# Contents

## Introduction / 1

1 The Return of the Author: Ethos and Identity Politics / 19

### PART I. SLASH AS IDENTIFICATORY PRACTICES

- 2 "I'm jealous of the fake me": Postmodern Subjectivity and Identity Construction in Boy Band Fan Fiction / 41
- 3 Bending Gender: Feminist and (Trans)Gender Discourses in the Changing Bodies of Slash Fan Fiction, with Alexis Lothian / 57
- 4 Affective Imagination: Fan Representation in Media Fan Fiction / 78

## PART II. CANON, CONTEXT, AND CONSENSUS

- 5 May the Force Be With You: Fan Negotiations of Authority / 99
- 6 Limit Play: Fan Authorship between Source Text, Intertext, and Context, with Louisa Ellen Stein / 121
- 7 Fandom's Ephemeral Traces: Intertextuality, Performativity, and Intimacy in Fan Fiction Communities / 140

#### PART III. COMMUNITY AND ITS DISCONTENTS

- 8 "My life is a WIP on my LJ": Slashing the Slasher and the Reality of Celebrity and Internet Performances / 159
- 9 Geek Hierarchies, Boundary Policing, and the Gendering of the Good Fan / 177
- 10 Fictional Consents and the Ethical Enjoyment of Dark Desires / 197

Afterword / 218
Acknowledgments / 221
Works Cited / 223
Index / 243