Glory And (Graham) Gore

or

How I Learned To Stop Worrying And Love The Show

A Presentation By Lady M

"

In this place, technology still bends the knee to luck.

"

Captain Francis Crozier

A Brief Primer On How To Navigate The Terror Fandom Whilst Being Incredibly Afraid Of Gore

There is no scientific name for the fear of gore, since by all accounts, it is a very rational fear. For our entire existence, humans have intrinsically known that blood and gore means danger, and the instinct to run from danger is ingrained in our very...well...*blood*.

However, some people cope better with such worrying sights than others. Many can tell that a film with gore in it isn't real, and that there is nothing to worry about. Some might even find it fun to see the special effects in action. Some may find it exhilarating to confront such a primal fear head on.

Some of us, however, have a much more visceral reaction to such violent imagery.

Your humble author, for example, is one such person. There are many of us who do not enjoy blood splatters and torn flesh, even if we know that it isn't real. Some simply do not like it, while others find it highly triggering to their anxiety.

As a sufferer of anxiety, through trial and error over many years, I have created several ways to avoid such triggers without having to abstain from fandoms that I would otherwise enjoy. The following is a brief primer of resources and techniques that you can use to navigate not only this fandom, but any fandom, to lessen the chance of either seeing gore or being surprised by gore, and thus hopefully avoiding triggering one's anxiety. I hope that this guide helps you all!

A BRIEF DISCLAIMER!

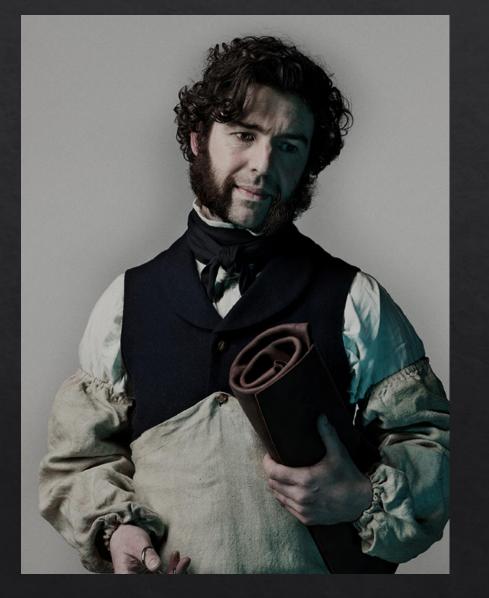I am neither a doctor nor a therapist.

(Or even an anatomist!)

This is not medical advice. These suggestions are based on personal experience and not any medical training. I cannot guarantee that these methods will work for you the way that they work for me. Please refer to your personal medical professionals for all physical and mental health advice.

As a great pirate once said: "They're not rules. They're more like...*guidelines!*"

Please feel free to tailor these ideas to your specific needs! And please remember that while your triggers cannot always be avoided, you can arm yourself against them as best as you can.

And now...onwards!

Trigger Warnings:

Brief mention of anxiety and its symptoms.

Brief mentions of blood and gore.

No graphic imagery is shown in this presentation.

No graphic descriptions of gore are made in this presentation.

"YOU'RE A PILGRIM TO THE TEAM. AND REMEMBER: GOD LIES IN ALL REALMS."

SIR JOHN FRANKLIN

Imagine that one day you are scrolling through tumblr, or maybe you're swiping through Instagram, or maybe you're just flipping through TV channels.

However you ended up here, you've found yourself on the doorstep of The Terror fandom.

Maybe it's the adventure themes that call to you. Maybe it's the doomed tragedy of the sailors that draws you in. Maybe it's the supernatural element, or the Arctic exploration, or maybe it's Jared Harris' rough Irish brogue. The reason that you stay is not important right now.

You then watch some clips, or you scroll through some gifsets, or you read a few think pieces, and then, suddenly, there it is: a picture of Graham Gore living up to his name.

You recoil in shock. You feel disgusted. Your body starts to shake. Your palms get sweaty. Your reaction to the viscera is visceral, and you close the page.

The question now is: do you stay in this fandom arena, or do you leave? The choice is entirely yours.

But if you stay, how are you going to avoid the Gore?

While there is no guaranteed way to avoid disturbing images in daily life, there are ways to forge ahead into the unknown as prepared as you can be. After your incredible discovery, you can set up camp in this brand-new wilderness and live in harmony with the "nature" around you.

Here we will discuss three "steps" for preparing yourself for your journey into the unknown:

-First Stop: Wikipedia!

