

harry potter fandoms

The Enduring Magic of Harry Potter Fandoms: A Deep Dive into the Wizarding World Community

harry potter fandoms represent one of the most vibrant and enduring communities in modern popular culture. For over two decades, fans have flocked to J.K. Rowling's magical universe, creating a tapestry of shared passion, creativity, and connection that spans generations and continents. This article will explore the multifaceted nature of these fandoms, examining their origins, the diverse ways fans engage with the Wizarding World, the profound impact they have had, and the future of this extraordinary phenomenon. We will delve into the core elements that fuel this passion, from fan fiction and art to online communities and real-world events, showcasing how the magic of Harry Potter continues to thrive through the collective imagination of its devoted followers.

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The Genesis of the Wizarding World Community

The inception of the Harry Potter fandom can be traced back to the early days of the book series' publication. As children and adults alike became engrossed in the tale of the boy who lived, a desire to discuss, dissect, and extend the narrative began to emerge. The initial seeds were sown in book clubs, schoolyards, and nascent online forums. This organic growth, fueled by a shared love for Hogwarts, its characters, and the intricate magical system Rowling meticulously crafted, laid the foundation for what would become a global phenomenon.

Early adopters of the fandom were pioneers in their own right, utilizing the limited digital tools available at the time to connect. Email lists, Usenet groups, and early websites served as crucial hubs for sharing theories, fan art, and early fan fiction. The anticipation for each new book release fostered a sense of collective excitement and a need for communal processing of the unfolding story. This period was characterized by a raw enthusiasm and a genuine sense of discovery as fans collectively pieced together the clues and lore presented by Rowling.

Forms of Fan Engagement and Expression

The Harry Potter fandom is a testament to the boundless creativity of its members. Fans express their passion through a myriad of artistic and creative outlets, each contributing to the richness and depth of the community. These expressions are not merely acts of consumption but rather acts of co-creation, breathing new life into the established narrative and exploring its untold dimensions.

Fan Fiction: Expanding the Wizarding Narrative

Fan fiction stands as one of the most prolific forms of engagement within the Harry Potter fandom. Millions of stories have been written, exploring every conceivable "what if" scenario, character pairing, and timeline deviation. From heartwarming "Hurt/Comfort" tales to epic alternate universes, fan fiction allows readers to delve deeper into character motivations, explore relationships not fully developed in the canon, and even create entirely new magical concepts. Platforms dedicated to hosting fan fiction have become virtual libraries of these imaginative endeavors.

The diversity within Harry Potter fan fiction is staggering. Some authors meticulously adhere to canon, while others take significant liberties, creating "AUs" (Alternate Universes) where key events unfold differently. Tropes such as "Marauder Era," "Next Generation," and various romantic pairings, often referred to as "ships," have spawned entire sub-communities within the broader fandom. This continuous creation ensures that the Wizarding World remains a dynamic and evolving entity, constantly being reinterpreted and reimagined by its fans.

Fan Art and Visual Storytelling

The visual aspect of the Harry Potter universe has also inspired an immense outpouring of artistic talent. Fan artists translate the characters, creatures, and settings of the books into stunning illustrations, digital

paintings, comics, and even sculptures. These artworks often capture the emotional essence of scenes or provide unique visual interpretations of magical concepts, offering a fresh perspective on familiar elements.

From photorealistic portraits of beloved characters to whimsical depictions of magical beasts, fan art serves as a visual testament to the fandom's imagination. Cosplay, the practice of dressing up as characters, is another highly visual form of engagement, allowing fans to embody their favorite witches and wizards at conventions and online. These visual manifestations reinforce the shared identity and aesthetic of the fandom.

Creative Interpretations and Debates

Beyond overt creative output, fans also engage through deep analysis and spirited debate. Discussions about character motivations, plot holes, magical theory, and the ethical implications of various wizarding world practices are commonplace. These intellectual explorations often lead to new understandings and appreciation of the source material, fostering a sense of shared discovery and critical thinking within the community.

The Power of Online Spaces for Harry Potter Fandoms

The advent of the internet revolutionized how Harry Potter fandoms could connect and thrive. Online platforms have become the central nervous system of this global community, enabling instant communication, content sharing, and the formation of deep, lasting bonds.

