

# Principles of Transmedia Storytelling

张静宁

22th, Oct, 2015 at USTC

1

Confessions

of an

# Aca-Fan

The Official Weblog of

Henry Jenkins

LATEST POSTS

ARCHIVES

ABOUT

LINKS

Me



## Who the &%&# Is Henry Jenkins?

The simple answer is:

[henryjenkins.org](http://henryjenkins.org)

Professor of Communication, Journalism, and  
University of Southern California. He arrived at USC in Fall 2009  
pend the past decade as the Director of the MIT Comparative Media Studies  
Program and the Peter de Florez Professor of Humanities. He is the author and/or  
editor of twelve books on various aspects of media and popular culture,  
including *Textual Poachers: Television Fans and Participatory Culture*, *Hop on Pop:  
The Politics and Pleasures of Popular Culture* and *From Barbie to Mortal Kombat:  
Gender and Computer Games*. His newest books include *Convergence Culture: Where  
Old and New Media Collide* and *Fans, Bloggers and Gamers: Exploring Participatory  
Culture*. He is currently co-authoring a book on "spreadable media" with Sam Ford and  
Joshua Green. He has written for *Technology Review*, *Computer Games*, *Salon*, and *The  
Huffington Post*.

Search this website...

Search

Add Me

Me



## Who Is Henry Jenkins?

**Henry Jenkins** is the Provost's Professor of Communication, Journalism, and Cinematic Arts at the **University of Southern California**. He arrived at USC in Fall 2009 after spending the past decade as the Director of the **MIT** Comparative Media Studies Program and the Peter de Florez Professor of Humanities.

# The Definition of Transmedia Storytelling

Transmedia storytelling represents a process where integral elements of a fiction get dispersed systematically across multiple delivery channels for the purpose of creating a unified and coordinated entertainment experience. Ideally, each medium makes its own unique contribution to the unfolding of the story.

-- By Henry Jenkins

2

December 12, 2009

## The Revenge of the Origami Unicorn: Seven Principles of Transmedia Storytelling (Well, Two Actually. Five More on Friday)

By Henry Jenkins

Across the next two weeks, we will be rolling out the webcast versions of the sessions we hosted during the recent Futures of Entertainment 4 conference held last month at MIT. (see Monday's post for the session on Grant McCracken's *Chief Culture Officer* conference sessions were focused around the concept of transmedia storytelling. I was asked to deliver

henryjenkins.org

December 12, 2009

## Revenge of the Origami Unicorn: The Remaining Four Principles of Transmedia Storytelling

By Henry Jenkins

### 3. Immersion vs. Extractability

These two concepts refer to the perceived relationship between the transmedia fiction and our everyday experiences. At the Studio Ghibli Museum outside of Tokyo, there's a fascinating exhibition on the history of motion pictures. Much of what is there could have been in a western



