

BL Fandom Survey

Page 1: Welcome: BL Fandom Survey

Hello! My name is Anna. I am a fan of Boys' Love (BL) and an academic at the University of Leeds in the UK. This survey is for English-speaking BL fans. BL (also known as yaoi and including shonen-ai) originated in Japan and consists of female-oriented products such as manga, anime, and novels that focus on homoerotic relationships. By completing this survey you will be helping promote understanding of the BL fandom. The survey does not ask your name and I will not know who has completed it. I have ethical approval to conduct this research from my University: Ethics approval number 14-0210, 30th October 2014.

This survey will take about 10 minutes to complete. Most questions just ask you to select an answer from a few options. However, there is sometimes space for you to explain your answer in your own words - but you can choose to complete as many or as few as these as you want. The survey has five sections: (A) demographics, (B) BL materials, (C) feelings about BL, (D) social relationships, and (E) other erotic materials. You can skip any question in section E you don't want to answer and can skip the whole of section E if you want. I will just be very grateful for any information you are willing to share with me about your interest in BL. There is space at the end for you to describe anything important to you about BL/yaoi/shonen-ai that has been missed from the survey, if you like.

Thank you for your help with this research. Anna

If you might be interested to take part in an interview (e.g., via e-mail or telephone) to explore your opinions about BL please contact me. You can find an information sheet at <https://leeds.academia.edu/AnnaMadill/Boys'-Love-Fandom-Research>. When this research is completed, you will find summary results at this link too.

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Page 2: Section A Demographics

1. Is English your first language? If not, what is your first language please?

- Yes English is my first language
- Other

a. If you selected Other, please specify:

2. In what country are you living at the moment?

3. What is your nationality?

4. What is your age in years?

5. What is your gender?

- Male
- Female
- Other

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a. If you selected Other, please specify:

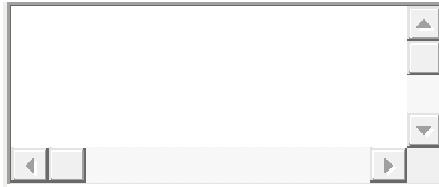
6. What is your highest educational level (including any educational programme you are currently undertaking)?

- Middle school
- High school
- Bachelor
- Master
- Doctorate

7. What is your main occupation?

- Student
- White collar (typically work in an office environment and paid a monthly salary)
- Pink collar (typically services work involving customer interaction)
- Blue collar (typically manual work building or maintaining something and paid a wage)
- Other

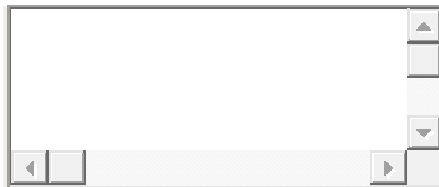
a. If you selected Other, please specify:



8. What is your sexual orientation?

- Heterosexual
- Homosexual/lesbian/gay
- Bisexual
- Polysexual/Pansexual
- Not sure
- Other

a. If you selected Other, please specify:



9. At what age did you start to engage with BL?

[More info](#)



10. How did you first discover BL?

- Introduced to BL by others
- Found BL by myself
- Other

a. If you selected Other, please specify:

11. How intensely are you a BL fan?

- Not at all
- A bit
- Quite
- A lot
- Extremely

12. Do you create any BL works yourself?

- No
- Yes

a. If yes, which types of BL work have you created?

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- Original BL manga
- Original BL drawings
- Original BL novel(s)
- BL fan art (one-off drawings)
- Dojinshi (fan-created) BL manga
- Dojinshi BL novel(s) / Fan Fiction
- Other

i. If you selected Other, please specify:

13. Do you BL cosplay?

- No
- Yes

a. If yes, which BL role do you cosplay?

- Seme ('top')
- Uke ('bottom')
- Both seme and uke
- Other

i. If you selected Other, please specify:

b. And please identify which BL character(s) you have cosplayed.

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14. How acceptable are male-male sexual relationships to you in real life?

