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Inklings of the 21st Century: #writingcommunity

Arielle VanderSchans

Western University, avand4@uwo.ca

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Inklings of the 21st Century: #writingcommunity

Arielle VanderSchans

Kafka said, "Writing is utter solitude, the descent into the cold abyss of oneself", and we often imagine writers as secluded eccentrics. Yet writers are anything but solitary. History shows us many famous writing groups, like Tolkien and Lewis' Inklings. Frankenstein only exists because of a challenge issued by Byron one wintry night to a group a of writers. Today's writers are no exception; writing groups still exist in local and digital communities. As a fiction writer myself, I understand the need for a community. I wanted to explore the ways these communities support writers. Looking at Twitter's #writingcommunity, I am researching the ways in which writers interact in a digital community and what they get out of it. As a scholar of librarianship, I see the trend for libraries to focus on readers and I hope to find ways that the library can better serve writers.