

# As I Say and As I Do: Negotiating Transformational Impulses in Tolkien-Based Fanfiction

Dawn M. Walls-Thumma  
Popular Culture Association Conference  
Roundtable on Tolkien Reception Studies  
2 June 2021

Although fan studies scholarship often depicts fanfiction as predominantly **transformational**, Tolkien fanfiction writers and readers constantly **negotiate** (and experience **tension** between) **affirmational and transformational** values and practices.



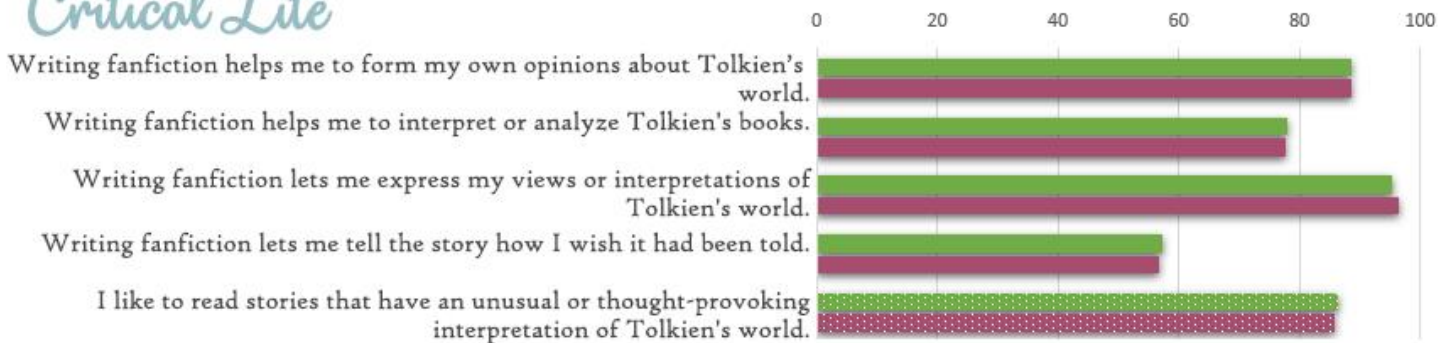
## Tolkien fanfiction Survey

**The Basics:** run in 2015 and 2020 with 1,052 and 746 participants, respectively.

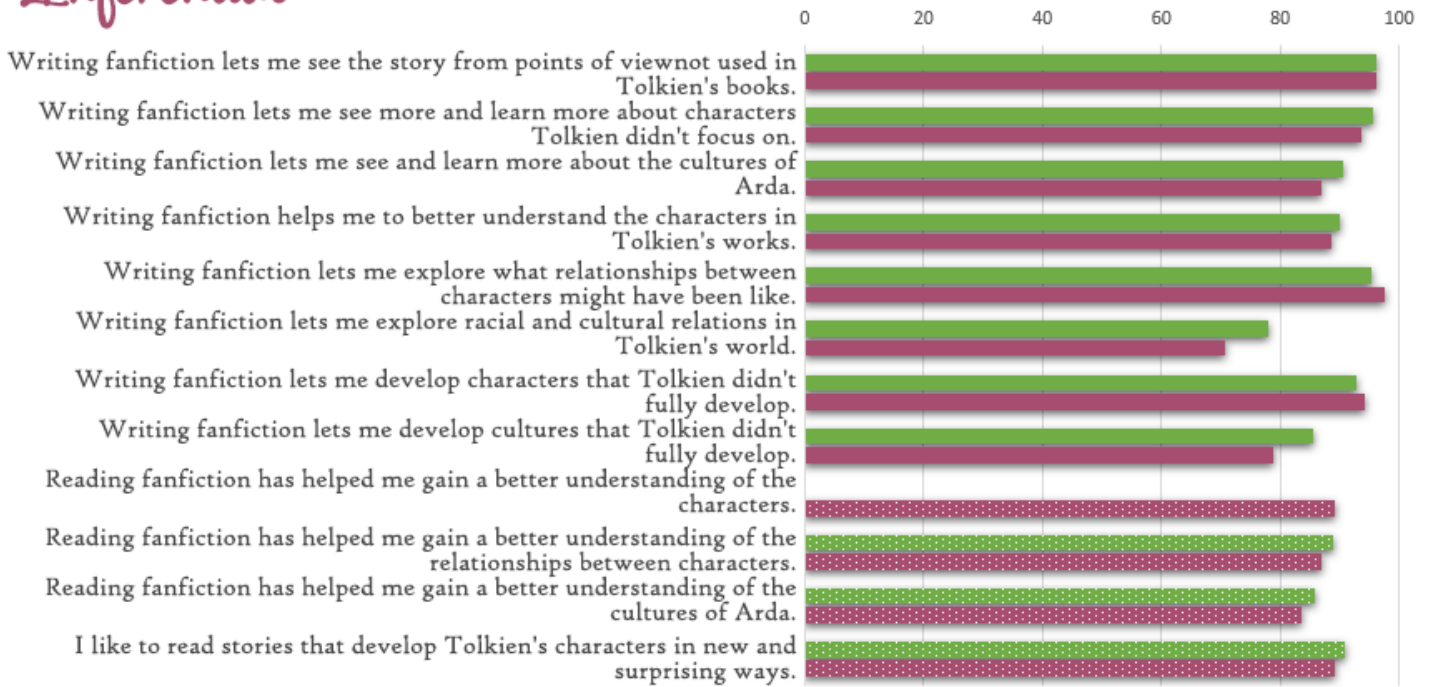
Key: ■ 2015 data ■ 2020 data  
(reader data is speckled)

Percentage of participants who chose **Agree** or **Strongly Agree** for each item, by survey year.

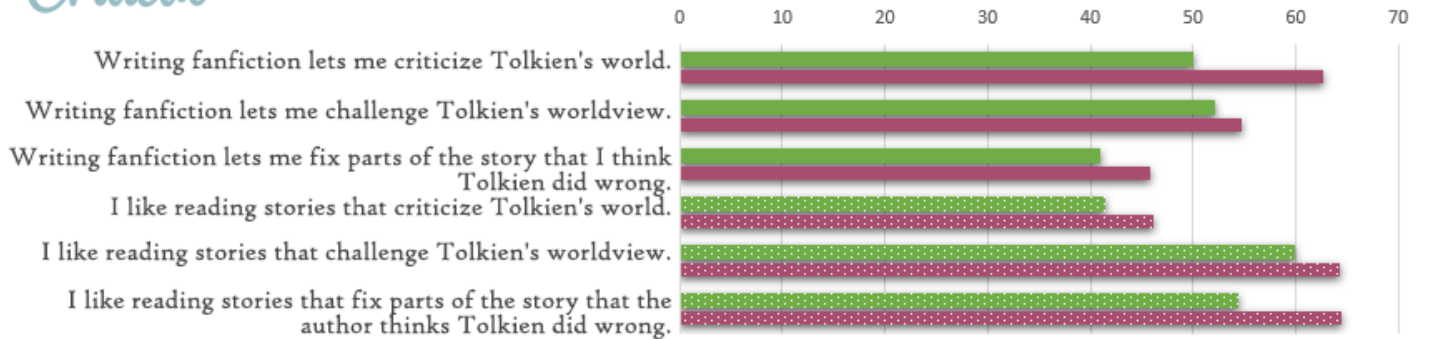
### Critical Lite



# Inferential



# Critical



# Authority

