AIFreeForever

The Fanfiction Writing Guide for 2026

Fanfiction is a new story told with characters and worlds you already love. This guide covers the main kinds of fanfic, how to pick a genre and a tone, how to keep characters in character, how to write a good scene, a checklist before you post, and a page to plan your own story.

The five kinds of fanfic

1. **Romance.** Two characters grow closer. Slow burn, enemies to lovers, or a pair the original never explored.
2. **Action and adventure.** A new quest, battle or mystery for the cast you know.
3. **Alternate universe (AU).** The same characters in a new setting: a coffee shop, a school, a different century.
4. **Crossover.** Two fandoms meet, and the fun is in how their rules clash.
5. **Angst and drama.** Loss, conflict and hard choices, often without a happy ending.

Genre and tone are two choices

The genre is what happens. The tone is how it feels. A romance can be **lighthearted** (banter and near misses), **wholesome** (kind and warm), **emotional** (longing and big feelings) or **dramatic** (high stakes). Pick both before you write and keep them the same from start to end.

Keep characters in character

Readers know these characters well. Keep the way each one talks, their habits and what they care about. A new setting can change what they do, but not who they are. If a character acts differently, show the reason in the story.

How to write one scene

Part	What it does	Example
Opening	Says where we are and what is wrong	The library lamps go out and the doors lock.
Dialogue	Shows the characters through their own words	Ron makes a joke. Hermione makes a plan.
Turn	Something changes the plan	They find a book that should not be there.
Ending	Closes the scene or leaves a hook	At dawn they share a secret they will keep.

Before you post it

Tag it: the fandom, the characters, the genre and any warnings. **Read it out loud**: clumsy lines are easy to hear. **Credit the original**: the world belongs to its creator, and a short note says so. **Keep it kind**: no real living people, and characters under 18 are never in romantic or adult scenes.

Plan your fanfic

Fill this in, then write your story on the AI Fanfic Generator.

The fandom, the main characters, the genre and the tone

The scenario, and the words the story must include

© 2026 AIFreeForever