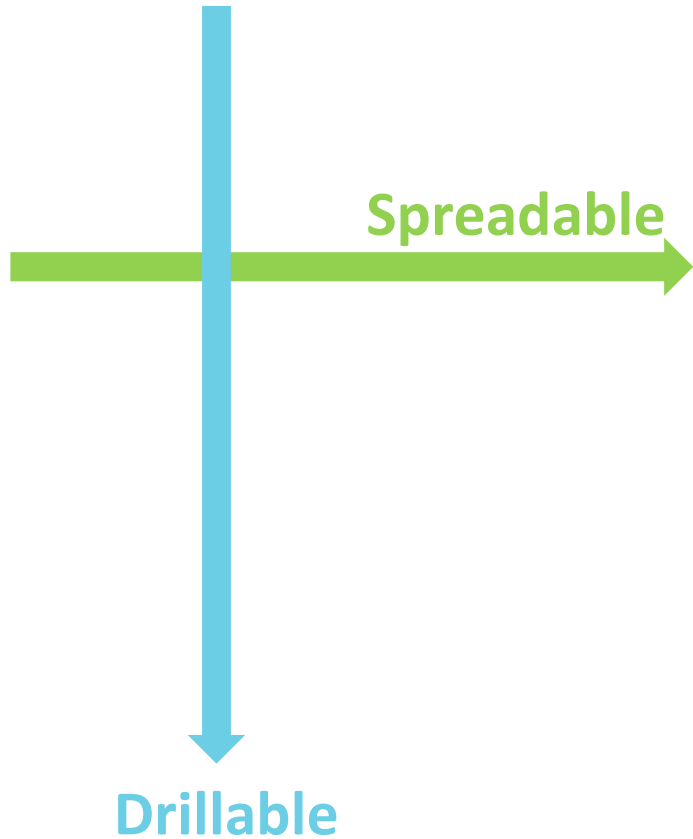
# Principles of Transmedia Storytelling

- 1. Spreadability vs. Drillability**
- 2. Continuity vs. Multiplicity**
- 3. Immersion vs. Extractability**
- 4. WorldBuilding**
- 5. Seriality**
- 6. Subjectivity**
- 7. Performance**



# 1

## Spreadability vs. Drillability

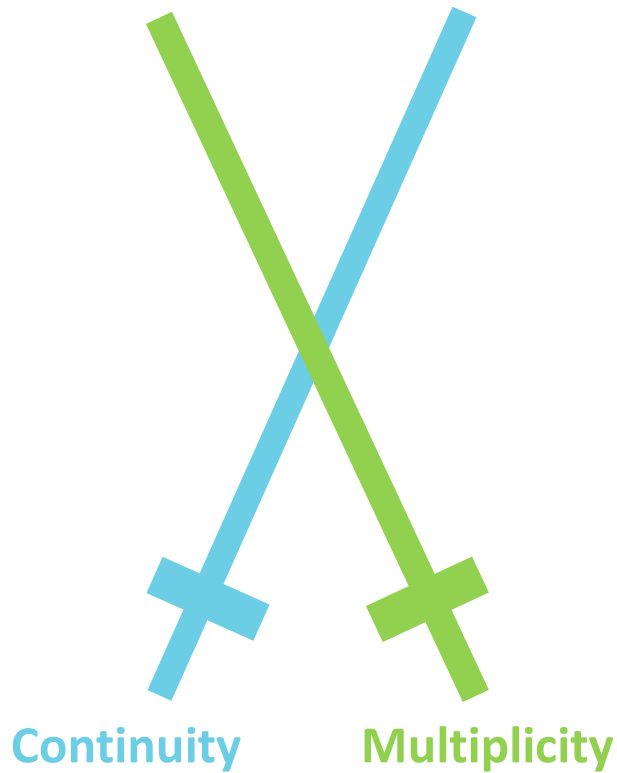


**Spreadable** media encourages horizontal ripples, accumulating eyeballs without necessarily encouraging more long-term engagement.

**Drillable** media typically engage far fewer people, but occupy more of their time and energies in a vertical descent into a text's complexities.

