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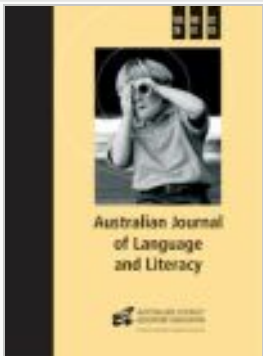
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Fan Fiction Online: Engagement, Critical

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## Response and Affective Play through Writing

Australian Journal of Language and Literacy, The  
Volume 29 Issue 3 (Oct 2006)

Thomas, Angela

**Abstract:** This article provides a brief overview of the nature of online fan fiction communities. In doing so, it demonstrates the range of writing practices (and other

media practices) that fans negotiate together to role-play scenes of engagement with canonical texts. Members involved in a 400 participant fan fiction world (Middle Earth Insanity) were studied to determine their general literacy practices within forums, chatting, role-playing and the discussions strands of the community. The interactivity of some particular members of the study who volunteered to engage in interviews and posts about their discursive and social experiences within their community allowed a clear understanding of these practices to emerge, and provided the opportunity to interrogate and critically analyse the context in which these practices occurred. The ways in which the young girls responded to both their texts and their role-playing experiences offered them the opportunity to also engage in self-reflexive critical practice about their reading, their choices, and their identities in their different forms. The article concludes by bringing the various experiences together and offering what was and could be learned through fan fiction online communities.



FULL TEXT PDF (148KB)

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