



# DRABBLE IS AN UNUSUAL AND FASCINATING GENRE THAT PUTS A COMPLETE STORY IN JUST HUNDRED WORDS

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## ABSTRACT. BACKGROUND

*The article deals with the the history and peculiarities of the literary genre drabble which is a short sketch depicting one scene or describing a character. Also often referred to as a genre are short stories that consist of only 100 words. This unusual and fascinating genre sometimes inspires the reader to try his hand as an author for the first time. On the other hand, fitting a full story into just 100 words is not an easy task. A feature of such stories is an unforeseen ending or the presence of hidden subtext. The **object** of the article is the drabble, a short story of exactly one hundred words (not counting the title) and fanfics. More and more people are interested in fan fiction - literary works created by fans based on popular films, books or TV shows.*

*The **aim** of the article is to give an information about fanfics and one type of it which is called drabble.*

***Methods:** such methods as descriptive method, method of historical analyses were used to prove the in formativeness of the topic relied on the studies of well-known scientists in the field of linguistics.*

***Results (Findings):** The analysis of the examples presented in the article shows that one type of fanfiction is Drabble. This genre is becoming more and more popular. But what is a drabble, how and when it arose, and not everyone knows about the features of such works.*

***Conclusion.** Summing up the results, it can be concluded that the basis of fanfiction is most often either the development of the original storyline in a different direction, or the creation of a branch of the story in a completely different direction, but using characters from the work. Drabble has the same compositional structure as any other story. The best drabbles use an unexpected plot twist, a denouement that "deceives" the reader's expectations.*

***KEYWORDS:** fanfics, drabble, literary genre, sketch, character, unforeseen ending, hidden subtext, basis of fanfiction, development, original storyline, structure.*

## INTRODUCTION

Before listing the genres of fanfiction and revealing their features, it is necessary to touch on the question of the origin and meaning of this term. What is a fanfic? This is an essay, most often amateur, based on the most popular literary works or film works - television series, movies, anime, and the like. Moreover, fanfiction genres include various comics and computer games.

The word "fanfiction" refers to jargon. The authors of fan fiction are fiwriters (ficreators), and they are ardent fans of original works who cannot part with their favorite characters of the adored work. They also write most often for the same zealous fans. Recently, the creation of fanfiction happens on a commercial basis, but extremely rarely. Most often this is a product for fans of the original work.

The concept itself comes from English - fan literature or fan prose (Fan fiction). In use, there are other designations of this concept, which unites the genres of fan fiction. These are "fan-fiction", "fen-fiction", "fan-fic", most often just "FF" or even "fic". There are so many varieties of this new genre that only the most common ones will be listed. Any author has the right to create his own type of essay. That is why the genres of fanfiction (or rather, subgenres) are extremely diverse.

## LITERATURE REVIEW

Slash fanfiction rarely uses *Curtain* story style, where the characters behave in an absolutely homely way. For example, they go shopping. A fanfic with the presence of corporal punishment is called *Domestic disciplin*, and it concerns sexual relations: one of the partners is beaten for some kind of mistake.

But more and more often there are mergers of different genres in fan fiction: the romance genre and the slash genre, for example. It's hard to find a pure genre, even a subgenre, in the fanfic subculture. But *Angstfic* (dreary fanfiction) and *Darkfic* (dark



fanfiction) are almost always present in fanfiction of recent years. The first component denotes depressive motives, spiritual or physical suffering, strong feelings and dramatic events. And the last component is the abundance of cruelty and death in the story. Also often used in any fan fiction - slash or romantic genre - Alternate Pairing or Shipping (alternative pairing or shipping), when they describe the romantic relationship of characters who in the original work not only do not like each other, but sometimes are divorced altogether on opposite sides of the barricades. In general, slash originally meant a kind of *Alternate Pairing*. However, now this concept has become much broader. Accordingly, there are *Femslash* styles, that is, *Saffic*, *Fem* or *Femmeslash* - all about women's relationships - romantic or another. And, of course, it is highlighted in a separate line and sent to the tenth row in fanfictions of the het genre.

