

题目：For the love of fangirls

作者：Yve Blake

Four years ago, a teenage girl changed my life in one conversation. She was 13 years old, she was a friend's little cousin and she casually told me that she had met the man she was going to marry. So I said, "OK, tell me about him." And she told me that his name was Harry Styles.

四年前，我与一名少女的对话改变了我的生活轨迹。她当时13岁，是我一个朋友的表亲，她不经意间告诉我她遇到了要与之结婚的人。我就说，“是嘛，和我说说他吧。”然后她告诉我他的名字是哈里·斯泰尔斯。

So I laughed a little, like you, and then she said, "I know you don't think I'm serious, but I'm actually going to be with him. Because I love him so much that I would slit someone's throat to be with him."

我当时也像你们一样笑了笑，她接着说，“我知道你认为我不是认真的，但是我真的会和他在一起的。因为我太爱他了，爱到可以为他去割别人的喉咙。”

And that was the moment that I became obsessed with fangirls. I didn't know it then, but that moment would transform the course of my life and go on to change everything that I thought I knew about being an adult, being a woman and being truly happy.

从那时起，我开始着迷于饭圈女孩这一群体。尽管当时我还没意识到，那一刻将会改变我的人生轨迹并改变我作为成年人，作为一名女性，一名快乐的人，我以为我理解的全部事物。

conversation

n.谈话

cousin

n.表兄弟姐

slit

v.划破

throat

n.喉咙

obsessed with

着迷于

fangirls

饭圈女孩

But before we get started, what is a fangirl, and what is a Harry Styles? Well, according to the dictionary, the Merriam-Webster dictionary, a fangirl is a "girl or woman who is an extremely or overly enthusiastic fan of someone or something." Technically, you can have fangirls of anything, but my specific interest was in fangirls of boy bands. Because of their somewhat lethal reputation.

在我们开始之前，什么是饭圈女孩，谁是哈里·斯泰尔斯？根据韦氏词典，饭圈女孩指的是“一个对于某人或某物过于痴迷的女性。”理论上来说，任何人，事物都可以有饭圈女孩，但我比较感兴趣的是男团的饭圈女孩。因为他们有着致命的名气。

I remember, my dad had told me this story of some Beatles fans in the '60s, who apparently had torn a parked BMW to literal pieces, because the band had supposedly just been sat in it. In the '60s, the Beatles were the biggest boy band on the planet, but when I met this girl in 2015, the biggest boy band on the planet was none other than One Direction. And Harry Styles was a member of One Direction. Harry Styles was reputed for his compassionate demeanor and perfect hair. I learn this when I read thousands of tweets about him. I learn that he is a sweet cupcake. I learn that he is a perfect angel. I learn that one time, he vomited on the side of a freeway in California and that within two hours, fans had turned the site of the vomit into a sacred shrine.

我还记得，我父亲曾和我讲过 60 年代披头士粉丝的一个故事，只因为乐队成员可能乘过那辆停着的宝马车，他们就把它拆成碎片了抢回家了。在 60 年代，披头士是当时地球上最出名的男子乐队，但我认识那位少女是在 2015 年，当时世界上最出名的男子团体是单向乐队。哈里·斯泰尔斯曾是单向乐队的一名成员。哈里·斯泰尔斯以平易近人和完美的头发而出名。我是阅读了几千条关于他的推文才了解到这些的。我知道他是“甜心小蛋糕”。“完美的小天使”。我还了解到有一次，他在加州的高速公路旁呕吐了，不到两小时，粉丝就把他呕吐的地点改造成了一个圣地。

Merriam-Webster  
dictionary  
韦氏词典

enthusiastic  
adj. 热情的

technically  
adv. 技术上，  
专门地

lethal  
adj. 致命的

supposedly  
adv. 据说

compassionate  
demeanor  
平易近人

sweet cupcake  
甜心蛋糕

vomit  
v. 呕吐

I scroll through --I scroll through fan-made paintings of Harry, baby photos of him, paintings of baby photos of him. I watch videos that show me how to make DIY love totems for Harry -- for example, a lampshade covered in photos of his face, or a key ring that states the exact time of his birth. I read hours of fan fiction, and I fall down this specific rabbit hole of stories that actually place me as a protagonist inside of various imagined romances with him. So in one, I tell him that I'm pregnant with his child. In another, we meet in hospital where we're both fighting cancer, and in another, we fall so deeply in love that we become fugitives who kill people.

