

Feminist Archiving as Phronesis: Archive of Our Own and Creating Space for Interactive Digital Curation



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Digital Fandom and Archiving

- **Transformative works:** works of fanfiction, fanart, etc. inspired by pre-existing popular culture content.
- **Archives 3.0 and 4.0:** Creating, collecting, disseminating, preserving within the digital economy (Giannachi 2016).

Transformative Works and Phronetic Archiving

- **Archive of Our Own (AO3)** curates based on the lived experiences, risks, and opportunities found in transformative fanwork communities.
- Website's archival structure and goals focus on:
 - Lived experience
 - Community building
 - Preservation



*Building and Creating: Feminist Archives and
Archiving as Apparatus*

Archives: More Than Just Libraries!

- Archives are:
 - Sites of knowledge creation, not just knowledge storage (Gaillet).
 - A structure, or Foucauldian apparatus: "*a set of practices, bodies of knowledge, measures, and institutions that aim to manage, govern, control, and orient - in a way that purports to be useful - the behaviors, gestures, and thoughts of human beings*" (Giannachi, Agamben).

Example: Digital Women's Archive North (DWAN)

- *A Manifesto for Feminist Archiving* (Ashton).
- Archival model that focuses on:
 - Literacy
 - Education
 - Skill-growth
 - Collaboration



Beyond Print: Archive 2.0 and its Successors

Archival Models (Shanks)

- **Archive 1.0** - Early stage archiving, instrument of management.
- **Archive 2.0** - Mechanization and Digitization, data analysis, access.
- **Archive 3.0** - The 'Animated' archive: includes production and sharing of resources.

Additional and Expanded Archival Models (Giannachi)

- **Archive 0.0** - Initial urge to curate and archive.
- **Archive 4.0** - Archives as pervasive part of the digital economy.

Thus:

- **Archives 3.0** and **4.0** function as 'mixed reality' archives.
- **Archive 4.0** Acknowledges 'space and place'.

*Digital Materials: Curating in
the Age of the Internet*



'Born Digital' Materials

- Materials that have only ever existed online (Bruegger).
- Shift in archival practice concerned with seeing documentation, preservation, archivization, as **processes** (Giannachi).
- **MUST** be part of Archive 2.0 and beyond.

Digital Archiving: What Do We Preserve?

- There is SO MUCH information in the digital sphere.
- How do we decide what to preserve?.
- How do we decide what is WORTH preserving?
- How can Archives 2.0 and beyond help us make these decisions?

*Virtual Community: The Role of the Archive
in Social Networking*



Digital Curation: A Social Network

- Curating 'Performance of Self' (Davis).
- Use of social networking to preserve and create personal archives.
- Social networking as 'social' spaces and 'networking' methods where people meet through a designated source of media or content (Baym).

Curation, Community, and Content

- Social networks are intrinsically archival.
- For an archive to express the interests of a community, they MUST inherently be social networks.
- Social networks as a history, “re-center[ing] authorship on the community itself” (Street).



*Archives of Their Own: Creating a Space
For Transformative Works*

The Rights of Fan Content

- Complex relationship with legal issues, copyright law (Tushnet).
- Unstable online presence of fan content.
- Fanfiction.net - content purge of adult-oriented works.
- Over 62 THOUSAND works removed permanently.

Archive of Our Own (AO3)

- OTW - Organization for Transformative Works - est. 2007.
- “A nonprofit organization established by fans to serve the interests of fans”.
- “A noncommercial and nonprofit central hosting place for fanworks using open-source archiving software”.

The 'A' in A03 - Digital Archiving in Fandom

- Nonprofit organization with an “elected rotating board of committed fans”.
- Interest not in profit, but in content curation.
- Archive with more permanence and stability.
- Other OTW Projects include a peer-reviewed journal (*Transformative Works and Cultures*) and legal advocacy.



Feminist Curation: A03 as Archives 3.0

What We Believe

Our Mission

The Organization for Transformative Works (OTW) is a nonprofit organization established by fans to serve the interests of fans by providing access to and preserving the history of fanworks and fan culture in its myriad forms. We believe that fanworks are transformative and that transformative works are legitimate.

The OTW represents a practice of transformative fanwork historically rooted in a **primarily female culture**. The OTW will preserve the record of that history as we pursue our mission while encouraging new and non-mainstream expressions of cultural identity within fandom.

Taken from http://www.transformativeworks.org/what_we_believe/

About the OTW

The Organization for Transformative Works (OTW) is a nonprofit organization, established by fans in 2007, to serve the interests of fans by providing access to and preserving the history of fanworks and fan culture in its myriad forms. We believe that fanworks are transformative and that transformative works are legitimate.

We are proactive and innovative in protecting and defending our work from commercial exploitation and legal challenge. We preserve our fannish economy, values, and creative expression by protecting and nurturing our fellow fans, our work, our commentary, our history, and our identity while providing the broadest possible access to fannish activity for all fans.

Taken from <https://archiveofourown.org/about>


Using A03

- Navigational Tools.
- Organization Systems.
- Categorization and Tagging.