Online Forums and Social Media Communities

Dedicated online forums, subreddits, and social media groups have become essential meeting grounds for Harry Potter fans. These digital spaces allow for real-time discussions, the sharing of news and theories, and the organization of fan-driven initiatives. Whether it's a lively debate on a specific character's intentions or a call for submissions for a fan art compilation, these platforms facilitate constant interaction.

The ability to connect with like-minded individuals regardless of geographical location is a defining characteristic of these online communities. Fans can find others who share their niche interests, whether it's a specific book series within the Wizarding World or a particular fan theory that resonates with them. This sense of belonging is paramount for

many.

Wikis and Encyclopedic Resources

The comprehensive nature of the Harry Potter lore has also led to the creation of vast fan-maintained wikis and encyclopedic resources. These sites meticulously document every character, spell, creature, location, and magical artifact mentioned in the books and films. Fans contribute, edit, and fact-check, building an invaluable repository of knowledge that deepens the understanding and appreciation of the Wizarding World.

These wikis serve as essential references for fan fiction writers, artists, and anyone seeking to clarify a detail or explore the intricacies of Rowling's magical universe. They are a testament to the fandom's dedication to understanding and preserving the rich tapestry of the source material.

Beyond the Books: The Impact of Films and Beyond

While the books remain the foundational texts, the Harry Potter film adaptations significantly amplified the reach and visibility of the fandom. The cinematic interpretations brought the characters and settings to life for a broader audience, introducing new fans and solidifying the visual identity of the Wizarding World for many.

The expansion of the universe through the "Fantastic Beasts" film series and the stage play "Harry Potter and the Cursed Child" has further invigorated the fandom, providing new avenues for discussion, fan art, and creative interpretation. These new narratives continue to inspire passionate engagement from long-time fans and attract new generations to the magic.

Moreover, the existence of the Wizarding World theme parks and immersive experiences offers tangible connections to the magical world. These physical spaces allow fans to step directly into the environments they have only imagined, further strengthening their bond with the franchise and its community.

Community and Connection: Finding Your Kindred Spirits

At its heart, the Harry Potter fandom is about connection. It provides a

common ground for individuals from diverse backgrounds to bond over a shared passion. This sense of belonging is incredibly powerful, offering solace, friendship, and a space for self-expression.

Fan conventions and meetups, both large and small, are physical manifestations of this communal spirit. These events offer opportunities for fans to meet their idols (actors, authors), participate in panels and workshops, and connect with fellow enthusiasts in person. The shared experience of attending such an event, often dressed in character or sporting house colors, creates unforgettable memories and strengthens the sense of community.

The inclusivity of many aspects of the Harry Potter fandom is also noteworthy. It has become a space where individuals can explore their identities, find acceptance, and build supportive networks. The messages of friendship, bravery, and the fight against prejudice embedded within the Harry Potter stories often resonate deeply with fans, fostering a positive and inclusive environment.

The Evolution and Future of Harry Potter Fandoms

The Harry Potter fandom has demonstrated remarkable resilience and adaptability. While the original book series has concluded, the community continues to evolve, driven by new content, ongoing creative output, and the intergenerational passing down of fandom traditions.

The rise of new digital platforms and evolving forms of media will undoubtedly shape the future of these fandoms. Virtual reality experiences, augmented reality applications, and new social media trends could offer novel ways for fans to interact with the Wizarding World and with each other. The core elements of creativity, community, and shared passion, however, are likely to remain constant.

As new generations discover the magic of Harry Potter, the fandom will continue to grow and adapt, ensuring that the stories and the community endure for years to come. The legacy of the boy wizard is not just in the books and films, but in the hearts and imaginations of the millions who continue to celebrate its enduring magic.

FAQ

Q: What are the most popular types of Harry Potter fan fiction?

A: The most popular types of Harry Potter fan fiction often include "Hurt/Comfort" stories, which focus on characters experiencing hardship and finding solace in each other, and "Alternate Universe" (AU) stories that explore different scenarios or timelines. Romantic pairings, often referred to as "ships," and stories focusing on specific eras like the Marauders or the Next Generation are also highly prevalent.

Q: How has the internet impacted Harry Potter fandoms?

A: The internet has revolutionized Harry Potter fandoms by providing global platforms for connection, communication, and content sharing. Online forums, social media groups, and dedicated fan fiction archives allow fans worldwide to interact, share their creative works, engage in discussions, and build communities that transcend geographical boundaries.

Q: What is "cosplay" in the context of Harry Potter fandoms?

