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Quick Transmedia History of Sabrina









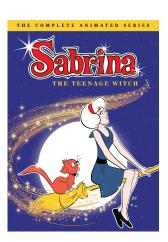
Archie Comics

Sabrina appears in Archie Comics off and on from 1962-2009.



Animated Series

Sabrina the Teenage Witch.



Sabrina the Teenage Witch Live-Action Television

Staring Melissa Joan Hart as Sabrina.



The Chilling Adventures of Sabrina Comics

Written by Roberto Aguirre-Sacasa – darker world with Archie #6



The Chilling Adventures of Sabrina (Netflix) (2018-2020)

- Simultaneously adapting comics and television shows
- To update the character of Sabrina as a transgenerational feminist
- Capitalizes on nostalgia and a sense of being out of time



Original Archie Comics

Focus on heterosexuality and getting boyfriend or dates

From Archie's Mad House #45,
February 1966



Sabrina

Witchcraft often goes wrong for humorous effect

Tertiary character in most of Archie comics

Archie's Mad House #49, September 1966



Affective Temporality

"In rejecting waves as generational difference, or the new replacing the old, affect allows for a narrative in which each new incarnation contributes to an energized period of action to an ongoing feminist ocean." – Prudence Chamberlain



Transgenerational Feminist

- My term
- Feminist radical notion that women are people
 - Equality
- Crosses the waves of feminism in narrative structure
 - Somehow calls upon Affective Temporality in the narrative for the character
- Intersectionality
- Works to advance not just self, but others as well
- Growing feminist standpoint
 - Outsider within

Standpoint Theory & Narrative

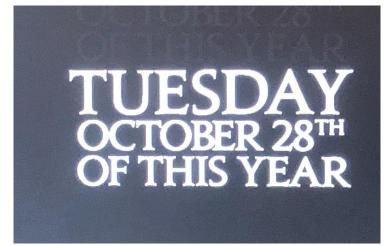
Sandra Harding: "Standpoints are critically and theoretically constructed discursive positions, not merely perspectives or views that flow from their authors unwittingly because of their biology or location in geographical or other such social relations."

Brooke Lenz argues, standpoint theory can be particularly useful in literary criticism, "particularly as the field is already structured to consider the experiences and perspectives of literary characters as both specific to those individuals and indicative of larger social realities."

Nostalgia & Outside the Bounds of Time (But Also Right Now)

- "Of this year" (Part 1, episode 1)
- Clothes could be from 60s or 70s or present
- Old rotary phones

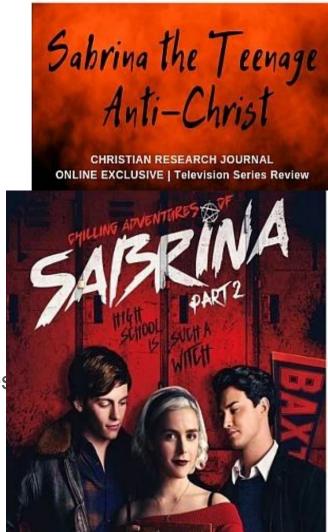
- Transgender and gender issues
- Fight the patriarchy
 - Religious institutions
 - Educational institutions



Transgenerational Feminist

The New Sabrina

- Devil Worship
- "These Chilling Adventures are a macabre satanic horror story subjecting audiences to a glut of most everything occultism has to offer." (Ferrer)
- "This show centers around the lives of literal, explicitly Satan-worshipping witches and warlocks gathering as the Church of Night, learning satanic law, casting spells, performing unholy rituals, offering animal sacrifices, and chanting blasphemies such as "Hail Satan" in hopes of summoning Satan himself." (Ferrer)



Horror & Protest – why witches?