scroll  
v.滚动

protagonist  
n.主角

fugitive  
n.逃亡者

我翻看了——我翻看了粉丝为哈里画的画，他孩童时期的照片，根据他孩童时期照片画的画，我看过教你如何制作哈里的爱的图腾的视频教程——例如，把他的照片贴在灯罩上，或者在钥匙圈上刻上他的出生时间。我读了好几个小时的同人小说，导致我后来进入了一个新世界，在这个世界里，我成为了和他各种浪漫故事中的主角。其中一个故事中，我告诉他我怀了他的孩子。另一个故事中，我和他因为同时在医院与癌症抗争而相识，还有一个故事里，我们由于太爱彼此了我们都成为了杀人的不法之徒。

But then ... something unthinkable happens. One Direction, the biggest boy band on the planet, loses a member. Zayn Malik quits the band, and the internet explodes with feels. I read tweets as these girls describe the physical pain of this loss, how they can't eat or sleep or walk. I read them describe how much Zayn had meant to them. And I watch videos of 10-year-old girls crying. But, like, really crying.

unthinkable  
adj.意想不到的

但之后……一件意想不到的事情发生了。单向乐队，这颗星球上最出名的男子乐队，失去了一名成员。扎因·马利克退出了乐队，网络随之爆炸了。我见过一些描述姑娘们因为这件事而感受到的生理疼痛的推特，她们吃不下，睡不着，有些甚至都不会走路了。我看到她们描述扎因对她们而言有多重要。我还看到了10岁小姑娘哭泣的视频。是真的在哭泣。

And then I watch as people repost these videos but with new titles that contain words like "crazy" and "creepy" and "insane." And suddenly, my YouTube sidebar contains "Compilation: Fans react to Zayn leaving. Psycho alert!" Then I watch as mainstream news outlets cover the story. I read them describe these "young banshees." I read one journalist say, "It's a commonly known fact since the age of the Beatles that there is nothing scarier in this world than a group of excited teenage girls."

再然后，我看到大家开始带上新标题重新推送这些视频 这些新标题包括了像“疯狂”，“诡异”，和“精神错乱”等词。突然间，我油管的侧栏就出现了这样的内容：“精选：粉丝对扎因退出的反应。精神病警告！”之后我看到了主流媒体是怎样报道这则新闻的。我看到了她们是怎样描述这些“年轻女妖”的。一名记者这样报道，“从披头士时期，有一个事实就广为人知了 那就是这个世界上没有比一群激动的小姑娘更可怕的事物了。”

And then I ask myself a question I've never considered in my life. Why is it that the image of young girls screaming their lungs out with excitement for a pop star is considered crazy, psycho, scary, a bit much? But the image of young boys screaming their lungs out for a footballer is perfectly normal? Boys crying at the footie, that's the love of the game. Girls crying at a Justin Bieber concert? That's pathetic.

然后我就问了自己一个之前从没想过的问题。为什么一群小姑娘激动地为某个明星嘶吼的画面被视为是疯狂的，精神错乱的，可怕的，太过了？但是小伙子们为了足球队员而嘶吼的场面却被视为再正常不过了？男孩们因为足球而落泪，那是他们对比赛爱的表现。女孩们在贾斯汀·比伯的演唱会上哭泣？多么的可悲。

And as soon as I realized this double standard, I realized that all of my curiosity about fangirls had been sparked by exactly the same judgments. I, too, had suspected that they were a bit crazy. 一旦我意识到了这种双重标准。我就意识到我所有对于饭圈女孩的好奇心都被这种判断而激起了。我之前也觉得她们过于疯狂了。

creepy  
adj. 怪异的

insane  
adj. 疯癫的

sidebar  
n. 补充报道

psycho alert  
精选

mainstream  
n. 主流

footballer  
n. 足球队员

double  
standard  
双重标准

I'd looked at images of girls screaming for the Beatles, the Backstreet Boys, One Direction, and the word that had come to mind was not "excitement" but "hysteria." And what I did not know was the history of that word.