A: Cosplay, in the context of Harry Potter fandoms, is the practice of dressing up as characters from the Harry Potter universe. Fans meticulously recreate costumes of their favorite witches, wizards, magical creatures, or even inanimate objects, often worn at conventions, fan meetups, or for photo shoots to embody and celebrate the characters they love.

Q: Are there official Harry Potter fandom events?

A: While the core of Harry Potter fandoms is fan-driven, there are numerous official and officially recognized events. These include large-scale fan conventions with celebrity guests, author signings, and merchandise, as well as official events hosted by Warner Bros. and other associated companies, such as cast Q&As and special screenings.

Q: How do Harry Potter fandoms contribute to the Wizarding World's longevity?

A: Harry Potter fandoms contribute to the Wizarding World's longevity by constantly creating new content, interpretations, and discussions around the established lore. Fan fiction, fan art, cosplay, and active online communities keep the narrative alive and evolving, introducing new generations to the stories and maintaining a vibrant, engaged audience that ensures the franchise's continued relevance and popularity.

Q: What role do fan wikis play in the Harry Potter community?

A: Fan wikis, such as the Harry Potter Lexicon or the Fandom Harry Potter wiki, serve as comprehensive, fan-maintained encyclopedias of the Wizarding World. They meticulously document characters, spells, creatures, locations, and plot details, acting as invaluable resources for fans seeking detailed information, clarifying plot points, and enriching their understanding and engagement with the source material.

Q: How do fans express their house allegiances within the fandom?

A: Fans express their house allegiances (Gryffindor, Hufflepuff, Ravenclaw, Slytherin) in numerous ways. This includes displaying house colors through clothing and accessories, using house crests in their profiles or artwork, identifying with their house in online discussions, and participating in house-themed events or friendly competitions within fan communities.

Q: What is the significance of "ships" in Harry Potter fandoms?

A: "Ships" refer to the romantic pairings fans imagine or support between characters, whether they exist in the canon or are purely fan-created. The discussion and creation of fan fiction, fan art, and discussions centered around these ships are a significant aspect of many fandoms, allowing fans to explore character relationships and romantic narratives in ways not fully detailed in the original works.

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harry potter fandoms: *The Ultimate Guide to the Harry Potter Fandom* Erin Anne Pyne, 2010
harry potter fandoms: **The Ultimate Unofficial Guide to the Harry Potter Fandom** Erin A. Pyne, 2009-12 The ultimate unauthorized guide to the global phenomenon that is Harry Potter fandom. The Harry Potter Fandom is vast. From books, movies, websites, fan fiction, artwork, and even music, Harry Potter has captured the imagination of millions. This book is an exhaustive guide to the Harry Potter fandom including interviews from fans such as Melissa Anelli, Emerson Spartz, Warwick Davis, Harry and the Potters, and many more. You will hear from fans, authors, artists, musicians, filmmakers, and actors as they share memories and experience in the Harry Potter

fandom. This book is internet interactive with web addresses for everything mentioned! You can add your own stories, opinions, and ideas into the book and take the fandom quiz at the end! For news, updates and more, visit: www.TheUltimateGuidetotheHarryPotterFandom.com

harry potter fandoms: Harry Potter, Still Recruiting Valerie Estelle Frankel, 2012-07-01

The Harry Potter phenomenon has created a new world: one of Quidditch in the park, lightning earrings, endless parodies, a new genre of music, and fan conferences of epic proportions. This book attempts to document everything - exploring costuming, crafting, gaming, and more, with essays and interviews straight from the multitude of creators. At last, this groundbreaking moment of pop culture is brought to light, from the amazing philanthropic triumphs of the Harry Potter Alliance to the many camps and classrooms that have welcomed Harry into their halls. Today's internet age has formed a new kind of reader: one who devours 800-page books and then creates fanfiction, art, videos, real-life adventures, and more, reimagining the series to reflect a new growing consciousness. From children to adults, fans are delighting the world with an explosion of captivating activities and experiences, all based on Rowling's delightful series.

harry potter fandoms: Playing Harry Potter Lisa S. Brenner, 2015-06-25 Through classroom activities, wizard rock concerts, and organizations like the Harry Potter Alliance, Harry Potter fans are using creativity to positively impact the world. This collection of essays and interviews examines how playful fandom--from fanfiction to Muggle quidditch, cosplay, role-playing games, and even Harry Potter burlesque--not only reimagines the canon but also challenges consumerism, questions notions of identity, and fosters participatory culture. The contributors explore issues applicable to fan studies and performance studies at large, such as the role of performance, the nature of community, and questions of representation and ownership in the digital age. Presented in three parts, the essays discuss discrepancies between sanctioned versions of Harry Potter and fan creations, the reenactment and reinterpretation of the original narrative in fan performance, and collaborative and participatory performances that break down the boundaries between actors and audiences.

