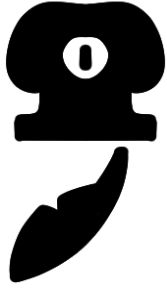


THE BIG LIST OF FICTIONKIN EXPERIENCES



Take some time to think about the works of fiction you've experienced throughout your life. Did any of them seem to stick with you? Crawl their way into your mind year after year, long after all your friends have found other interests? Give you a sense of longing you could never put words to?

Spend some time contemplating these works. Read over our zine a few times again, if you'd like. If a lot of the things on this end up resonating with you, you might be fictionkin. Congratulations and / or we're sorry, whichever you'd prefer. Either way, we hope you have a good time learning about our weird and wonderful subculture.

Happy trails,
Abraxas_001

Strongly preferring to cosplay or roleplay as a specific fictional character or fictional species due to an unquantifiable and inexplicable feeling of "rightness" that is absent when cosplaying or roleplaying as other characters or species

Feeling inexplicably drawn to specific fandom depictions, such as fanart, fanfiction, or AUs, feeling the urge to engage with these depictions at an unusual rate

Having unusually strong opinions on the canon of a work of fiction being correct or incorrect, especially if these opinions are not shared by others

Feeling frustrated, angry, or sad when engaging with a work of fiction or its fandom, but feeling unable to separate yourself or your creative works from the original work of fiction due to feeling as if you would lose yourself by doing so

FANDOM FEELINGS

A sense of euphoria or correctness when perceived by others as a character, a fictional species, or as deeply connected to a work of fiction, such as by using the character or species as a profile picture

Feeling as if you should be living in a fictional world, that you would fit in better in a fictional world, feeling that world you live in is or has the wrong setting, genre, art style, or medium

Feeling as though you should change your appearance, such as your clothing, hair, or body modifications, to more resemble a fictional character, fictional species, or an average resident of a fictional world

Wanting to live as though you are a specific character, member of a fictional species, or from a fictional world in your everyday life

SENSE OF YEARNING

SENSE OF SELF

Feeling like depictions of a specific character or fictional species are depictions of oneself, reacting to these depictions as if they are photographs of oneself

A sense of body dysphoria or incongruence, which may or may not include species or gender

Feeling as if a character's experiences are your own experiences

Instinctively recognizing a character's name as your name

Feeling like depictions of a specific character or fictional species are depictions of oneself, reacting to these depictions as if they are photographs of oneself

Believing that mentions of a character, species, or work of fiction are referring to you

PHYSICAL SENSATIONS AND BEHAVIORS

Phantom sensations themed around a character or species

Having somatic responses to engagement with a work of fiction, such as dizziness, nausea, or intense euphoria

Unintentionally adopting the body language or mannerisms of a character or species, discovering that yours were already similar to theirs, or finding that you feel better or more correct if you intentionally move in that way

Feeling as though you have instincts or habits that do not match up with your surroundings, but do match up better with a work of fiction

MEMORIES

Being able to vividly imagine sensory experiences from a work of fiction that are not actually present

Being able to vividly imagine sensory experiences, specific concepts, or narrative events from a work of fiction with unusually great ease, whether or not these things are actually present in the work

Misremembering details about a work of fiction, believing certain events happened in a different way or remembering nonexistent events, characters, or concepts

Remembering the events of a work of fiction as a participant rather than an observer

Precognitive experiences with a work of fiction, knowing events will happen before the work has been fully consumed or even completed

EMOTIONAL REACTIONS TO MEDIA

Unexplained sense of familiarity, unease, or discomfort with a work of fiction

A work of fiction or specific element of a work of fiction feels somehow real, or like it might become real

Upon first exposure to a work of fiction, feeling for some reason you do not understand that you need to either engage with it or not engage with it, feeling as if it is or is not the right time to engage with it

Feeling as if a work of fiction is exposing some fact about yourself to the world, feeling as if a work of fiction contains a secret about you

Experiencing unexplained nightmares, anxiety, or paranoia after interacting with a work of fiction

Feeling as if a character, fictional species, or work of fiction are inexplicably "cringey" or difficult to look at or hear about