我看着那些女孩为了披头士、后街男孩、单向乐队嘶吼的画面，脑海里蹦出来的词语不是“激动”而是“歇斯底里”。我之前并不知道“歇斯底里”这个词的历史。

That in the 19th century, hysteria was considered to be a legitimate female mental disorder that could be diagnosed by doctors if women displayed excessive emotion or difficult behavior. The word "hysterical" comes from the Latin word "hystericus," meaning "of the womb," because it was thought that this condition was caused by a dysfunction of the uterus. And so, a treatment for hysteria was a hysterectomy. Which is what we still call a removal of the womb.

在 19 世纪，“歇斯底里”被视为一种公认的女性心理疾病。如果一名女性表现出过于激动的情绪，或是不听话的行为，就会被医生诊断为患有此疾病。“hysterical（歇斯底里）”这个词源于拉丁词“hystericus”，意思是“与子宫有关的”，因为这种症状被视为是由于子宫功能失调所导致的。对于歇斯底里症的治疗手段是子宫切除术。就是我们现在所说的切除子宫的手术。

And at this point, I decide to redeclare my obsession. Because I am no longer just obsessed with fangirls. Now, I'm obsessed with the way that the world talks about fangirls and the way that the world looks at young, female enthusiasm. Because, I want to know, if girls grow up in a world where words like "crazy" and "psycho" and "hysterical" are casually used to describe female enthusiasm, then how does that shape the way that those girls get to see themselves?

到了这个时候，我想重新声明下令我着迷的是什么。我现在已经不仅仅着迷于饭圈女孩了。现在我痴迷于这个世界谈论饭圈女孩的方式，和这个世界是如何看待年轻女性的热情。因为，我想去了解，如果一个女孩从小成长的世界会经常用“疯狂”、“神经病”、“歇斯底里”等词语来描述女性热忱，这会如何影响这些女孩是怎样看待自己的？

**hysteria**  
n.歇斯底里

**legitimate**  
adj.合法的

**diagnose**  
v.诊断

**womb**  
n.子宫

**dysfunction**  
n.功能障碍

**hysterectomy**  
n.子宫切除

**redeclare**  
v.重新声明

**enthusiasm**  
n.热情

And if girls grow up in a world that tells them that they are designed just a bit crazier than the boys, then isn't that a little bit like telling them that they are born less capable of rationality than men, less capable of reason and unworthy of the same intellectual respect as their brothers.

而且如果女孩们成长于一个告诉她们她们天生就比男孩们更疯狂的世界，这无异于是在告诉她们她们天生就没有男生理性，讲道理，没有她们的兄弟那样有智慧。

Separately, I become obsessed with female screams. Not in a **creepy** way. I'm talking about, like, those shrieks and squeals that fangirls let out at concerts. I want to know why it is that some people **instinctively flinch** when I merely describe the sound, like it's painful just to think about it. Then I meet Amy Hume. She's a voice coach. And she blows my mind. Because she tells me that the female voice between the ages of 11 and 13 is one of the most interesting things to study. Why? Because there's this research by Carol Gilligan that says that is the age when girls begin to perform and alter their voices. For example, adding breath for **maturity**, (Imitating vocal fry) or adding vocal fry for **apathy**.

我开始着迷于女性的尖叫。不是以一种奇怪的方式。我指的是那些饭圈女孩在演唱会发出的尖叫声。我想了解为什么有些人只是听我形容那种声音就会本能的退缩，好像只要谈到它就很痛苦。之后我认识了艾米·休谟。一名发声教练。她所说的话让我感到很惊讶。她告诉我11到13岁女孩的声音是研究起来最有趣的事物之一。为什么？因为根据卡罗尔·吉利根所做的研究，那个年龄段是女生开始表演和改变自己声音的阶段。例如，为了表现得成熟而在声音中加气音，或者用气泡音来表现得淡漠。

But tell me, according to this research, when do you reckon boys begin to perform and alter their voices? Now, I guessed 18, because "men mature later," right?

你们猜猜，根据这项研究，你们觉得男孩们是从几岁开始开始表演与改变他们的声音的？我猜是18岁，因为“男生成熟的晚”，对吗？

**creepy**

adj.怪异的

**instinctively**

adv.本能地

**flinch**

v.退缩

**maturity**

n.成熟

**apathy**

n.冷漠



Wrong. The answer was four years old. Because that is when boys learn not to cry or squeal. That those are not manly sounds. And that's when I realized that a fangirl's **shriek** is therefore like a superpower.