- Witches often rebels in folklore and fiction
- Symbol witch everything gender expectations says women should not be "ugly, aggressive, independent, malicious" (Cynthia Eller)
- Echoes witch hunts, witch trials, anti-communist hunts
- Challenges patriarchy & normativity
 - Fear of female power initially & difference (not "normal")
- Devilish, bad, evil

According to Marxist feminist Silvia Federici's *Caliban and the Witch*, witches were "the heretic, the healer, the disobedient wife, the woman who dared to live alone, the obeah woman who poisoned the master's food and inspired the slaves to revolt."

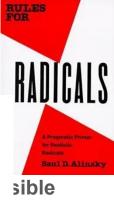


WITCH

- Women Infuriated at Taking Care of Hoodlums
- Women Indentured to Traveler's Corporate Hell
- Women Incensed by Telephone Company Harassment
- Women's Independent Taxpayers, Consumers, and Homemakers
- Women Interested in Toppling Consumption Holidays
- Women Inspired to Commit Herstory

Saul Alinsky's Rules for Radicals (1971)

"Power is not only what you have but what the enemy thinks you have " **"Ridicule is man's most potent** weapon. There is no defense. It is almost impossible to counterattack fridicule. Also it infuriates the opposition, who then react to your 12 advantage."



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WICCA

Rosalind: "like a club to topple the white patriarchy"

WITCH manifesto "Witches have always been women who dared to be: groovy, courageous, aggressive, intelligent, nonconformist, explorative, curious, independent, sexually liberated, revolutionary. You are a witch by being female, untamed, angry, joyous and immortal"



Salem

- Familiar
- Partner, not servant

"...come forth and seek me and equal we will be. Not master and servant, but familiar to familiar to share our knowledge, our spirit, and our traits."





Theo



Challenges Role of Women in Church of Night

- Sabrina challenges Father Blackwood's views of women
 - Challenges for Top Boy
 - Challenges being subservient to men
 - Challenges female sacrifice



Lilith v Satan

- The coven, under the leadership of Aunt Zelda, renounces
 Satan
- For a short time, they worship Lilith instead



Hecate v Satan

- In Part 3, move toward worship of Hecate
- Three-faced Goddess
 - Maiden
 - Mother
 - Crone
- "We call on ourselves, the powers that cannot be denied us."

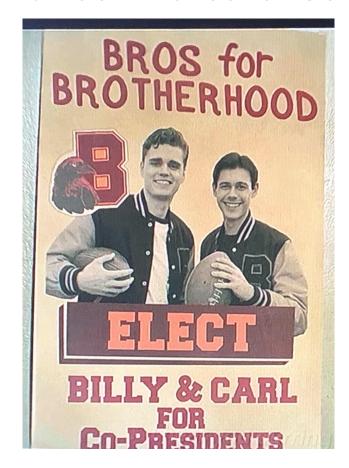


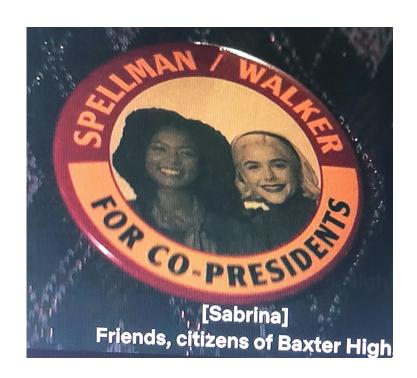
Seeing and Being Blind

- Rosalind, Sabrina's best friend
- Going blind diagnosed with myopia
 - Hereditary
 - Nana Ruth is blind
 - Claims it was a curse from witches at first
- Has a second site "cunning women"
- Narrow view of disability
 - Seeks a cure, but thinks about the cost both monetarily and socially
 - Cured through Sabrina's magic



Run as Witches for Co-President





Part 4 Episode 4



- Powerful, disruptive women
- Champions of the oppressed
- Supporters of the othered
- Unapologetic feminists
- Allies to all those who live in the shadow of the patriarchy
- Reminders that the shadow has its own power
- We will speak the truth and we will fight injustice



