Archiving & Preserving Online Fanworks Archives

Designing Storage Architectures
April 15-16, 2024

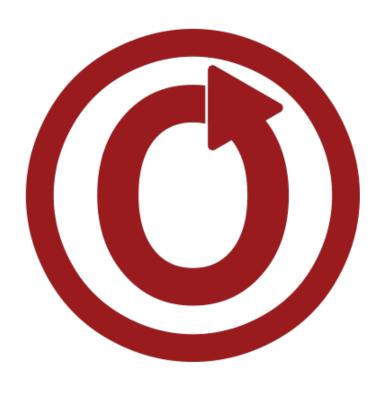
Kai Fay
Organization for Transformative Works



Organization for Transformative Works (OTW)

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.

We envision a future in which all fannish works are recognized as legal and transformative and are accepted as a legitimate creative activity. 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.





OTW Open Doors

The OTW Open Doors project is dedicated to offering shelter to at-risk fannish content. We have several subprojects and rescue efforts aimed at archiving and preserving different kinds of fanworks and artifacts of fan culture.

Our mission is to preserve fanworks for the future while respecting their creators.

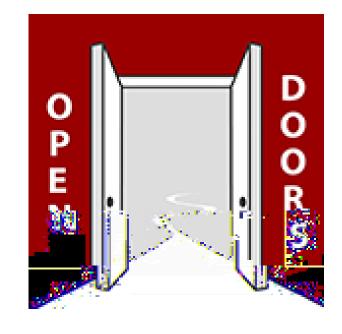




Online Archive Rescue Project

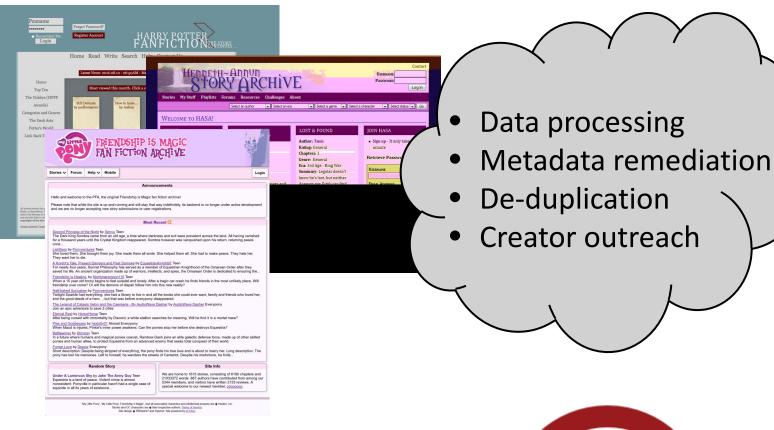
The Online Archive Rescue Project preserves fannish archives at-risk of disappearing due to obsolete or corrupt code, failing servers, or other lack of resources for maintenance.

Content is preserved through import to An Archive of our Own. Depending on the structure of the original archive, works may be imported through a semi-automated process, a fully manual process, or a combination of the two.

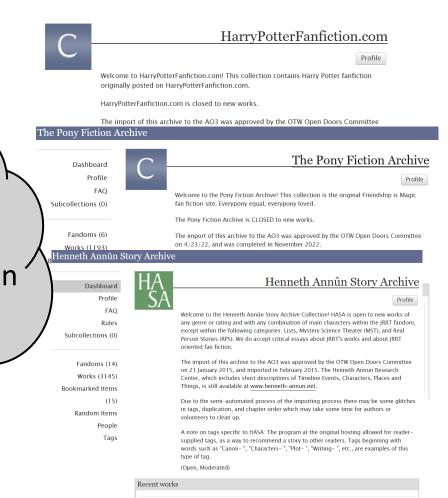




Archiving Process



Original archives



Unto the ending of the world by Nath

The Lord of the Rings - J. R. R. Tolkien

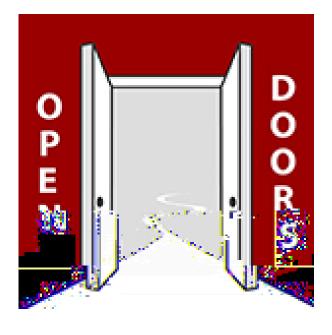


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Digital Preservation Challenges

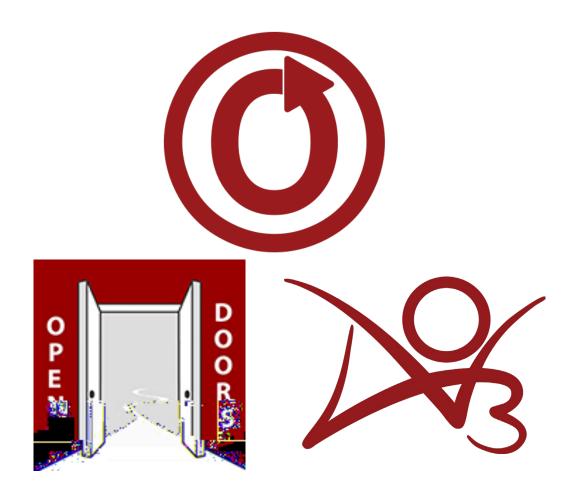
- Managing transitions.
- Mismatch between budget and scale.
- Preserving content vs preserving structure.
- Respecting creator agency.





Resources

- Organization for Transformative Works https://www.transformativeworks.org/
- OTW Open Doors <u>https://opendoors.transformativeworks.org/en/</u>
- An Archive of Our Own https://archiveofourown.org/





Thank you!

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