

Contents

Foreword • Lev Grossman	xi
Introduction	
The Theory of Narrative Causality	3
Why Fic?	17
PART ONE	
Writing from Sources	25
A Prehistory of Fanfiction	26
The Look of Fic: 1800s	37
The Sherlock Holmes Material: A Study in Fanfic	39
The Early Adventures of the Apocryphal Sherlock Holmes	42
The Look of Fic: 1920s	47
<i>Mad as a Box of Frogs</i> • Wendy C. Fries (Atlin Merrick)	48
“Love Is a Much More Vicious Motivator”	54
The Slasher Who Is Not One (An Interview with Katie Forsythe and wordstrings)	63
PART TWO	
A Selective History of Media Fandom	71
Science Fiction, <i>Star Trek</i>, and the Birth of Media Fandom	73
<i>Fables of Irish Fandom</i> • Andy Sawyer	77
I Am Woman, Read My Fic	84
<i>Recollections of a Collating Party</i> • Jacqueline Lichtenberg	91
The Look of Fic: 1970s	100
Interlude: Growing Up Fic	103
<i>Literary Playtime</i> • Ron Hogan	106

<i>The X-Files, Buffy, and the Rise of the Internet Fic Fandoms</i>	111
The X-Files	118
<i>Mulder/Scully versus the G-Woman and the Fowl One</i> • Bethan Jones	122
The Look of Fic: 1995	130
The Bronze Age	131
<i>Fic U</i> • Jen Zern (NautiBitz)	140
The Look of Fic: 1999	149
Megafandoms: Harry Potter and Twilight	151
<i>An Excerpt from Percy Weasley's University Thesis</i> • Chris Rankin	157
<i>How Harry Potter Fanfic Changed the World (Or at Least the Internet)</i> • Heidi Tandy (Heidi8)	165
The Look of Fic: 2001–2002	175
The Twilight Fandom	177
<i>Twilight's True Believers</i> • Jolie Fontenot	188
<i>A Million Words</i> • Lauren Billings (LolaShoes)	193
An Interview with <i>tby789</i> (Christina Hobbs)	199
The Look of Fic: 2009–2010	205
<i>On Writing—and Being—a Mary Sue</i> • Cyndy Aleo (algonquinrt/d0tpark3r)	207
<i>Becoming Bella Swan</i> • Randi Flanagan (BellaFlan)	212
<i>The Fandom Gives Back</i> • Christina Lauren (Christina Hobbs/tby789 and Lauren Billings/LolaShoes)	219
Snowqueens Icedragon (E. L. James) and Sebastien Robichaud (Sylvain Reynard): A Fandom Exchange	224
An Anatomy of a Flame War	232
<i>Bittersweet</i> • Tish Beaty (his_tweet)	253

PART THREE

<i>Fic and Publishing</i>	259
An Interview with Eurydice (Vivean Dean)	263
<i>Fifty Shades of Gold</i> • Andrew Shaffer	268
The Briar Patch	274
<i>Just Change the Names</i> • Tiffany Reisz	289
<i>Preying for More</i> • Rachel Caine	293

PART FOUR

Fanwriting Today	299
<i>An Archive of Our Own</i> • Francesca Coppa	302
<i>The Epic Love Story of Supernatural and Fanfic</i> • Jules Wilkinson (missyjack)	309
<i>Pon Farr, Mpreg, Bonds, and the Rise of the Omegaverse</i> • Kristina Busse	316
<i>Real Person(a) Fiction</i> • V. Arrow (aimmyarrowshigh)	323
<i>#BradamForever</i> • Brad Bell	333
<i>Hobbyhorsing</i> • Peter Berg (Homfrog)	337
<i>From a Land Where “Other” People Live</i> • Rukmini Pande and Samira Nadkarni	342
The Look of Fic: 2013	353

PART FIVE

Fanfiction and Writers Who Don’t Write Fanfiction	355
<i>Conceptual Writing as Fanfiction</i> • Darren Wershler	363
An Interview with Doug Wright	372
An Interview with Jonathan Lethem	377
<i>Blurring the Lines</i> • Amber Benson	384
Acknowledgments	389
About the Contributors	391
About the Author	397
Endnotes	398
Index	409