-Mother Knows Best: The Usefulness of Parent's Guides

-We Are Gone: Curating Your Fandom Experience

First Stop: Wikipedia!

This step begins with exactly what's in the title: going to Wikipedia and looking up the show.

- **Step One:** Visit the Wikipedia article for your show. Read through the synopsis thoroughly. Ask yourself: does this media still appeal to me? Am I concerned that there may be too much gore or horror for my tastes? Do I need to do further research?

- **Step Two:** If the answer to any of the previous questions is yes, you may wish to visit the show's Fandom Wiki, if it has one. Read through the synopses there as well. It is possible to stop here, but it will not necessarily give you a full picture of the show and its gorier aspects.
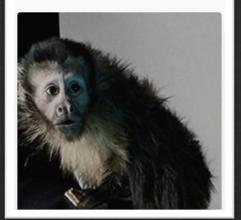
This is perhaps the simplest step, but it also leaves much to be desired in the way of curating your experience. This is where the next step comes in.
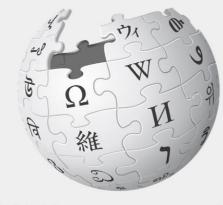
A warning: on fandom wikis, there can be several uncensored images in unexpected places. Please proceed with caution.

THE TERROR WIKI

Jacko

✎ EDIT

WIKIPEDIA
The Free Encyclopedia

Mother Knows Best:
The Usefulness Of Parent's Guides

Since the beginning of art itself, there have been critics. Among those critics are the lesser-known parental guide creators, who watch media and then rate them according to a preset scale, while also providing in-depth reports of the various family unfriendly elements found within many pieces of media today. Your mileage may vary, but these previewers can provide insight that many wikis cannot.

These guides are primarily aimed at the parents of smaller children, with a view to informing parents if the media in question is appropriate for underage children. For our purposes, it is their in-depth reporting of potentially horrific or startling elements that will be of the greatest use to us. Below are a few of the more popular parent's guides and the sites you can find them on.

(Please note that the author does not endorse the religious or political leanings of any website. Some prominent parent's guides may be religious or political in nature. Please read their about sections before using them.)

Some Examples Of Online Parent's Guides

IMDb

IMDB, or the Internet Movie Database, is a website founded in the 1990's as an index of information regarding movies, television, podcasts, etc. As of 2023, there are five categories for their parent's guide: Sex and Nudity, Violence and Gore, Profanity, Alcohol/Drugs/Smoking, and Frightening/Intense Scenes.

The Violence and Gore and the Frightening/Intense Scenes sections are of the most use regarding gore, horrific images, and jumpscares.

Common Sense Media

Founded in 2003, Common Sense Media (CSM) is an organization that reviews and rates media regarding their suitability for children. As of 2023, their parent's guide categories are: Positive Messages, Diverse Representations, Sex, Romance, & Nudity, Products & Purchases, Positive Role Models, Violence & Scariness, Language, and Drinking, Drugs, & Smoking.

The Violence & Scariness section is best for determining the gore level of a show, as well giving a warning for any jumpscares that may appear too.

Parent Previews

Born in the 1990's, Parent Previews was created by a married couple with the goal of providing reviews and ratings for films with an eye towards their suitability for children. As of 2023, their parent's guide categories are: Violence, Sexual Content, Profanity, and Alcohol/Drug Use.

Users of this primer will find the Violence category the most useful of the four. This website has the least categories for its parent's guide, and it is restricted to movies only.

IMDb

common sense®

Parent Previews

An Additional Source: tvtropes.org

TVtropes.org is a wiki website founded in 2004. It documents various tropes (which are plot conventions, storytelling devices, and common media themes) for various TV shows, films, books, comics, and other forms of media. Depending on how in depth an article is, there can be several subpages attached to it with additional tropes, recaps, and community theories.

Common subpages include: Awesome, Characters, Fridge, Funny, Headscratchers, Laconic, Nightmare Fuel, Trivia, and YMMV. Please note that not every piece of media has every kind of subpage attached. For our purposes, the most useful subpages are Recap and Nightmare Fuel.

- **RECAP:** This section provides a brief summary of each episode of a work, if that work has episodes. It provides some small insight into the plot, as well as some episode-specific tropes.

- **NIGHTMARE FUEL:** This section points out the horror elements of a work, as well as any applicable tropes. **Be forewarned: this page often has a header image which may be either gory or horrific. Scroll down quickly or cover your screen if you are concerned.**

As with Wikipedia and various Parent's Guides, tvtropes.org is useful for alerting the user to potentially triggering elements that they may wish to avoid.

