



Fan Fiction and Fan Communities in the Age of the Internet: New Essays

From Brand: McFarland

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Fans have been responding to literary works since the days of Homer's *Odyssey* and Euripedes' *Medea*. More recently, a number of science fiction, fantasy, media, and game works have found devoted fan followings. The advent of the Internet has brought these groups from relatively limited, face-to-face enterprises to easily accessible global communities, within which fan texts proliferate and are widely read and even more widely commented upon. New interactions between readers and writers of fan texts are possible in these new virtual communities.

From *Star Trek* to *Harry Potter*, the essays in this volume explore the world of fan fiction--its purposes, how it is created, how the fan experiences it. Grouped by subject matter, essays cover topics such as genre intersection, sexual relationships between characters, character construction through narrative, and the role of the beta reader in online communities. The work also discusses the terminology used by creators of fan artifacts and comments on the effects of technological advancements on fan communities.

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Editorial Review

Review

“Innovative explorations of fandom and new media...marvelous...much-needed record of developments in contemporary fan practices” --Matt Hills, author of *Fan Cultures and How To Do Things With Cultural Theory*

““Impressive...focus[es] on collaboration or collective story telling...something fresh and interesting in every chapter” --Henry Jenkins, author of *Textual Poachers*

About the Author

Karen Hellekson is a freelance copy editor and independent scholar, and the author of *The Science Fiction of Cordwainer Smith* (2001). She lives in Jay, Maine.

Kristina Busse is an independent scholar who lives in Mobile, Alabama.

Users Review

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