender female	Bisexual	
26-49 years	White/Caucasian	Cisgender female	Bisexual	
26-49 years	White/Caucasian	Cisgender female	Bisexual	
26-49 years	White/Caucasian	Cisgender female	Bisexual	
26-49 years	White/Caucasian	Cisgender female	Bisexual	
26-49 years	White/Caucasian	Cisgender female	Bisexual	
26-49 years	White/Caucasian	Cisgender female	Bisexual	
26-49 years	White/Caucasian	Cisgender female	Bisexual	
26-49 years	White/Caucasian	Cisgender female	Bisexual	
26-49 years	White/Caucasian	Cisgender female	Bisexual	
26-49 years	Asian (Chinese,)	Genderqueer	Bisexual	
26-49 years	Hispanic, Latino,	Cisgender female	Gay/Lesbian/Homosexual	
26-49 years	White/Caucasian	Non-binary	Gay/Lesbian/Homosexual	
26-49 years	Hispanic, Latino,	Cisgender female	Pansexual	
26-49 years	White/Caucasian	Questioning	Pansexual	
26-49 years	Prefer not to say	Cisgender female	Prefer not to say	
26-49 years	White/Caucasian	Cisgender female	Questioning	
26-49 years	White/Caucasian	Cisgender female	Questioning	
26-49 years	White/Caucasian	Cisgender female	Straight/Heterosexual	

Appendix H: Reader Specific Interview Questions

Required Questions = *

- 10. How would you define fanfiction?*
- 11. What does fanfiction mean to you?*
- 12. How do you choose what fanfiction you read?*
- 13. Do you filter what content you consume (read)?*
- 14. Do you read fanfiction for one specific fandom?*
- 15. Is the filtering system on your preferred archive easy to use?*
- 16. Do the filtering systems on archives help you find the fanfiction you want to read?*
- 17. Do you believe fanfiction genres are applicable to other types of literature?*
- 18. On what website/archive do you commonly upload fanfiction?*

