



The Centre for Research on Children's and Young Adult Literature at the Faculty of Letters of the University of Wrocław has the honor to invite you to the third lecture in the series "International Voices in Children's Literature Studies"

**Prof. Monika Woźniak**

***Fanfiction and YA Literature in Poland: A Foray into (Mostly) Uncharted Territory***



**DATE:** 26 May 2021

**TIME:** 18.00 (CET)

**VENUE:** MS Teams

If you are interested in taking part in the lecture, please contact us by email by 24 May at the following address:  
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Over the last two decades, new tools of Web 2.0 transformed the practice of fanfiction from a niche activity into a global phenomenon of participatory culture. It has been estimated that fan fiction comprises one-third of all online content related to books. While fanfiction is part of both popular culture and fandom activities, often being stigmatised for its derivative character, it has been regarded as a social rather than a literary phenomenon. And yet, the rise of fanfics has changed the dynamics of readership, providing young readers with the possibility to correct, subvert or develop narratives offered by the mainstream literary or audiovisual discourse. Consequently, it has also eroded the previous balance of power within the production and reception of children's and YA literature. The merging process between fan writing and mainstream literature is not limited to successful fanfics that became published bestsellers, such as E.L. James' *50 Shades of Grey* or Anne Todd's *After*. Even more important is its growing direct impact on YA literature, always more likely to draw on themes and devices developed in the fanfiction universe. Such is the case of some recent Polish LGBTQ+ novels for teenagers I discuss in the final part of my presentation. Natalia Osińska's *Fanfic* (2016), *Slash* (2017) and *Fluff* (2019), and Weronika Łodyga's *Hurt/Comfort* (2020), which manage to combine the use of fanfiction-inspired narratives with a good literary quality and which could be considered a promising start for a new trend in Polish YA fiction.

**Monika Woźniak** is Associate Professor of Polish Language and Literature at the University of Rome "La Sapienza". Her research has focused on literary translation, children's literature and translation, as well as audiovisual translation. She has authored over one hundred publications on these topics. Recently, she has also co-authored a monograph on Italian reception of Henryk Sienkiewicz's *Quo vadis* (120 lat recepcji "Quo vadis" Henryka Sienkiewicza we Włoszech, 2020) and co-edited (with Maria Wyke) *The Novel of Neronian Rome and its Multimedial Transformations* (2020), a collected volume on *Quo vadis* published by Oxford University Press.