Interview with Max Somple

MS: Max Somple

ER: Evan Reider (interviewer)

Start

ER: What does being a fan of anime mean?

MS: that an excellent question Evan. Well being a fan of anime can mean a lot of different things a lot of different types of people. For me being a fan of anime doesn’t mean you need to watch more than one. You can be really into one show and be an anime fan. Especially if you like one of the main ones. But if you like an under ground one that’s pretty tight too, like I respect that. I was never really a fan of anime but I started watching dragon ball z and finished that pretty quick. And I was super into that. Then I started watching some other shows like attack on titan and Naruto. Once you become a fan of one anime its easy to start to get into others.

ER: so you would define being a fan of anime as being into only one show.

MS: Yeah, but you probably would have to have extensive knowledge of it.

ER: What behaviors, activities or events do you partake in being a fan of anime.

MS: I really like watching edits, especially when vine was a thing those were sick. Because they could capture so much emotion in such a short amount of time. Besides that I watch informal information videos on youtube that go in depth about the anime I watch.

ER: When you say informal informational videos what are they talking about.

MS: Well normally the talk about techniques, or character break downs, or predictions, or fan theories. I like the theories a lot.

ER: do you see any issues or problems in the anime fan community?

MS: Maybe getting too addicted to it. or Maybe some may be inappropriate, with blood and gore. Maybe some parents wouldn’t be that into that. Normally the language barrier isn’t that big of an issue. I think the anime sounds more badass in the original language.

ER: So is that something you do, listen to it in the original language.

MS: Yeah, when I can I like to listen to it with English subtitle. I think it helps because you understand how the original writer wants you to perceive the characters.

ER: I hear a lot of anime steams from comic books. Are those something you read.

MS: yeah manga. A lot of times I’ll here the books are better the the shows. The go more in depth.

ER: How do you think being a fan has effected you personally.

MS: I’ve probably wasted a lot of time watching anime. I wouldn’t say its directly effected how I live my life or who I am as a person. But its definitely a hobby of mine.

ER: Do you ever share anything with others about your interests with other fans. Oh yeah if I meet another fan. I’m in college and a lot f people find it weird I watch anime, maybe they think its nerdy. But I get really excited when I meet another fan. I talk with them about there different views or takes on different aspects of the show. Especially with classic anime’s like Dragon Ball Z. What’s your favorite saga? You can talk about for hours. Or my favorite anime Naruto. You can talk about basic characters of Naruto shipuden when the characters are all grown up. Just like techniques.

ER: Why do you think people watch anime?

MS: well pretty much because its like cartoons for adults.

ER: I hear anime has a lot of character development.

MS: Yeah its crazy, way more than any American cartoons I’ve watched. The writers have a great ability to create characters. Especially watching the characters grow up you get to learn with them. It definitely makes you think. Its a lot more meaningful then people think, its not just dumb ninjas and Goku going super saiyan. Its a lot deeper.