

Name

Professor

Course

Date

Mary Sue

Discussion

Although the origins of Mary Sue are in fanfiction, the term has managed to permeate the publishing domain. To many writers, Mary Sue has become a useful script for a worryingly typical mistake in characterization. With time, the meaning of Mary Sue has been obscured. There is a faction that perceives it as a wish-fulfillment for the writer while others view it as any self-insertion of the writer.

Fangirl by Rainbow Rowell could be perceived as a wish-fulfillment for the author. The novel revolves around a scholarly, nervous, creative writing girl entering college with an experienced roommate. This situation might be very normal to many readers of fanfiction. However, in the author's skillful mind, an unexciting storyline is changed into a plausible year transformation of trash to glory.

In analyzing the Writer/God and disconnecting canon characters, a fan fiction work like Fangirl changes the subtext from resolved/emblematic to semantics/immediate (Markowitz 55). Consequently, there is a change in emphasis from inference to significance (Scodari 113). Although inference is owned by critics that attempt to resurrect the silhouette of the Writer/God, significance is the property of readers trying to acknowledge their womanly yearnings and ambitions (Scodari 113). Therefore, Mary Sue does not regard inference or the concept of

inference. As a result, through this perspective, Mary Sue could be considered as propagative (productive) instead of sensitive (consumptive).

Whereas most enthusiasts write fanfiction based on Mary Sue, they are often criticized by scholars and other fans. Typical criticism from these groups includes how they are excessively self-indulgent and subjective because they move the focus from the canon characters (Bonnstetter and Brian 150). The Mary Sue narrative is not preferred by everybody since, on a broader perspective they are usually personal whimsies of the author, instead of tales regarding the beloved characters (Bonnstetter and Brian 150). The heightened meddlesomeness prevents readers from getting into her situation and into the exploration they want to embark on, as she changes the emphasis from the media characters readers want to explore (Zukic 400). Nevertheless, the faulty assumptions that such evaluations make is that the subjective experiences conjured and communicated by writers cannot tackle the requirements of their readers. However, literature provides authors and readers with the tools for living to point where it distinguishes situational types that other individuals experience in their life.

Research question

There is a prevalence of criticism of Mary Sue fanfiction such as Fangirl by most scholars and fans. This can be attributed to the fact that it is perceived as juvenile and nonsensical. The question for this research is what the leading evidence-supported causes of the devaluation of Mary Sue fanfiction such as Fangirl are.

Description of the type of project

The kind of project that will be undertaken is a research paper attempting to resolve the research question. A research paper is most suited to this type of research expression since it will explore the different texts that tackle the issue at hand.

Plan

These are the steps that will be taken in answering the research question:

1. Locating sources.
2. Assessing the significance of the sources.
3. Taking notes.
4. Working with citations.
5. Composing paraphrases and summaries.
6. Developing the draft.

Works Cited

- Bonnstetter, Beth E., and Brian L. Ott. "(Re) Writing Mary Sue:Écriture Féminine and the Performance of Subjectivity." *Text and Performance Quarterly*, vol. 31, no. 4, 2011, pp. 342-367.
- Markowitz, Sally J. "The Distinction between Art and Craft." *Journal of Aesthetic Education*, vol. 28, no. 1, 1994, p. 55.
- Scodari, Christine. "Resistance Re-Examined: Gender, Fan Practices, and Science Fiction Television." *Popular Communication*, vol. 1, no. 2, 2003, pp. 111-130.
- Zukic, Naida. "Webbing Sexual/Textual Agency in Autobiographical Narratives of Pleasure." *Text and Performance Quarterly*, vol. 28, no. 4, 2008, pp. 396-414.