

# Aromanticism & Asexuality in Fanfiction Writing

## Start of Block: Demographics

How old are you?

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What country do you live in?

- Country Name
  - Prefer not to say
  - Other, please specify \_\_\_\_\_
- 

What is your race and/or ethnicity?

- Arab or Arab American
  - Asian or Asian American
  - Black or African American
  - Indigenous or Native American
  - Latino/a/x
  - Pacific Islander
  - White
  - Prefer not to say
  - Other, please specify \_\_\_\_\_
  - Two or more races/ethnicities, please specify \_\_\_\_\_
- 

What is your gender?

- Woman
  - Man
  - Transgender Woman
  - Transgender Man
  - Nonbinary
  - Prefer not to say
  - Other, please specify \_\_\_\_\_
-

How would you describe your sexual attraction?

- I am on the asexual spectrum
- I am attracted to multiple sexes/genders (Bi, pan, omni, etc.)
- I am attracted to a sex/gender different from my own (Straight/Heterosexual)
- I am attracted to a sex/gender the same as my own (Gay/Homosexual)
- Queer
- Questioning
- Prefer not to say
- Other, please specify \_\_\_\_\_

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*Display This Question:*

*If How would you describe your sexual attraction? = I am on the asexual spectrum*

Do you identify with any of the labels under the asexuality spectrum?

- Asexual
- Sex-repulsed
- Sex-indifferent
- Sex-favorable
- Demisexual
- Graysexual
- Prefer not to say
- Other, please specify \_\_\_\_\_

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How would you describe your romantic attraction?

- Same as sexual attraction
  - Aromantic
  - I am attracted to multiple sexes/genders (Bi, pan, omni, etc.)
  - I am attracted to a sex/gender different from my own (Straight/Heterosexual)
  - I am attracted to a sex/gender the same as my own (Gay/Homosexual)
  - Queer
  - Questioning
  - Prefer not to say
  - Other, please specify \_\_\_\_\_
-

Display This Question:

If How would you describe your romantic attraction? = Aromantic

Or If

How would you describe your sexual attraction? = I am on the asexual spectrum

And How would you describe your romantic attraction? = Same as sexual attraction

Do you identify with any of these labels under the aromantic spectrum?

- Aromantic
- Romance-favorable
- Romance-indifferent
- Romance-repulsed
- Demiromantic
- Grayromantic
- Prefer not to say
- Other, please specify \_\_\_\_\_

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**Start of Block: Behavior**

*Aro/ace* is to refer to *aromantic and/or asexual spectrum* for the sake of brevity in the following questions.

Do you publish/post your aro/ace fanfiction online?

- Yes
- No

Skip To: 3- Explain Posting If Do you publish/post your aro/ace fanfiction online? = No

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What is your preferred platform? Please rank from 1-5 with 1 being most preferred

- \_\_\_\_\_ AO3
  - \_\_\_\_\_ fanfiction.net
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Tumblr
  - \_\_\_\_\_ WattPad
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Other, please specify
- 

Please explain your reasoning.

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How much of your fanfiction writing is comprised of aro/ace fanfiction?



Choose a percentage

How many aro/ace fanfictions have you written?

- Less than 5
- 6-10
- 11-20
- More than 20

How often do you write aro/ace characters in sexual/romantic pairings? How often do you write aro/ace characters in gen fanfictions with either platonic pairings or no pairings?

	Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Always
Romantic/Sexual Pairing	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Platonic/No Pairing	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Generally, when writing aro/ace characters, how far removed from canon (or in-text representations) are your interpretations?

- I often have to change canon drastically
- Canon does not go into detail on the character's sexuality so there is room for interpretation
- Canon heavily implies but does not explicitly state a character's asexuality/aromanticism
- The canon sexuality of a character is already aro/ace
- It depends, please specify \_\_\_\_\_

How often do the following statements motivate your writing of aro/ace characters?

	Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Always
Canon easily allows for ace/aro interpretations	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I use aro/ace fanfiction to explore/talk about my own identity	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I write to give more representation to asexuality and aromanticism	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I write to fulfill prompts, asks, and challenges	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Would you like to expand on your answers to the previous question or offer any other motivations? You may refer to any characters or fandoms as needed.

\_\_\_\_\_

In general, do the characters you've written already know about their aromanticism/asexuality?

- Yes, my characters generally that know they are aromantic and/or asexual within the context of my fanfiction
- No, most characters tend to not yet know they are aromantic and/or asexual and my fanfiction details their discovery or exploration of their identity
- Other, please specify \_\_\_\_\_

In general, do you use your characters' aromanticism/asexuality as a plot device?

- Yes, my characters' aromanticism/asexuality generally moves the plot forward
- No, my characters' aromanticism/asexuality is not always relevant to the plot (if they weren't aro/ace the plot would still be the same)
- Other, please specify \_\_\_\_\_

Do the characters you've written experience nonconsensual romantic/sexual activities because of their aromanticism/asexuality?

- Always
  - Often
  - Sometimes
  - Rarely
  - Never
- 

Would you like to expand on your answers to the previous question? You may refer to any characters or fandoms as needed.

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Who do you want to read your aro/ace fanfiction?

- No one in particular
- People within the fandom
- Aro/ace people
- Other, please specify \_\_\_\_\_

**End of Block: Behavior**

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**Start of Block: Media**

How do you feel about fanfiction that writes a character as aro/ace when the source material has given them stereotypically aro/ace characteristics (emotionless/distant, touch averse, innocent, etc.)?

- Like a great deal
  - Like somewhat
  - Neither like nor dislike
  - Dislike somewhat
  - Dislike a great deal
-

Do you agree that aromanticism and asexuality are becoming more visible? Both in fanfiction and in media?

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
Fanfiction	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Media (tv, film, videogames, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Would you like to expand on your answers to the previous question? You may refer to any characters or fandoms as needed.

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Which of these characters are you familiar with? (select no if the question does not apply to you)

	Are you familiar with this character?		Do you headcanon this character as aro/ace?		Have you written this character as aro/ace?	
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
Sherlock Holmes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Jonathon "Jon" Sims	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Todd Chavez	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Peridot	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Jughead Jones	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

If you are aware of any canon aro/ace characters, or ones fandoms perceive as such, you may list them below.

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Would you like to add any other details? For example, you may discuss how your other identities (race, gender, disability, age, etc.) interact with your writing of asexuality/aromanticism.

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End of Block: Media

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Start of Block: Interview

**Would you like to continue participating in this research with an in-depth interview?**

**Option 1:** A thirty minute interview on Zoom (camera optional) to follow up on your survey responses.

**Option 2:** An hour long interview on Zoom (camera optional) in which you share some aro/ace fanfiction you have written for us to discuss.

**Option 3:** A written exchange. A list of questions in a Qualtrics form will be emailed to you. You will have up to two weeks to respond to with in-depth answers. If needed, a set of clarifying questions may be sent. In this case, you will have one week to respond. In this option, sharing your fanfiction is optional.

**Note:** if accessibility is an issue, Zoom meetings can also be entered through a phone call (more details are provided when the Zoom invite is sent).

You will receive more information on what to expect in a follow up email if you select Yes or Maybe in the following question.

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Interview Interest Are you interested in an interview?

- No
- Maybe
- Yes- 30 minute
- Yes- 1 hour
- Yes- Written exchange

*Skip To: End of Survey If Are you interested in an interview? = No*

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Email address. Please choose one that you check regularly.

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If selected, you will receive an email asking for your participation in the interview portion within one week of your completion of this survey. The email will also contain a document on informed consent with more details on what to expect and how you will be protected. The email will be sent from [sidney.garner@utexas.edu](mailto:sidney.garner@utexas.edu) with the subject line "Aromanticism & Asexuality in Fanfiction Writing Interview."



If you do not receive an email, the capacity for interviews has been filled for the moment. If there are any changes, you may receive an email at a later date.