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So, Why Furry?

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So, Why
Furry?



Whats a Furry?

There is no set definition for being a furry, but we will say they are fans of anthropomorphic animals!



You have likely seen an anthro animal already in popular media, such as Robin Hood!

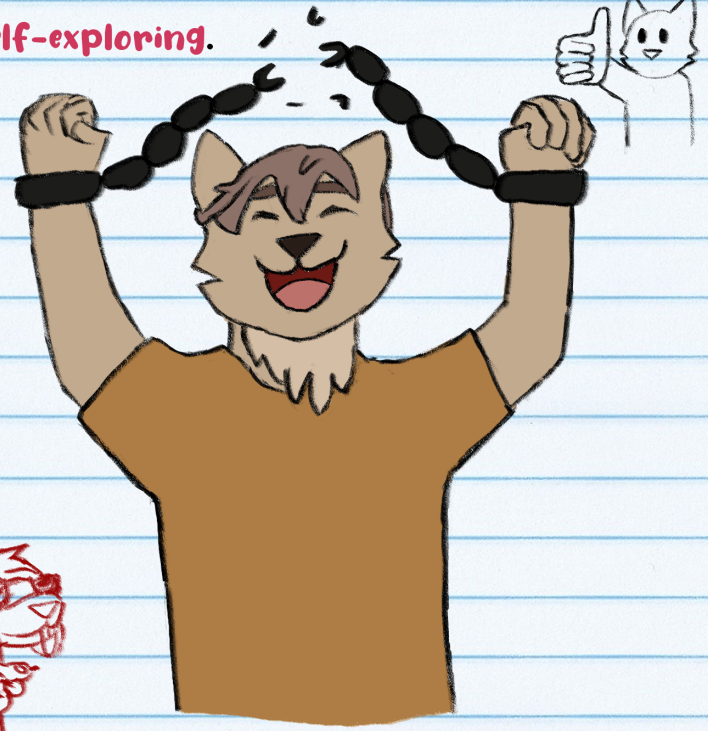


Furry culture is predominantly an online based culture, though furry conventions and meetups in real life do occur!

All furries have a furry character, with most being a furry persona, known as a fursona

Some go as far as creating fursuits!

Both are used as a means of self-expressing, and self-exploring.



Being a furry, as a whole, is like having a second life; to be whoever you want to be rather than what society expects of you.

Okay, so why?

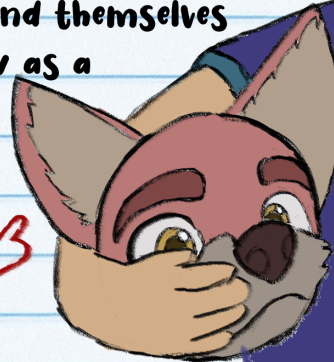
For many people in this fandom, they are unable to truly **express** who they feel they are. Society has its ideas of what one should become or have others force their ideals onto them. This is why the fandom feels so **appealing** and relieving as it is a great place to be able to **express** their **true selves** and find a place to belong.



Thusly, many who are part of this subculture are **LGBT+**. This is due to this community already being considered non-normative by society and due to various reasons mentioned previously.

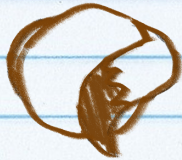
Furry Identity

This is also where **fursonas** and **fursuits** come into the mix. Many furrries tend to use fursonas to project their **ideal selves**, their irl selves, or just aspects of themselves; an extension of "**This is who I am**". Overtime, they could develop their own personalities, flaws, and perhaps be more than their initial intention. Yet, they are still vehicles to express something **personal** to their creator through art and other mediums in the fandom, while also helping them understand themselves and grow as a person.



Interviews

What brought you into wanting to be a furry?



I do not think I ever wanted to be a furry. I just have a liking and affinity for small fuzzy animals, particularly foxes, and chose to identify with some of their perceived traits (cunning, playful, intelligent)

What was the idea behind creating your fursona?



I always thought of a fursona as one's 'true self,' so rather than something idealized or gimmicky I went for something that best represented me as a whole.

How do you feel about yourself now since being a furry?



On one side it is nice to have a feeling of 'who I am,' but on the other hand it is tough knowing that most people would misunderstand what it means.

Interviews

Why did you choose your main sona's species?



It's a mix of "what animal species I find cute/is my fav" and "what feels fitting". One of my main sonas is an opossum, so there is a sense of belonging with how they're cute, clumsy and silly. Plus it's an animal species in my country of origin (Mexico)

Do you only have one fursona? Why/Why Not?



I have way too many! They're an extension of my mood and aspects of myself, so I find myself switching around a lot. It is also the artistic desire to design more characters or try out new things. Feels easier to do so when it's a character who represents you. Some sonas stick around for longer, but some are one-offs!

Do you feel you understand yourself more since having a fursona?



Definitely, it has given me an way to interact with others and explore certain aspects of myself that are harder to do so in real life. There's a certain level of security and distancing when you are using a character as a proxy for your interactions.

Interviews

How connected do you
feel to your sona?



I would say I feel quite connected to him.



My sona in a way has been a reflection of myself, so his design has changed a lot over the years like how I have changed.

Is the fandom as sexual as
people stereotype it to be?



I don't think it is as sexual as many people think. It is a very vocal side of the community, so it only seems bigger. I've seen so many others do non-sexual things within the community.



Is there a limit of what you can
make with your fursona?
(I.E. species)



Not at all! That's the fun in since there's no restrictions. You can do whatever you want and make them however you want.



Thank you to everyone
who was open to
being interviewed!
Everyone will be kept
anonymous for
their sake.

Works Cited

Strike, Joe.

Furry Nation: The True Story of America's
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"'There's A Little Bit of That Magic Where I'm
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Although it is unlikely it will ever become mainstream, furies are all over the internet. Many already have their stereotypical ideas of them, but do people actively ask:

"Why Furry?"

As someone who considers himself furry, it felt like I should try to explain and share with non-furies about why most furies choose this.

Even with doing some research, it felt important to conduct interviews with those who consider themselves furry. Since its a personal experience, what better way to look better otherstand than through others!



YourLocalOtto