错了。答案是四岁。那时起，男孩学会不去哭 和不尖声说话。因为那不是男子汉会发出的声音。而我也是在那时才觉得 饭圈女孩的尖叫 因此 像是一种超能力。

Because it's this fearless and honest expression of pure celebration and joy, and it's a sound they have not forgotten how to make. I actually reckon that fangirls have a second superpower, because they know how to do something that most of my adult friends have no idea how to do. Fangirls know how to love something without apology or fear.

因为那是一种无畏的， 真诚的情感表达 单纯的为了庆祝与表达喜悦，那是一种 她们还没有忘记该怎么去发出的声音。而且我认为饭圈女孩还有第二种超能力，因为她们有去做某事的能力，而这种能力我大多数成年朋友都没有。饭圈女孩知道如何没有 歉意与恐惧地去爱一样事物。

My years of researching fangirls culminated in this determination to write something that celebrates and **vindicates** them. So I decided to make this thriller comedy musical that sounds like a Beyoncé concert meets rave meets church. I called it "Fangirls," and I designed it like a Trojan horse. So it appears to make fun of these young women, only to, like, **smuggle** them into your heart.

经过我多年来对饭圈女孩的研究，我最终决定 要写些什么来歌颂饭圈女孩，为她们正名。我觉得要制作一个 带有惊悚和喜剧风格的音乐剧。这个音乐剧听上去像是混杂着 狂欢和教堂元素的碧昂斯的演唱会。我将其取名为《饭圈女孩》，我把它设计的像是一个特洛伊木马一样。看上去是为了取笑那些年轻的姑娘们，实际上，是为了偷偷地把她们装进你们的心里。

**shriek**

v. 尖叫

**vindicate**

v. 证实

**smuggle**

v. 走私；偷运

At one point -- Thanks. At one point, a girl sings, "Why should I hide my feelings? Because they annoy you? Or because it isn't what the boys do?" And as a former fangirl **cynic**, that is the question that I want to leave you all with. Why should fangirls tone it down? Because they're crazy? Or because our **definition** of "reasonable" is based on what it is acceptable for men to do? What if we rethink the judgments we've been conditioned to feel when we see young women screaming their lungs out with excitement? What if we decided to rethink the words we use to describe that joy, and what if we didn't allow ourselves to **diminish** girls with words that undermine their intelligence, their interests and their capability? Because, according to my research, they are capable of building a shrine to Harry Styles's vomit on the side of a freeway within two hours.

在音乐剧的某一刻——谢谢。某一刻，一个女生唱到：“为什么我要隐藏我的情感？因为它们烦到你们了吗？还是因为这些不是男孩们会做的事？”作为一名曾鄙视过饭圈女孩的人，这是一个我希望大家都能去想想的问题。为什么饭圈女孩要收敛她们的情感？因为她们疯了吗？还是因为我们其实是根据男性能被人认可的行为而定义“理性”这个词的？当我们看到年轻姑娘们带着激动的心情尖叫着的时候我们不能重新想想那些对她们的惯有看法？我们能不能重新想想该用什么样的词语去描述她们的那种喜悦，我们能不能不让自己去用那些会削弱她们智慧，兴趣与能力的词语来形容她们？因为根据我的研究，她们可是有能力在两小时之内把哈里·斯泰尔斯在高速公路旁的呕吐地点改造成一个圣地。

That takes some executive skills in **logistics** and communication. If that isn't "capable," I don't know what is. I **reckon**, instead of judging fangirls, we can learn from them. We can all die tomorrow, so why not love things while we're still breathing?

那可是需要一定的组织与沟通等管理技巧才能做到的。如果那还不算“有能力的”，我不知道什么才算了。我觉得，与其对饭圈女孩评头论足，我们可以从她们身上学到些什么。我们明天都可能会死。所以为什么不趁我们还活着的时候去爱我们所爱呢？

**cynic**

n. 愤世嫉俗者

**definition**

n. 定义

**diminish**

v. 贬低；轻视

**logistic**

adj. 后勤上的；安排协调方面的

**reckon**

v. 想；认为