- Never
- Sometimes
- Often
- Very often
- Always

15. How acceptable are female-female sexual relationships to you in real life?

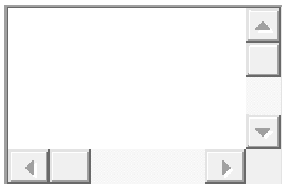
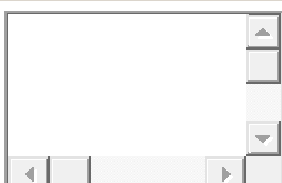
- Never
- Sometimes
- Often
- Very Often
- Always

Page 3: Section B BL Materials

16. What percentage of your spare time do you spend on BL?

- 1-20%
- 21-40%
- 41-60%
- 61-80%
- 81-100%

17. Please select all formats of BL with which you engage.

	Formats of BL										If you selected Other, please specify:	
	BL manga	BL novels	BL anime	BL audio-drama	BL games	BL fan art (one-off drawings)	BL dojinshi manga	BL dojinshi novels	None	Other		
Online materials	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Real materials (such as books, CDs, DVDs)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

18. From the formats in question 17, please list the three with which you engage with BL the most (starting with the one you engage with most frequently).

[More info](#)



Page 5: Section C Feelings About BL

19. I like BL stories that are mostly romance and no sex.

- Never
- Sometimes
- Often
- Very Often
- Extensively

20. I like BL stories with 'implicit relationships' (i.e., not clear if the seme and uke are lovers or just friends).

- Never
- Sometimes
- Often
- Very Often
- Extensively

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21. I like BL stories with explicit sex.

- Never
- Sometimes
- Often
- Very Often
- Extensively

22. Which 'incestual' sexual relationships do you **particularly** enjoy in BL? (Select all that apply or **leave blank** if you don't particularly enjoy incestual sexual relationships in BL):

	Type of incestual sexual relationship			
	Blood	Adoptive	Step	In-law
Father/son (seme/uke)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Son/father (seme/uke)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Brothers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Uncle/nephew (seme/uke)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Nephew/uncle (seme/uke)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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23. Which 'risque' sexual content do you **particularly** enjoy in BL?

- Animal-animal sex (including humanoid beings with animal features)
- BDSM
- Binding
- Group sex
- Human-animal sex (including humanoid beings with animal features)
- Human-mechanoid sex (e.g., robot and android)
- Mechanoid-mechanoid sex
- Rape
- Role play sex
- Sex toys
- Tentacle sex
- Underage sex (both partners underage)
- Underage sex (one underage and one older partner)
- None of the above
- Other

a. If you selected Other, please specify:

24. Which specific elements do you **particularly** enjoy in BL?

- Androgyny
- Animal ears
- Animal tails
- Animal-human transformation
- Cross-dressing
- Gender change
- Male pregnancy
- Male-male marriage
- Personification of non-animate object (e.g., uke or seme explicitly created to represent in human form a 'thing' such as a snack bar - please see 'More Info')
- None of the above
- Other

a. If you selected Other, please specify:

25. I engage with BL as an outsider 'looking in' on the characters.

- Never
- Sometimes
- Often
- Very Often
- Always

a. I'd be grateful if you'd explain your answer to me:

26. When I engage with BL, I put myself in the place of the characters.

- Never
- Sometimes
- Often
- Very Often
- Always

a. I'd be grateful if you'd explain your answer to me:

b. Who do you identify with most?