harry potter fandoms: The Forever Fandom of Harry Potter Marianne Martens, 2019-07-31 Harry Potter fans contribute their immaterial and affective labor in multiple arenas: as peer-to-peer marketers via fan sites and social media; as participants in amateur fan festivals; or as activists for social change. Fans' participation in the Harry Potter universe has contributed to its success. This Element examines how fans' labor might continue to support the franchise for future readers. Starting with the context and theoretical frameworks that support a multidimensional analysis of the Harry Potter fan experience, this Element examines tensions between fans and Warner Bros., as fan participation tests the limits of corporate control.

harry potter fandoms: Harry Potter and Convergence Culture Amanda Firestone, Leisa A. Clark, 2018-02-23 Since the 1997 publication of the first Harry Potter novel, the Potterverse has seen the addition of eight feature films (with a ninth in production), the creation of the interactive Pottermore® website, the release of myriad video games, the construction of the Wizarding World of Harry Potter at Universal Studios, several companion books (such as *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them*), critical essays and analyses, and the 2016 debut of the original stage play *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child*. This collection of new essays interprets the Wizarding World beyond the books and films through the lens of convergence culture. Contributors explore how online communities tackle Sorting and games like the Quidditch Cup and the Triwizard Tournament, and analyze how *Fantastic Beasts* and *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child* are changing fandom and the canon alike.

harry potter fandoms: Harry, A History - Now Updated with J.K. Rowling Interview, New Chapter & Photos Melissa Anelli, 2008-11-04 A new enhanced e-book edition, featuring an extended transcript from Melissa Anelli's exclusive interview with J. K. Rowling and a new, updated chapter! Melissa Anelli wears a ring that was a gift to her from J.K. Rowling, given as a measure of appreciation for the work she does on *The Leaky Cauldron*, where her job entails being a fan, reporter, guardian, and spokesperson for the Harry Potter series. For ten years, millions of fans have

lived inside literary history, the only fans to know what it was like when Harry Potter was unfinished. When anticipation for a book was just as likely to cause a charity drive as a pistol shootout. When millions of rabid fans looked to friends, families, neighbors, forums, discussion groups, fan fiction and podcasts to get their fix between novels. When the death of a character was a hotter bet than who'd win the World Series. When one series of books had the power to change the way books are read. This has been a time when a book was more popular than movies, television, and video games. The series has spawned a generation of critical thinkers and new readers. The New York Times changed the way it reported book sales just to avoid a continual overpowering of its bestseller list. These events must be given their proper context, and this moment must be preserved. The series will remain important to literature and pop culture, but the experience will change. Harry's fate will be as commonly known as the identity of Luke Skywalker's father, and readers who never had to wait for a Harry Potter book will have no idea what transpired when the series had hundreds of millions of people waiting desperately for the next volume. We are the first wave of Harry Potter fans, the ones that are living in the time that shapes how Harry Potter will be remembered for all time. But when this era is over, fans will need some way to remember this strange, wonderful, dizzying experience. Future fans, too, will want to know what they missed. Harry Potter will exist as a seven-book series, but without the indivisible story of the cultural, literary and emotional impact the series has made, the story is incomplete. How can a fan understand Harry Potter without hearing about the midnight book parties, the scams, the theories, the burglaries, the bets, the bannings, and most importantly, the worldwide camaraderie spurred on by mutual love of a boy wizard? How can they know how Harry Potter changed and touched the lives of so many without hearing it first hand? *Harry, A History* tells this story. It tells the personal story of Melissa Anelli's journey through the very heart of Harry Potter fandom. And wraps this phenomenon up into one narrative, factual volume – one book that tells what happened when Harry Potter met the world.

harry potter fandoms: A Fandom of Magical Proportions Erin A. Pyne, 2007-06-01 Explore the magical world of Harry Potter and discover a fandom like no other. Over the last ten years, J.K. Rowling's Harry Potter series has grown into a worldwide phenomenon, inspiring films, books, websites, art, and even music. Inside, you will find exclusive, personal reflections from actor Warwick Davis, writer George Beahm, webmaster Emerson Spartz, musicians Harry and the Potters, and many more! Dozens of fans share their opinions and experiences that make the Harry Potter fandom truly magical.