If the relationship between the characters is permeated with warmth and nothing is overshadowed, this subgenre of fan fiction is called *Fluff*. Fanfictions about friendship, backed up by words and deeds are called *Smarm*. If there is no love line in fanfic or it doesn't mean much, it's *General audience* or just *Gen*. No description of fanfiction genres is complete without *Grapefruit*, it is fanfiction with violence in its pages or coercion to it.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

Varieties can also be identified by the method of creation, here the fanfiction genres and their significance for the reading public are most clearly visible. Quite often you can find a crossover in the subculture (especially English fans of fanfiction), where several alien universes merge in the narrative. For example, Jack Sparrow and Han Solo, along with Princess Leia, come to Hogwarts and meet Anton Gorodetsky there in order to jointly extinguish the Eye of Sauron.

Very often writers use *Point of view* or just POV. And this applies not only to fan fiction, a lot of works, including those in the fantasy genre, are written in this way. For example, the saga "A Song of Ice and Fire" by George Martin. This method is extremely convenient for narration, since it allows you to show events in different parts of the universe and at different intervals of time or simultaneously from different sides.

The Profic genre is exceptionally interesting. These works are truly artistic and often highly professional, where the author describes the adventures of his characters in a world that was created by another author. There are real masterpieces in this genre, such as, for example, the fanfic "The Ring of Darkness", which was written by Nick Perumov based on Tolkien's famous work "The Lord of the Rings". Many fans argue before fights who wrote better: Perumov or Tolkien.

Much has been written in this genre. The authors love alien universes and write whole book series on Star Wars, Dragonlance, Warhammer and other commercially successful works, the authors of which are loyal to franchising. The most interesting thing is that books from someone else's table - both sequels and prequels - are always sold like hot cakes. But it is not the epigones who should be thanked for this, but the author of the original, who created such an interesting universe that readers miss, and so much so that they are ready to read even frankly weak imitations.

If the characters in the fanfic die, it is classified as *Deathfic*. If the characters take a long time to establish a relationship - Established Relationship. Hurt/comfort - just by the name, we can conclude that it will be about helping one character - strong and kind - to another - weak and suffering. Well, a genre that has almost classic examples is *Continuation*, when fan fiction is an exact continuation of the original work. For example, "Gone with the Wind" was continued quite successfully by Alexandra Ripley. In any case, it was and is being sold as successfully as the original.

With the growth of opportunities, thanks to technological progress, fans of certain works of art successfully combine literary creativity with related genres. And fanfiction is sometimes quite high quality. For example, a film based on the Star Wars universe - Star Wars: Revelations: a highly technical level, using the latest technology. This is a fanfilm. A modification of fanfiction is also drawing based on the work, where completely new artistic images of favorite characters are created. This is fan art.

But for any genre - both pure fan fiction and related ones, like a role-playing computer game, for example - you need, first of all, a general interest in the canon, that is, that work (book, film, series, comic book, TV show, etc.), the characters and the whole world of which will be used to write fanfiction.

## RESULTS

Fanfiction is a related kind of creativity, where the ficwriter uses both his own fiction, which goes far from the canon, and some set of elements from the original world. This is the only genre other than parody, of course, where the reader is better off being familiar with the work that inspired the ficwriter. The author wrote not for money, but for pleasure, first of all, his own, and secondarily - for the pleasure of the same fans of the author of the original work. They are not only consumers of someone else's creativity. Fikreiter is an example of co-creation, when literature appeals to the reader, and the reader responds to it with action.



Fanfiction - from English fan fiction (fan fiction) - a text written by a fan of a film (book, TV series) based on the original work. Fanfiction can continue the work (a story about what happened after the end), fill in empty spaces (where the author, for example, wrote "2 years have passed"), talk about the youth of the characters, or be an alternative story (for example, a fan of the "Watches" does not like the death of Kostya and he wrote a fanfic where Kostya survived, found himself a bride, etc.) Such fanfiction is marked with the abbreviation AU (Alternate Universe, Alternative Universe)

By size, there are the following varieties of fanfictions:

- *Ficlet* - short one-part fanfiction;
- *Drabble* - excerpt. Often just a scene, a sketch, a description of a character. Sometimes this means a short (one hundred words) story that has double connotations and / or an unexpected ending.
- *Vignette* - a very short story that includes a single thought (description of feelings, internal monologue, small event).

