

Contents

Introduction / 1

1 The Return of the Author: Ethos and Identity Politics / 19

PART I. SLASH AS IDENTIFICATORY PRACTICES

2 “I’m jealous of the fake me”: Postmodern Subjectivity and Identity Construction in Boy Band Fan Fiction / 41

3 Bending Gender: Feminist and (Trans)Gender Discourses in the Changing Bodies of Slash Fan Fiction, with Alexis Lothian / 57

4 Affective Imagination: Fan Representation in Media Fan Fiction / 78

PART II. CANON, CONTEXT, AND CONSENSUS

5 May the Force Be With You: Fan Negotiations of Authority / 99

6 Limit Play: Fan Authorship between Source Text, Intertext, and Context, with Louisa Ellen Stein / 121

7 Fandom’s Ephemeral Traces: Intertextuality, Performativity, and Intimacy in Fan Fiction Communities / 140

PART III. COMMUNITY AND ITS DISCONTENTS

8 “My life is a WIP on my LJ”: Slashing the Slasher and the Reality of Celebrity and Internet Performances / 159

9 Geek Hierarchies, Boundary Policing, and the Gendering of the Good Fan / 177

10 Fictional Consents and the Ethical Enjoyment of Dark Desires / 197

Afterword / 218

Acknowledgments / 221

Works Cited / 223

Index / 243