harry potter fandoms: The Harry Potter Generation Emily Lauer, Balaka Basu, 2019-04-10 The generation of readers most heavily impacted by J.K. Rowling's Harry Potter series--those who grew up alongside the boy who lived--have come of age. They are poised to become teachers, parents, critics and writers, and many of their views and choices will be influenced by the literary revolution in which they were immersed. This collection of new essays explores the many different ways in which Harry Potter has shaped this generation's views on everything from politics to identity to pedagogical spaces online. It seeks to determine how the books have affected fans' understanding of their place in the world and their capacity to create it anew.

harry potter fandoms: The Sacred in Fantastic Fandom Carole M. Cusack, John W. Morehead, Venetia Laura Delano Robertson, 2019-04-16 To the casual observer, similarities between fan communities and religious believers are difficult to find. Religion is traditional, institutional, and serious; whereas fandom is contemporary, individualistic, and fun. Can the robes of nuns and priests be compared to cosplay outfits of Jedi Knights and anime characters? Can travelling to fan conventions be understood as pilgrimages to the shrines of saints? These new essays investigate fan activities connected to books, film, and online games, such as Harry Potter-themed weddings, using *The Hobbit* as a sacred text, and taking on heroic roles in *World of Warcraft*. Young Muslim women cosplayers are brought into conversation with Chaos magicians who use pop culture tropes and characters. A range of canonical texts, such as *Supernatural*, *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*, and *Sherlock*--are examined in terms of the pleasure and enchantment of repeated viewing. Popular culture is revealed to be a fertile source of religious and spiritual creativity in the contemporary

world.

harry potter fandoms: Harry Potter ,

harry potter fandoms: Fan Fiction and Copyright Professor Aaron Schwabach, 2013-02-28 As long as there have been fans, there has been fan fiction. There seems to be a fundamental human need to tell additional stories about the characters after the book, series, play or movie is over. But developments in information technology and copyright law have put these fan stories at risk of collision with the content owners' intellectual property rights. Fan fiction has long been a nearly invisible form of outsider art, but over the past decade it has grown exponentially in volume and in legal importance. Because of its nature, authorship, and underground status, fan fiction stands at an intersection of key issues regarding property, sexuality, and gender. In *Fan Fiction and Copyright*, author Aaron Schwabach examines various types of fan-created content and asks whether and to what extent they are protected from liability for copyright infringement. Professor Schwabach discusses examples of original and fan works from a wide range of media, genres, and cultures. From Sherlock Holmes to Harry Potter, fictional characters, their authors, and their fans are sympathetically yet realistically assessed. *Fan Fiction and Copyright* looks closely at examples of three categories of disputes between authors and their fans: Disputes over the fans' use of copyrighted characters, disputes over online publication of fiction resembling copyright work, and in the case of J.K. Rowling and a fansite webmaster, a dispute over the compiling of a reference work detailing an author's fictional universe. Offering more thorough coverage of many such controversies than has ever been available elsewhere, and discussing fan works from the United States, Brazil, China, India, Russia, and elsewhere, *Fan Fiction and Copyright* advances the understanding of fan fiction as transformative use and points the way toward a "safe harbor" for fan fiction.

harry potter fandoms: Fandom in Marginalized Communities Leah Dajches, Jennifer Stevens Aubrey, 2025-09-18 An innovative edited collection which examines fandom in marginalized communities from an empirically based, media psychology perspective. This book specifically focuses on fandom communities and cultures as spaces for marginalized individuals - LGBTQ+, BIPOC, and more - to gather, engage with one another, and create their own representation to disrupt dominant, societal discourse as presented in the mainstream media. Edited by Leah Dajches and Jennifer Stevens Aubrey, the collection features the work of well-known scholars currently working within the disciplines of fan studies and media effects, as well as new and emerging voices in these fields. Made up of innovative theoretical and empirical contributions, the book is organized into three key sections: (I) Theoretical Advances in Fandom Media Effects, (II) Individual Fandom Communities and Media Effects, and (III) Innovative Methodological Approaches to Fandom. This collection highlights how fandom communities and cultures can function uniquely for those with identities based within marginalized communities. A must-read for upper-level students, researchers, and scholars interested in the intersection between fandom and fan studies, media effects, and media psychology.