How To Use These Guides Effectively

Now that you have your resources at your fingertips, it is time to use them! Just like with any skill, it takes some practice, some trial and error, and some honest mistakes before you become familiar with it.

There is something of an order of operations to my methods, and they go something like this:

- Become aware of a new piece of media
- Search for posts about said new piece of media
- If there is still interest there, proceed to Wikipedia and read the article voraciously
- If the media is not rated for young children, it's time to check for frightening images and scenes
- Journey over to IMDb's Parent's Guide for a starting point
- Visit other Parent's Guides for additional information

Again, these are my own personal methods. Feel free to tailor them to your own needs!

It is also best to keep in mind that no method is foolproof, so be kind to yourself (and to others!) if something slips through the cracks. Have your coping mechanisms close at hand if you see something jarring and remember to step away from your screen and take a break if you need it!
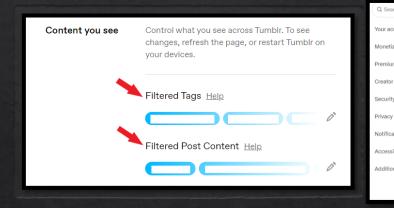
We Are Gone: Curating Your Fandom Experience

So now that you are forewarned, it is time to be forearmed!

One of the nice things about many fandom spaces is the ability to tailor your experience to your own personal tastes. In recent years, many apps and websites have offered Block Lists and other such measures that allow you to keep unwanted "guests" off of your feed. Let's look at a few of them now!
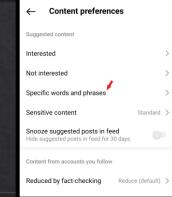
In the next slide, you will find a comparison of three popular fandom sites and how you can block unwanted images, phrases, and content from your feed and from your eyes!

"You're saying a bear staged a misdirection?"

Commander James Fitzjames

Where To Block Content On:

Tumblr

In the Settings menu, under the Account submenu, there is a subsection labelled "Content You See." Go to "Filtered Tags" and "Filtered Post Content" and fill in any hashtags and/or content that you do not wish to see.

For example, under the Filtered Tags section, you can have it block #gore or #tw:gore

For the "Filtered Post Content" section, try phrases like "gore" or "blood."

X (Twitter)

In the Settings menu, scroll down to Privacy And Safety. In this submenu, click on "Mute And Block." In that submenu is a section titled "Muted Words." There, you can enter which words/hashtags you wish to block from your feed.

For example, you can enter the word "horror," as seen in the picture above, in order to block it.

Instagram

In your Instagram app on your mobile device, head to your profile. From there, access your settings through "Settings And Privacy." Then, scroll down to the "What You See" section. In that submenu, tap on "Content Preferences." Once there, tap on "Specific Words And Phrases" to add the words, phrases, and emojis that you wish to block.

Please note that this only works on the mobile app. This submenu cannot be accessed through your desktop.

A Rather Important Note:

Fandom is about appreciation and mutual respect. The greatest fandoms are those in which both the fans and the creators take care of each other. It is important to note that the methods above work best when it is not just the viewer or the consumer putting in the work. The creators, be they showrunners or a humble blogger, have their own important duties to their fellow people. Thusly:

PLEASE REMEMBER TO TAG YOUR CONTENT APPRORIATELY!

It is the responsibility of the individual to curate their experience, yes, but it is difficult to curate that which is not properly labelled. If you are making posts that feature potentially triggering topics, please be sure to properly tag, hide, or label your content as such.

Fandom is like the crew on a ship. When we work together, we make life better!

And thus ends our journey together!

I hope that these brief tips and tricks help you to create as safe and as comfortable a fandom experience for yourself as possible. Remember that these are just guidelines, created by yours truly over my many years of fandom existence, and that they are always subject to change. Please take them and tailor them to your own needs. Every person is different, with different needs and different perspectives, and this diversity is what makes life so fascinating!

Please remember to always proceed with caution wherever you go, but also remember to have as much fun in your life as possible! Read the disclaimers, block the unwanted tags, hide the triggering images, and then dive on in!

A happy Terror Camp 2023 to all!

Sincerely Yours,

Lady M

"Frozen ships are good shelters, but they are not our homes. We've got homes we need to find our way back to."

Captain Francis Crozier

"

It is you, sir, who is teaching the rest of us.

"

(Third Lieutenant) Thomas Jopson

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