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Interview with a Furry

A lesson in tolerance



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DISCLAIMER: This article is not intended as the final word on Furies, nor does it imply that the views of the Furies interviewed within match the views of all Furies. Furthermore, it must be noted that I wrote the latter portion of this article while listening to [Semi Automatic Turban](#), which seems to have warped my mind and made me a little loopy. So if I stop making sense at any point, that's the reason.

Furry Terminology

What follows is a short list of commonly heard or used Furry slang and lingo. Keep in mind that not all of this is used by everyone within a Fandom, but rather is being presented here as a sort of primer to anyone not acquainted with Furies and their way of life.

Anthropomorphic: A human/animal hybrid.

Burned Fur: A group of Furies who are strictly against any form of erotica or adult material.

Fandom: A specific term used to denote a group of people with one or more shared interests. A Furry Fandom, for example, is a group of people who share any number of online and offline meeting places, such as chat rooms, message boards, art archives, and any number of national and international conferences (often called Conferences) held throughout the world. Doesn't necessarily refer to Furies, although it is a commonly used term among them.

Furry: A catchall term describing anyone who enjoys animals with human-like characteristics, particularly animal/human hybrids. Some good examples of Furry characters in contemporary media include Bugs Bunny, Jessica Rabbit, Tiny Toons, etc. While not all Furies enjoy the sexual aspect of this, a large number do, and for the most part, Furies are people who enjoy the idea of being an animal/human hybrid, and/or having sex with the same. This is not to be confused with the idea of having sex with animals, although there are a very slight few who do enjoy the idea of this; however, this is known as Bestiality, and is definitely not the standard of Furies, and most do not like to associate themselves with people like this. Additionally, all Furies do not necessarily enjoy sex with stuffed animals - also known as Plushophilia - although for obvious reasons, many Plushophiles are also Furies.

Mundane: Generally speaking, a non-Furry. Usually used in a derogatory sense.

Spooge/Spooge Art: Not specifically a Furry word, by often used by Furies. Descriptive of any cartoon pornography which is exceedingly graphic and sexual. Highly detailed genitals, vaginal fluid, cum shots, and similar art all fall into this category.

Yiff: The sound made by a fox in heat, and a general term used to

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denote anything from excitement, "Wow, that's really yiff!" to having sex, "Hey, wanna yiff?"

Yiffy: Horny.

Types of Furies

Again, not all Furies are in it for sexual reasons... for some, the interest is social. For others, it is spiritual or idealist. Others still hold a deep fascination with the artwork, and although some would have you believe otherwise, a great deal of the artwork is not pornographic, and quite tame.

While it would be utterly impossible for me to list every different type and subculture there is, there are some basic groups or cliques that do stand out amongst the mob. Fursuiters are those who collect and wear (in public and at conventions, and in some instances, during intimacy) costumes or suits of an animal nature. Most are highly detailed and well-made, specifically for Furies, and can be quite expensive, especially for custom work. Alternatively, some prefer to make their own, which, while less costly over-all, requires a great deal of work and skill. Not everyone dresses in suits, however: some prefer makeup and prosthetics, for a more "natural" appearance, or simply tails and ears. It all comes down to personal preference. Don't be too quick to judge these people! Most are doing it for fun, and to add a dash of fantasy to their lives, or just to "freak people out".



Fursuiters

Others are not as outwardly obvious. Rather than suits and costumes, they prefer to live their lives under a code of ethics and values similar to that of a token animal or animals. For example, if someone finds themselves closely identifying with a lion, they would strive to be strong and brave, to defend their family and territory ferociously, and to be completely independent and somewhat aloof. For others, it's more spiritual in nature, they see a certain animal or pathenon of animals as their spirit guides or totem animals. Actually, many Pagans also do this.

And for some, it's simply a deep love of human/animal hybrids, be it either a sexual or power interest, or a more artistic appreciation.

Certainly there are more types of Furies than I could possibly list in this article, and I hope I haven't misrepresented the ones I've already listed in any way. After all, I am an outsider to this sort of thing, and all of it is still a bit of mystery to me. Fuck that... I'll come right out and say it, I have no fucking clue if what I just wrote is even close to being accurate. But I'm trying, damn it.

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