harry potter fandoms: Rogue Archives Abigail De Kosnik, 2021-12-14 An examination of how nonprofessional archivists, especially media fans, practice cultural preservation on the Internet and how "digital cultural memory" differs radically from print-era archiving. The task of archiving was once entrusted only to museums, libraries, and other institutions that acted as repositories of culture in material form. But with the rise of digital networked media, a multitude of self-designated archivists—fans, pirates, hackers—have become practitioners of cultural preservation on the Internet. These nonprofessional archivists have democratized cultural memory, building freely accessible online archives of whatever content they consider suitable for digital preservation. In *Rogue Archives*, Abigail De Kosnik examines the practice of archiving in the transition from print to digital media, looking in particular at Internet fan fiction archives. De Kosnik explains that media users today regard all of mass culture as an archive, from which they can redeploy content for their own creations. Hence, "remix culture" and fan fiction are core genres of digital cultural production. De Kosnik explores, among other things, the anticanonical archiving styles of Internet

preservationists; the volunteer labor of online archiving; how fan archives serve women and queer users as cultural resources; archivists' efforts to attract racially and sexually diverse content; and how digital archives adhere to the logics of performance more than the logics of print. She also considers the similarities and differences among free culture, free software, and fan communities, and uses digital humanities tools to quantify and visualize the size, user base, and rate of growth of several online fan archives.

harry potter fandoms: A Companion to Media Fandom and Fan Studies Paul Booth, 2018-02-26 A Companion to Media Fandom and Fan Studies offers scholars and fans an accessible and engaging resource for understanding the rapidly expanding field of fan studies. International in scope and written by a team that includes many major scholars, this volume features over thirty especially-commissioned essays on a variety of topics, which together provide an unparalleled overview of this fast-growing field. Separated into five sections—Histories, Genealogies, Methodologies; Fan Practices; Fandom and Cultural Studies; Digital Fandom; and The Future of Fan Studies—the book synthesizes literature surrounding important theories, debates, and issues within the field of fan studies. It also traces and explains the social, historical, political, commercial, ethical, and creative dimensions of fandom and fan studies. Exploring both the historical and the contemporary fan situation, the volume presents fandom and fan studies as models of 21st century production and consumption, and identifies the emergent trends in this unique field of study.

harry potter fandoms: Medieval Afterlives in Contemporary Culture Gail Ashton, 2015-03-12 With contributions from 29 leading international scholars, this is the first single-volume guide to the appropriation of medieval texts in contemporary culture. Medieval Afterlives in Contemporary Culture covers a comprehensive range of media, including literature, film, TV, comics book adaptations, electronic media, performances, and commercial merchandise and tourism. Its lively chapters range from Spamalot to the RSC, Beowulf to Merlin, computer games to internet memes, opera to Young Adult fiction and contemporary poetry, and much more. Also included is a companion website aimed at general readers, academics, and students interested in the burgeoning field of Medieval afterlives, complete with: - Further reading/weblinks - 'My favourite' guides to contemporary medieval appropriations - Images and interviews - Guide to library archives and manuscript collections - Guide to heritage collection See also our website at <https://medievalafterlives.wordpress.com/>.

harry potter fandoms: Politics for the Love of Fandom Ashley Hinck, 2019-03-13 Politics for the Love of Fandom examines what Ashley Hinck calls “fan-based citizenship”: civic action that blends with and arises from participation in fandom and commitment to a fan-object. Examining cases like Harry Potter fans fighting for fair trade, YouTube fans donating money to charity, and football fans volunteering to mentor local youth, Hinck argues that fan-based citizenship has created new civic practices wherein popular culture may play as large a role in generating social action as traditional political institutions such as the Democratic Party or the Catholic Church. In an increasingly digital world, individuals can easily move among many institutions and groups. They can choose from more people and organizations than ever to inspire their civic actions—even the fandom for children's book series Harry Potter can become a foundation for involvement in political life and social activism. Hinck explores this new kind of engagement and its implications for politics and citizenships, through case studies that encompass fandoms for sports, YouTube channels, movies, and even toys. She considers the ways in which fan-based social engagement arises organically, from fan communities seeking to change their world as a group, as well as the methods creators use to leverage their fans to take social action. The modern shift to networked, fluid communities, Hinck argues, opens up opportunities for public participation that occurs outside of political parties, houses of worship, and organizations for social action. Fan-based citizenship performances help us understand the future possibilities of public engagement, as fans and creators alike tie the ethical frameworks of fan-objects to desired social goal, such as volunteering for political candidates, mentoring at-risk youth, and promoting environmentally friendly policy. Politics for the Love of Fandom examines the communication at the center of these civic actions, exploring

how fans, nonprofits, and media companies manage to connect internet-based fandom with public issues.