# 2

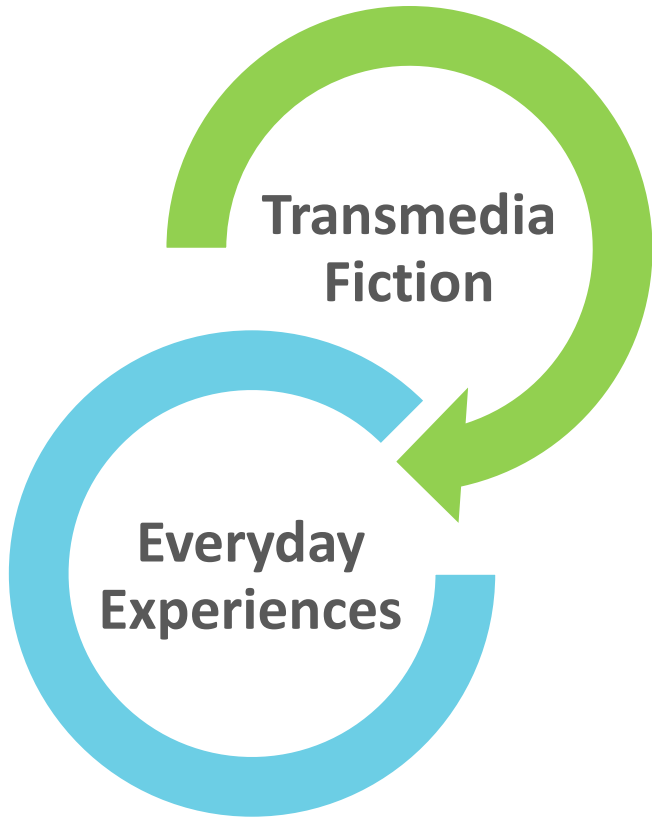
## Continuity vs. Multiplicity



**Continuity** contributes to our appreciation of the coherence and plausibility of their fictional worlds

**Multiplicity** allows fans to take pleasure in alternative retellings, seeing the characters and events from fresh perspectives

# 3 Immersion vs. Extractability



In **immersion**, the consumer enters into the world of the story.

In **extractability**, the fan takes aspects of the story away with them as resources they deploy in the spaces of their everyday life.