- Seme ('top')

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Uke ('bottom')

Other

i. If you selected Other, please specify:

27. Please select the types of seme you **particularly** like.

Haraguroi (Black Heart) [Calculating, sophisticated, intelligent but might be a double-dealer]

Hetare (Cowardice) [Wimpy, meek, undemanding. He may not have the nerve to make the first move and once things get going he is probably under the uke's control]

Mujaki (Natural) [Innocent, usually inexperienced, may be shy. Often looks like he ought to be the uke]

Teiou / Kichiku (King) [Generally from a good family and with high social status, he achieves success, wins recognition, and sticks to principles]

Tsendere (Standoffish) [Initially cold and even hostile before gradually showing his warm side]

Wanko (Loyal Dog) [Devoted and determined, he will fawn over his uke like a puppy and doggedly pursue the uke until he gets him despite constant rejection]

None of the above

Other

a. If you selected Other, please specify:

28. Please select the types of uke you **particularly** like.

- Hime (Princess) [Beautiful, elegant, and strong-willed. May be arrogant, demanding, or expect to be treated like royalty. Often from a wealthy family]
- Hitozuma (Wife) [Focuses on family, good at housework, relatively mature, and could be either aggressive or submissive]
- Izanai/Sasoi (Tempter) [Puts the moves on his seme. Might be an aggressive submissive]
- Jyoou (Queen) [Supercilious, dominant, and takes charge of the relationship and of daily life]
- Tennen (Natural) [Naïve, innocent, cheerful, kind-hearted]
- Tsundere (Standoffish) [Initially cold and even hostile before showing his warm side]
- None of the above
- Other

a. If you selected Other, please specify:

29. I use BL terminology (e.g., 'moe', 'seme', 'uke') in general conversation.

- Never
- Sometimes
- Often

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Very Often

Extensively

a. I'd be grateful if you'd explain your answer to me:



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30. I like to classify people and things as different types of seme and uke.

- Never
- Sometimes
- Often
- Very Often
- Extensively

a. I'd be grateful if you'd explain your answer to me:

31. To what extent does it worry you that BL scanlations (fan translations) and fan-subbed BL anime are breaches of copyright?

- Never
- Sometimes
- Often
- Very Often
- Extensively

a. I'd be grateful if you'd explain your answer to me:

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32. To what extent do you worry about legal issues in relation to the sexual content of BL?

- Never
- Sometimes
- Often
- Very Often
- Extensively

a. I'd be grateful if you'd explain your answer to me:

Page 6: I really appreciate that you are completing this. Only three questions in the next section!

Page 7: Section D Social Relationships

33. I discuss my interest in BL with people online.

- Never
- Sometimes
- Often
- Very Often
- Extensively

34. I discuss my interest in BL with friends I know in person.

- Never
- Sometimes
- Often
- Very Often
- Extensively

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35. I discuss my interest in BL with members of my family.

- Never
- Sometimes
- Often
- Very Often
- Extensively

Page 8: I'm really grateful to you. Only eight more questions to go - all of which are optional!

Page 9: Section E Other Erotic Materials

All the questions in this section are optional.

36. How frequently do you engage with male-male slash fiction?

- Never
- Sometimes
- Often
- Very Often
- Extensively

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37. How frequently do you engage with female-female slash fiction?

- Never
- Sometimes
- Often
- Very Often
- Extensively

38. How frequently do you engage with heterosexual erotic materials (e.g., slash fiction, other fictions, videos, photographs, manga, anime)?

- Never
- Sometimes
- Often
- Very Often
- Extensively

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39. How frequently do you engage with **non-slash** female-female erotic materials (e.g., fictions, videos, photographs, manga, anime)?

- Never
- Sometimes
- Often
- Very Often
- Extensively

40. How frequently do you engage with **non-BL/non-slash** male-male erotic materials probably designed for gay men (e.g., fictions, videos, photographs, manga, anime)?

- Never
- Sometimes
- Often
- Very Often
- Extensively

41. How frequently do you engage with **non-BL/non-slash** BDSM materials (e.g., fictions, videos, photographs, manga, anime)?

- Never
- Sometimes
- Often
- Very Often
- Extensively

42. What other types of erotic material do you engage with, please specify.

Page 10: In Addition

43. Is there anything about your engagement with BL/yaoi/shonen-ai that has not been covered in this survey?

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Page 11: Final Page

Thank you for sharing your interest in BL with me. I am very grateful to you.

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Thank you again for your help with this research. Anna

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