## DISCUSSIONS

Drabble. This genre is becoming more and more popular. But what is a drabble, how and when it arose, and not everyone knows about the features of such works. Drabble? This is a short sketch depicting one scene or describing a character. Also often referred to as a genre are short stories that consist of only 100 words. A feature of such stories is an unforeseen ending or the presence of hidden subtext.

The main criterion for a drabble is its completeness. Such a story, despite its brevity, should contain the structure of a full-fledged work: have a plot, a climax and a denouement. It should be meaningful and useful. In addition, the drabble is written in an artistic or journalistic style. This is not an instruction for use, and therefore it should contain literary turns and "catch" the reader.

Drabble as a genre was born in 1980, when one of the communities of the University of Birmingham created an unusual game. Inspired by Monty Python's Drabble, sci-fi fans decided to play a game based on the plot of the novel, in which the participants had to write a novel, and the winner was the one who did it faster. In order to keep the game simple and interesting in real life, the participants introduced a rule that the story should be 100 words long. A certain amount of time was given to write a novel, a topic was set. This is where the concept of 100 words and the name drabble came from.

Creation criteria. It is not enough to know what a drabble is in order to create it. You also need to understand what criteria a story must meet in order for it to be called that. A great example of Drabble is 55 Fiction. These are 55-word stories. The author of the idea was Steve Moss, founder of the New Times magazine. The main requirements are as follows: size - exactly 55 words; the presence of a message and a plot; the presence of at least one character; the presence of a conflict and its denouement and, it was assumed that the drabble should be funny.

Tags:

Love

gender dysphoria

Declarations of love

Quarrels / Conflicts

Transgender characters

Humor

And I also read somewhere, I can't find the material that, as an example this genre is very suitable ... anecdotes.

Drabble is a passage, this is how this genre was born. But long before that, L. Tolstoy wrote stories for children of four or five years old and for the students of his school, who can fully be called drabbles, if we consider them excerpts from the life of birds, animals. And fairy tales, of all peoples or about Khodja Nasreddin, full of meaning and humor - these are *extracts* from people's lives!

## CONCLUSIONS

We started with the fact that drabble is, after all, a game. And the game can change topics, conditions, tasks, rules. However, follow them for everyone, who entered the game, for sure!

Norm Sherman, founder and editor of the Drabblecast portal, appreciates the drabble genre for the energy and impulsiveness of fast-paced stories that are read in a few minutes, but at the same time make you cry or laugh.

How do you write a drabble anyway? The text structure of a drabble is somewhat similar to a joke or an anecdote: a certain scene is described, some events occur, and then the meaning of what is read is suddenly turned upside down. The ending should not only be unexpected, but also force the reader to rethink the whole story from the very beginning.

How to fit the story into such a tiny volume? The first draft is usually very far from the desired hundred words, besides, the trial version of any story should be brought to perfection before publication. The surest way to get a drabble of the right size is editing.



Among other things, strict requirements for the size of the story develop writing skills: for example, an attentive and economical attitude to words. After reading the first draft, find and remove everything unnecessary from it. Like any editor, in this case you need to be firm, but not lose the main idea and integrity of the story. If, after the first edit, you are still far from the desired volume, you should think about the structure of sentences, and possibly delete some of them altogether. Get rid of all unnecessary elements of your story. When writing a drabble, it's best to stick with one or two storylines and accurately answer the question, "What am I writing about?" This will save the story from unnecessary digressions, which only increase its volume.

What could the drabble be about? The answer is very simple: anything! Drabble is a form of fiction, so it cannot be limited to any one topic. Adventure, mysticism, romance - choose what you like. But most importantly, writing a story should bring you pleasure. Mastery comes with practice, and drabble is a fun way to develop your writing skills.

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