# Immersion

## Studio Ghibli Museum



# Immersion

Studio Ghibli Museum



# Immersion

Studio Ghibli Museum



# Extractability

Miyazaki's films



# Extractability

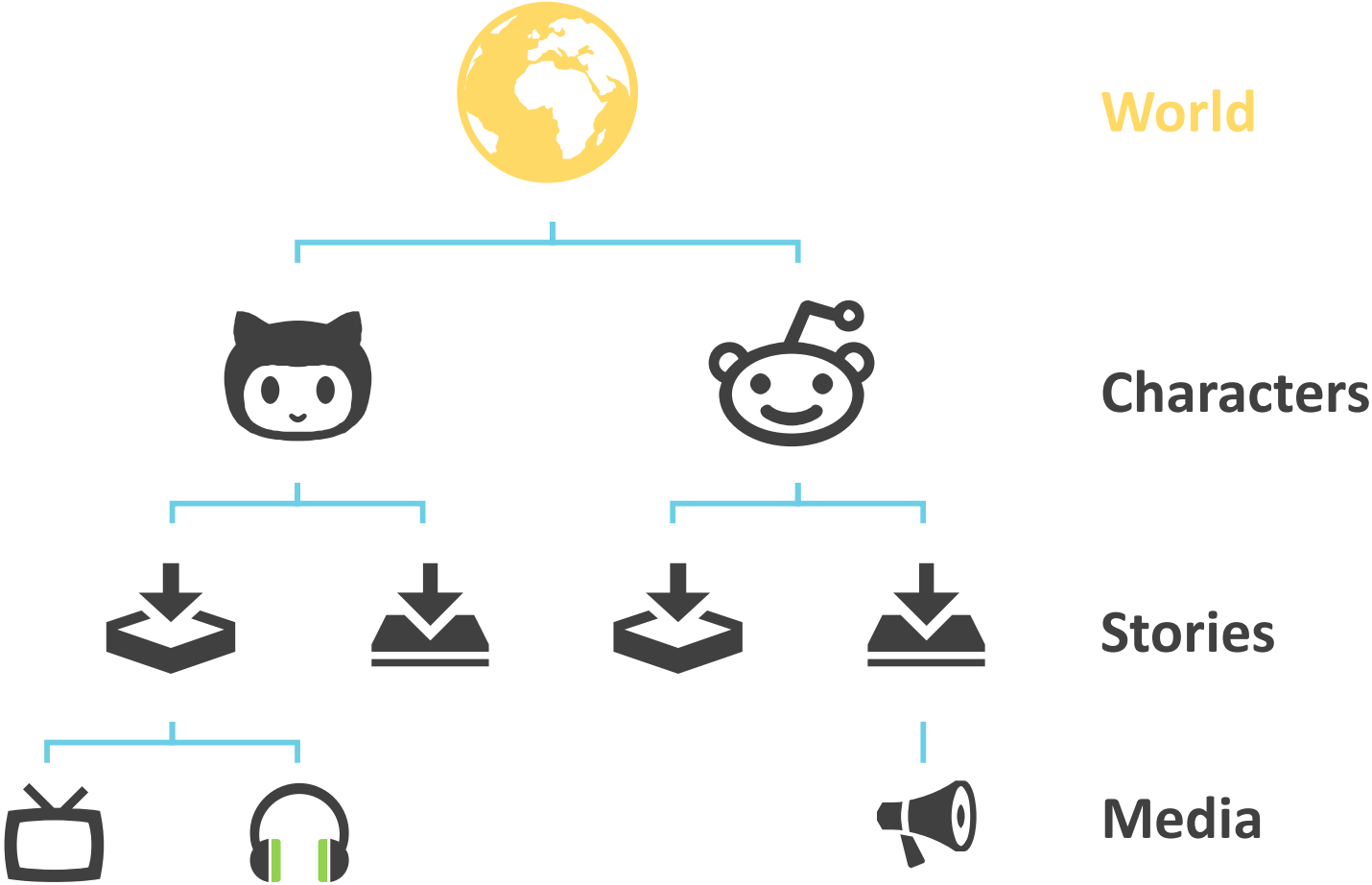
DC Comics





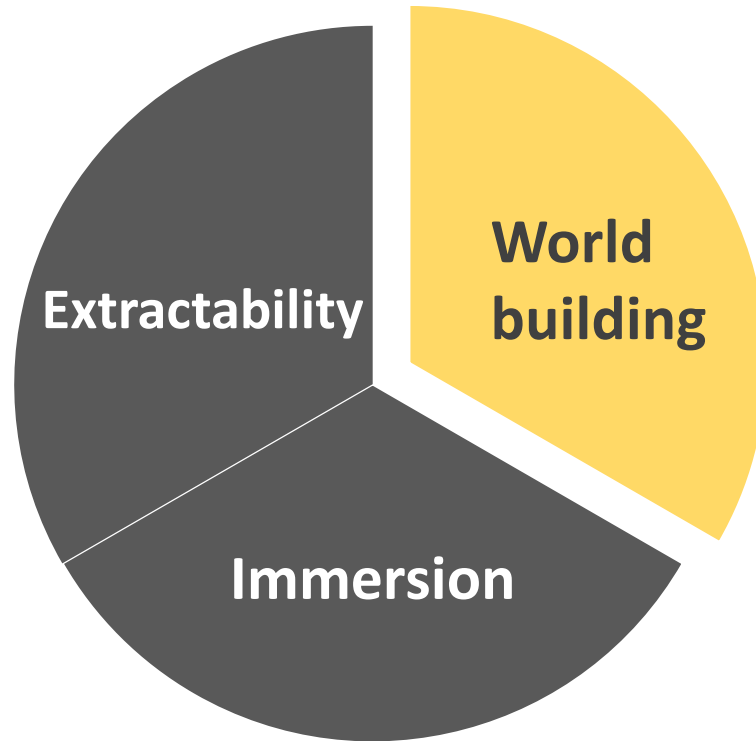
# 4

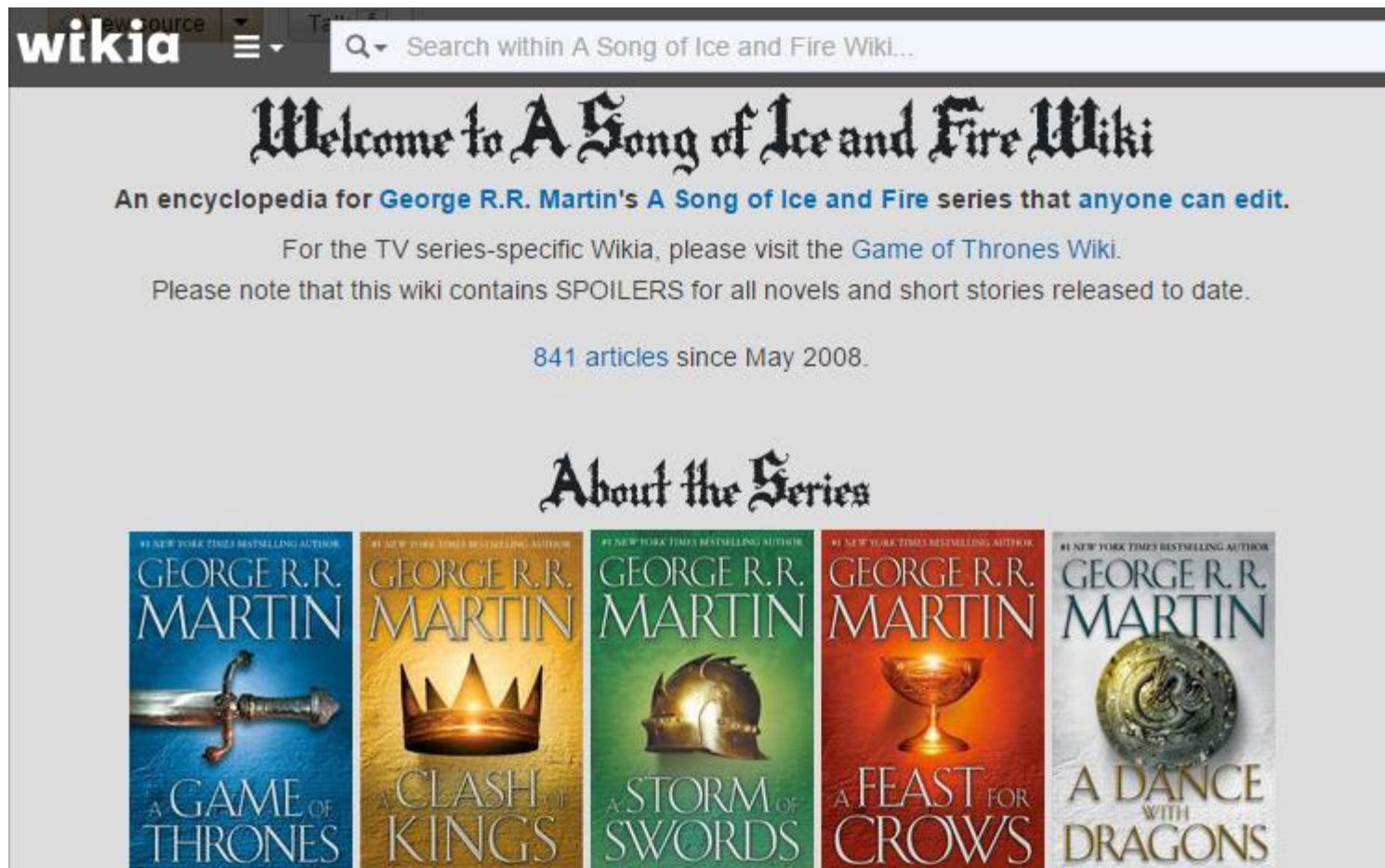
# Worldbuilding



# 4

## Worldbuilding





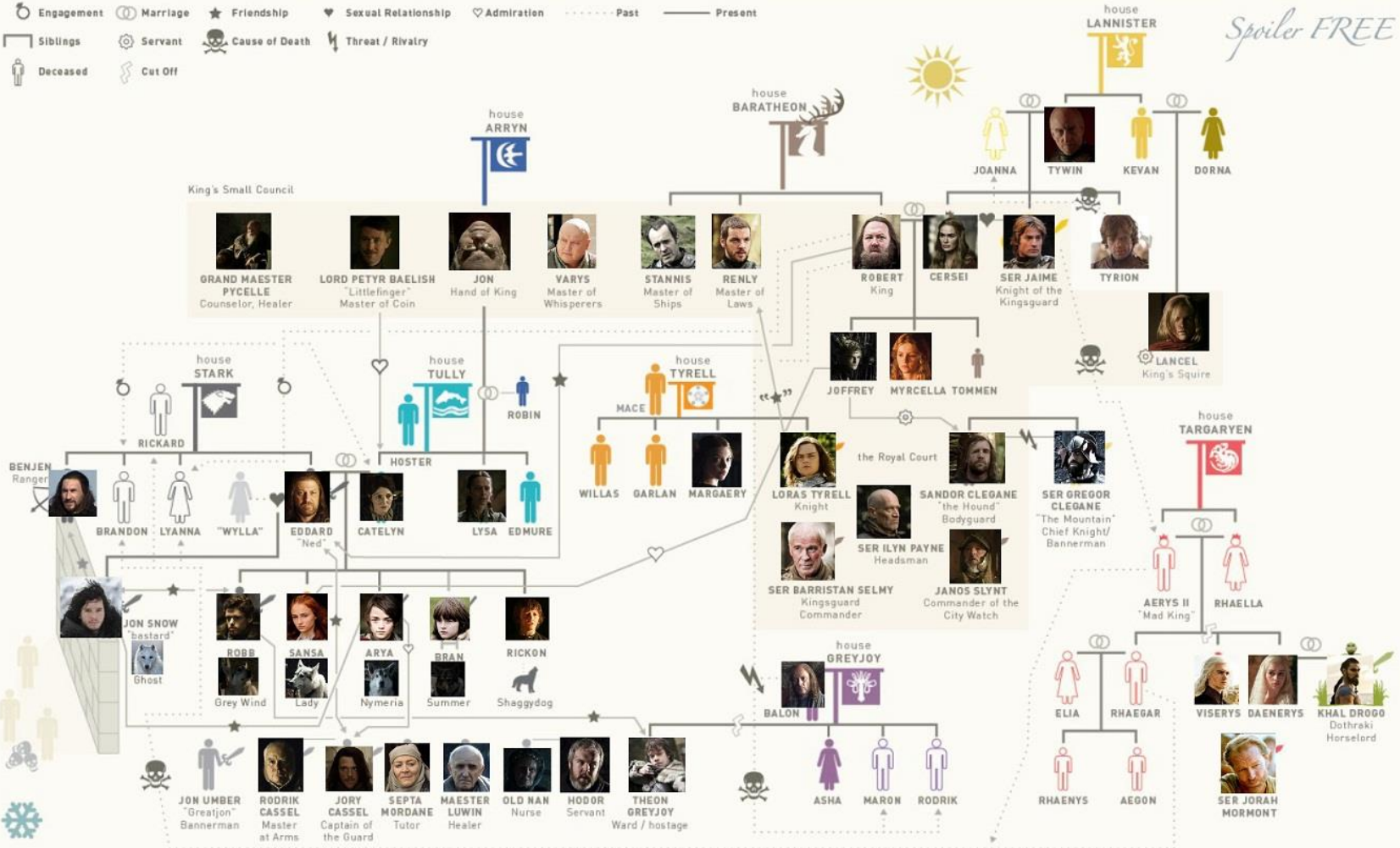
The image shows a screenshot of the A Song of Ice and Fire Wiki homepage. At the top left is the 'wikia' logo. A search bar contains the text 'Search within A Song of Ice and Fire Wiki...'. The main heading is 'Welcome to A Song of Ice and Fire Wiki' in a stylized, gothic font. Below this is a sub-heading: 'An encyclopedia for George R.R. Martin's A Song of Ice and Fire series that