No Archive Warnings Apply, [Dave Strider/Karkat Vantas](#), [Rose Lalonde/Kanaya Maryam](#) (background), [Terezi Pyrope/Vriska Serket](#) (Background), [Dirk Strider/Jake English](#) (Past) (Background), [Karkat Vantas/Gamzee Makara](#) (Past), [Dave Strider](#), [Karkat Vantas](#), [Dirk Strider](#), [Rose Lalonde](#), [Kanaya Maryam](#), [Sollux Captor](#), [Gamzee Makara](#), [Terezi Pyrope](#), [Vriska Serket](#), [Equius Zahhak](#), [Nepeta Leijon](#), [Jade Harley](#), [John Egbert](#), [Jake English](#), [Roxy Lalonde](#), [Eridan Ampora](#), [Dad Egbert](#), [Aradia Megido](#), [Feferi Peixes](#), [Dave's Bro](#) (past), [Auto-Responder | Lil Hal](#), [Alternate Universe](#), [Alternate Universe - Pacific Rim Fusion](#), [Alternate Universe - No Sburb/Sgrub Sessions](#), [Alternate Universe - Human/Troll Society](#), [Mecha](#), [Jaeger Pilots](#), [The Drift \(Pacific Rim\)](#), [Drift Compatibility](#), [Quadrant Confusion](#), [Quadrant Vacillation](#), [Sexuality Crisis](#), [Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder - PTSD](#), [Emotional Baggage](#), [Angst](#), [The Kaiju are Horrorterrors](#), [Prior Pacific Rim Knowledge Unnecessary](#), [Trolls as Precursors](#), [Kaiju \(Pacific Rim\)](#), [Horrorterrors - Freeform](#), [Other Additional Tags to Be Added](#), [Trans Character](#), [minor character death \(flashback\)](#), [Trans Dave Strider](#), [Trans Rose Lalonde](#), [Yes there are transgender characters in this fanfiction](#), [homophobic language \(in flashbacks\)](#), [transphobia \(in flashbacks\)](#)

 [HeroStuck](#) by [DippertheShipper](#) 12 Dec 2017
 [Homestuck](#)

No Archive Warnings Apply. [Dave Strider/Jade Harley](#), [Dave Strider/Karkat Vantas](#), [Rose Lalonde/Kanaya Maryam](#), [John Egbert/Roxy Lalonde](#), [Jade Harley/Dave Strider/Karkat Vantas](#), [John Egbert, Rose Lalonde, Dave Strider, Jade Harley, Karkat Vantas, Kanaya Maryam, Vriska Serket, Aradia Megido, Terezi Pyrope, Jack Noir, Spades Slick, they're the same person i guess????, Nepeta Leijon, Roxy Lalonde, Jane Crocker, Dirk Strider, Jake English, Equius Zahhak, Feferi Peixes, Sollux Captor, Tavros Nitram, Eridan Ampora, also polyamorous davejadedekat, But not alot, and also some violence, most of the shipping isn't until later on, as this story isn't primarily romance, also unbelievable amounts of meta, also i tagged alot of characters who wont really be prominent until later in the story](#)

John and the gang in a superhero AU, in which they are a super heroes living in the Big Apple! They will gain mysterious powers, meet other heroes (and villains), and possible save New York City, or maybe even the world! However, they have a long way to go. Everyone is happy and mostly not dead.



Language: English Words: 33,425 Chapters: 23/? Comments: 27 Kudos: 75 Bookmarks: 6 Hits: 1640

 [Hope for the Hopeless](#) by [50Lizardsinatrenchcoat](#) 12 Dec 2017
 [Homestuck](#)

Creator Chose Not To Use Archive Warnings. [Dave Strider/Karkat Vantas](#), [Davesprite & Jadesprite](#), [Rosesprite & Davesprite](#), [Dave Strider, Karkat Vantas, Davesprite, Jadesprite, Karkat's Lusur, Original sprite characters, Rosesprite, Nepeta Leijon, Kankri Vantas, Meulin Leijon, Feferi Peixes, Guardian Angels, Child Abuse, Self-Harm, magical politics, Demons, Slight demonstuck, Angst, Karkat's lusur is crabsprite just fyi](#)

Davesprite is trying to help his charge Dave without being able to interact with him. Meanwhile, Karkat's guardian angel is trying to keep the demon Curse from tearing Karkat appart from the inside out. Their destinies have been intertwined from the very beginning.

Language: English Words: 3,727 Chapters: 5/? Comments: 5 Kudos: 14 Bookmarks: 3 Hits: 209

 [Plain White Walls](#) by [Probably_Not_Batman](#) 12 Dec 2017
 [Homestuck](#)

Creator Chose Not To Use Archive Warnings. [Eridan Ampora/Sollux Captor](#), [Cronus Ampora/Kankri Vantas](#), [Rose Lalonde/Kanaya Maryam](#), [Dave Strider/Karkat Vantas](#), [Eridan Ampora, Sollux Captor, Cronus Ampora, Mituna Captor, Feferi Peixes, Kankri Vantas, Karkat Vantas, Dave Strider, Orphaner Dualscar, Grand Highblood, Calliope, Caliborn, Nepeta Leijon, Equius Zahhak, Camazotz Makara, Aradia Megido, Characters and Relationships may change, Cruncher, Fluff, Angst, Mutism, murder mentions, blood mentions, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, PTSD, Panic](#)

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<https://archiveofourown.org/works/6805204/chapters/15540064>

HexMeridian ▾

save a bookmark!



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Curating the Future: Fandom, Transformative Works, and Digital Curiosities



Archive vs. Social Network: Structure for Both

- Community building secondary to content sharing - must be done on different sites.
- Other digital archiving: Tumblr and “cabinets of curiosity” (Giannachi).

Creating Space for Transformative Writing, Histories, and Futures

- Challenge of preserving ever-changing content.
- The internet and access.
- Living Digital Archives and self-motivated personal/community archiving.
- Frameworks for phronetic and feminist archival practice.
- Living, evolving, and adapting archival practice.

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