harry potter fandoms: Fic Anne Jamison, 2013-11-26 What is fanfiction, and what is it not? Why does fanfiction matter? And what makes it so important to the future of literature? Fic is a groundbreaking exploration of the history and culture of fan writing and what it means for the way we think about reading, writing, and authorship. It's a story about literature, community, and technology—about what stories are being told, who's telling them, how, and why. With provocative discussions from both professional and fan writers, on subjects from Star Trek to The X-Files and Buffy the Vampire Slayer to Harry Potter, Twilight, and beyond, Fic sheds light on the widely misunderstood world(s) of fanfiction—not only how fanfiction is transforming the literary landscape, but how it already has. Fic features a foreword by Lev Grossman (author of The Magicians) and interviews with Jonathan Lethem, Doug Wright, Eurydice (Vivean Dean), and Katie Forsythe/wordstrings. Cyndy Aleo (algonquinrt; d0tpark3r) V. Arrow (aimmyarrowshigh) Tish Beaty (his_tweet) Brad Bell Amber Benson Peter Berg (Homfrog) Kristina Busse Rachel Caine Francesca Coppa Randi Flanagan (BellaFlan) Jolie Fontenot Wendy C. Fries (Atlin Merrick) Ron Hogan Bethan Jones Christina Lauren (Christina Hobbs/tby789 and Lauren Billings/LolaShoes) Jacqueline Lichtenberg Rukmini Pande and Samira Nadkarni Chris Rankin Tiffany Reisz Andrew Shaffer Andy Sawyer Heidi Tandy (Heidi8) Darren Wershler Jules Wilkinson (missyjack) Jen Zern (NautiBitz)

harry potter fandoms: Harry, A History - Now Updated with J.K. Rowling Interview, New Chapter & Photos Melissa Anelli, 2008-11-04 A new enhanced e-book edition, featuring an extended transcript from Melissa Anelli's exclusive interview with J. K. Rowling and a new, updated chapter! Melissa Anelli wears a ring that was a gift to her from J.K. Rowling, given as a measure of appreciation for the work she does on The Leaky Cauldron, where her job entails being a fan, reporter, guardian, and spokesperson for the Harry Potter series. For ten years, millions of fans have lived inside literary history, the only fans to know what it was like when Harry Potter was unfinished. When anticipation for a book was just as likely to cause a charity drive as a pistol shootout. When millions of rabid fans looked to friends, families, neighbors, forums, discussion groups, fan fiction and podcasts to get their fix between novels. When the death of a character was a hotter bet than who'd win the World Series. When one series of books had the power to change the way books are read. This has been a time when a book was more popular than movies, television, and video games. The series has spawned a generation of critical thinkers and new readers. The New York Times changed the way it reported book sales just to avoid a continual overpowering of its bestseller list. These events must be given their proper context, and this moment must be preserved. The series will remain important to literature and pop culture, but the experience will change. Harry's fate will be as commonly known as the identity of Luke Skywalker's father, and readers who never had to wait for a Harry Potter book will have no idea what transpired when the series had hundreds of millions of people waiting desperately for the next volume. We are the first wave of Harry Potter fans, the ones that are living in the time that shapes how Harry Potter will be remembered for all time. But when this era is over, fans will need some way to remember this strange, wonderful, dizzying experience. Future fans, too, will want to know what they missed. Harry Potter will exist as a seven-book series, but without the indivisible story of the cultural, literary and emotional impact the series has made, the story is incomplete. How can a fan understand Harry Potter without hearing about the midnight book parties, the scams, the theories, the burglaries, the bets, the bannings, and most importantly, the worldwide camaraderie spurred on by mutual love of a boy wizard? How can they know how Harry Potter changed and touched the lives of so many without hearing it first hand? Harry, A History tells this story. It tells the personal story of Melissa Anelli's journey through the very heart of Harry Potter fandom. And wraps this phenomenon up into one narrative, factual volume - one book that tells what happened when Harry Potter met the world.

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