

Abstract: Fanfiction Phenomenon in Perspective of Historical Sociology

My thesis presents fanfiction as a global phenomenon fully matured and adapted to the internet as its own milieu. It defines fanfiction in relation to the community that I call “online fanfiction community”. It is characterized by specific forms of communication, most importantly: a specific form of active readership, where author, reader and critic merge together. Today, the full-blown sphere of internet fanfiction cannot be understood without noting its development which is tied to a new way of being an active fan in the era of mass culture. This way is characterized by fandoms, fanzines and cons which established fanspeak and forms of communication that stayed the same despite the development of new technologies. My thesis also discusses the interpretation of online fanfiction community as a subculture. It describes the strategies used by the community to keep itself apolitical and egalitarian and also these to keep activism of the fight against the repressive concept of copyright law and internet censorship separate from the fanfiction arena. My thesis also interprets fanfiction authorship as one of many concepts of authorship that are present in the frame of modernity.