Appendix I: Reader Specific Interview Data Results

How would you define fanfiction?	What does fanfiction mean to you?	How do you choose what fanfiction you read?	Do you filter what content you consume (read)?	Do you read fanfiction for one specific fandom?	Is the filtering system on your preferred archive easy to use?	Do the filtering systems on archives help you find the fanfiction you want to read?	Do you believe fanfiction genres are applicable to other types of literature?	On what website/archive do you commonly upload fanfiction?
Pieces of work created by fans creating works of fiction.	It's just a cool way to see what other people are doing with the characters.	Kudos, comment if I like it.	Yes, I generally try to avoid things that are too explicit or that I don't like.	I read fanfiction from a variety of sources, but I usually stick to one or two.	Yes	Yes	Yes - but only to a certain extent.	AO3
Things written by fans for fans.	Fanfiction is often a way to explore a character or a story in a way that isn't possible in the original work.	Summary and tags are helpful.	Yes, usually for things that are too explicit or that I don't like.	No, like a bunch of different ones.	Yeah, though I wish it was easier to use.	It's necessary for finding what you want to read.	Yes, but often I find it hard to find what I want.	Ao3
		I will click on new tags.						
Fanfiction is... the fanfiction is something that is created by fans for fans.	Fanfiction is something that is created by fans for fans.	I just realized this All the time. Aside from the original work, I mostly check Kudos.	The previous question. Well, I read fanfiction from a variety of sources, but I usually stick to one or two.	I read fanfiction from a variety of sources, but I usually stick to one or two.	I mainly use AO3.	Totally.	Yes, but it might be hard to find what you want.	Archive of Our Own, Fanfiction.net
Fanfiction is fun.	Fanfiction is something that is created by fans for fans.	I mostly check Kudos.	The previous question. Well, I read fanfiction from a variety of sources, but I usually stick to one or two.	Well, I read fanfiction from a variety of sources, but I usually stick to one or two.	Very much so!	Yes, it does.	Yes of course.	Mostly AO3, but Fanfiction.net when I am not on AO3.
It is... Simply the fanfiction is something that is created by fans for fans.	Ah, it's a nice little thing to read.	I'll be honest, I mostly check Kudos.	Yes.	No, it varies. Sometimes I read fanfiction from a variety of sources, but I usually stick to one or two.	Yes.	Yes.	Uh, yes? If I am not on AO3.	Archive of Our Own.
A work of fiction.	An opportunity to explore a character or a story in a way that isn't possible in the original work.	Depends on the tags.	Yes.	Yes.	Yes.	Yes.	Yes, but they are often hard to find.	Archive of Our Own.
A fan-made work.	better reading material.	I filter either by fanfiction tags or by the work itself.	No, but I only read fanfiction from a variety of sources, but I usually stick to one or two.	Yes, primarily.	I would say that it is necessary for finding what you want to read.	Yes, so much.	Of course! Yes, but it might be hard to find what you want.	ao3 (archive of our own)
More stories about a character or a story.	It provides a different perspective on the original work.	I search for a specific tag.	do.	Yes, primarily.	I would say that it is necessary for finding what you want to read.	Yes, so much.	Of course! Yes, but it might be hard to find what you want.	ao3 (archive of our own)
Fanfiction is based on a story.	Fanfiction represents a way to explore a character or a story in a way that isn't possible in the original work.	Most of the time I search for a specific tag.	Yes, but not much.	? I suppose I don't.	Yes.	Yes and no. Sometimes it is necessary for finding what you want to read.	Not really. Fanfiction is often hard to find.	Ao3
It's the land of fanfiction.	The first word that comes to mind is "fun".	Summary, number of tags.	Yes, I do.	No, I don't.	Yes, it could imply that it is necessary for finding what you want to read.	Always.	I would be fun and interesting.	Archive for our own (ao3)
writing based on a story.	it helps me pass the time.	depends on what when I do it's either based on the narrative or the characters.	usually a pairing.	i read for many sources.	it's the easiest of all.	generally.	yes?	archiveofourown. i don't really know of other archives.
extensions or other things.	a nice way to explore a character or a story in a way that isn't possible in the original work.	based on the narrative or the characters.	usually a pairing.	no.	yes.	yes.	yes.	ao3
Works created by fans.	Something I have read.	I search for my favorite tags.	Yes.	No.	Yes.	Yes.	Some do, some don't.	AO3
Any content written by fans.	Continuation or a Fandom/Pairing.	Yes, depending on the tags.	At a time, yes but I usually stick to one or two.	I use AO3 primarily.	Most of the time.	Absolutely!	Archiveofourown or if I'm desperate/reading fanfiction.	
A story written by fans.	A way to learn about a character or a story in a way that isn't possible in the original work.	Depends on what I'm looking for.	The only filter that I use is tags.	One main fandom.	Yes.	Mostly yes.	I think, yes.	AO3, Fanfiction.net
It's a genre of fiction.	It's almost a way to explore a character or a story in a way that isn't possible in the original work.	I read summaries.	Yes.	Depends, if one is interested in a specific fandom.	Yes.	Sometimes.	Yes.	Ao3, Tumblr and rarely, fanfiction.com and fanfiction.net
Written works used by fans.	it's fun! it's a space to explore a character or a story in a way that isn't possible in the original work.	used to be interesting.	sure.	yep!	yeah, although it's not always.	yep!	sure! just 'cause it's fun.	archive of our own! also, pastebin. but that's not really fanfiction.
Stories written by fans.	It's a way for fans to explore a character or a story in a way that isn't possible in the original work.	Usually based on the original work.	Yes.	No.	Yes.	Yes.	Yes.	Archive of Our Own
Fanfiction is free.	Like... a lot of things that are created by fans for fans.	Completed works.	Yes.	No.	Yes, but it could be hard to find.	Mostly, in some cases.	Yes and no. I think it's often hard to find.	Archive of Our Own, also sometimes lotrff.net
Writing fanfiction.	A lot! I am often inspired by fanfiction.	I read the summaries.	rarely.	I read fics of a lot of different fandoms.	not always.	yes.	yes.	archiveofourown, sometimes tumblr
Fiction written with fanfiction in mind.	Fans' answer to a question.	Friends' recommendations.	Sometimes, I prefer to read fanfiction.	Usually.	Yes.	Yes.	Yes.	Archive of our own
The way I had to read fanfiction.	A lot (if the question is about fanfiction).	When the tags are helpful.	If it is to note that it is often hard to find.	In general yes - fanfiction is often hard to find.	AO3, and yes.	Yes (for AO3 still, in itself, fanfiction is often hard to find).	Yes.	Ao3 (archive of our own), sometimes tumblr
Prosaic unpublished fanfiction.	Fanfiction is what fans create.	Fandom, pairing, etc.	Always.	No.	Yes.	Yes. I could still use it.	It is most often found on AO3.	AO3, (less frequently) LJ & ff.net
Fanfiction is a creative work.	What fanfiction is to fans.	I have a few stories that I have written.	A little, but not much.	More than one, but I usually stick to one or two.	Reasonably.	Eh.	Storytelling is still a part of it.	Archive of Own and Fanfiction.net