

## **Fast-Books: An Academy for the Writer and a Dose for the Fast-Reader**

Aurora Gomez-Rovira

Universitat Abat Oliba CEU - CEU Universities

ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0009-0002-4077-5073>

e-mail: mgomezr@uao.es

**Topics:** F2. Free Individual Proposals

12. Digital Comparative Literature – The transformation of the book reading in the post-digital age and born-digital literature

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With the arrival of internet forums, fan groups of different literary and narrative universes reimagined their favorite characters in various situations without breaking them out of the world they were built in and originating what is now known as fanfiction. Soon, these plots became not only variations of the main story, but also re-tellings of classic literature, like *Pride and Prejudice* or *The Beauty and the Beast*. This allowed readers to expand the fantasy world of their choice and enabled an informal writing academy that offered already well-built fantasy worlds and well-known and loved characters to play with as well as immediate feedback from their readers.

These platforms soon evolved into offering both fanfictions and original works and now, twenty years later, they have become the editorial world and the reading habit fosterers' savior. Still a writing academy, the audiences find books that meet their tastes through topic tags like "romance", "agegap", and "family". Writers can know how many people read their chapters and how high their works are in the ranking of each category within the community. As happened with social media, if said works are popular enough, the writers might even be rewarded monetarily through the platform.

The success of this formula resides in how fast writers can write and adapt to the readers' demands and trends and, while linguistic and literary skill is appreciated, an addictive plot with the right ingredients are the only requirements. This contribution will explore these requirements and if a human hand is even needed to produce what these platform readers look for with the aid of an AI content generator.

Just like we once swapped homecooked meals for fast-food chains, are our young readers imposing a taste for fast-books?