anyone can edit.' Further down, there are two lines of text: 'For the TV series-specific Wikia, please visit the Game of Thrones Wiki.' and 'Please note that this wiki contains SPOILERS for all novels and short stories released to date.' Below that, it says '841 articles since May 2008.' The section 'About the Series' is centered below. At the bottom of this section are five book covers by George R.R. Martin: 'A Game of Thrones' (blue cover with a sword), 'A Clash of Kings' (gold cover with a crown), 'A Storm of Swords' (green cover with a helmet), 'A Feast for Crows' (red cover with a chalice), and 'A Dance with Dragons' (grey cover with a dragon coin).

**A Song of Ice and Fire** is a series of epic fantasy novels written by American novelist and screenwriter [George R.R. Martin](#). He began writing the series in 1991 and the first volume was published in 1996. Originally envisaged as a trilogy, there are now five published novels in the series with two more planned. There are also two novellas which act as prequels to the novels, with several more planned, and three other novellas consisting of excerpts from the main novels.

## HBO's Game of Thrones : Illustrated Guide to Houses & Character Relationships

*Spoiler FREE*

- Engagement
- Marriage
- Friendship
- Sexual Relationship
- Admiration
- Past
- Present
- Siblings
- Servant
- Cause of Death
- Threat / Rivalry
- Deceased
- Cut Off



# 5

## Seriality



A **serial** breaks down a story into chunks which are satisfying on their own but motivates us to come back for more.

# 6

## Subjectivity

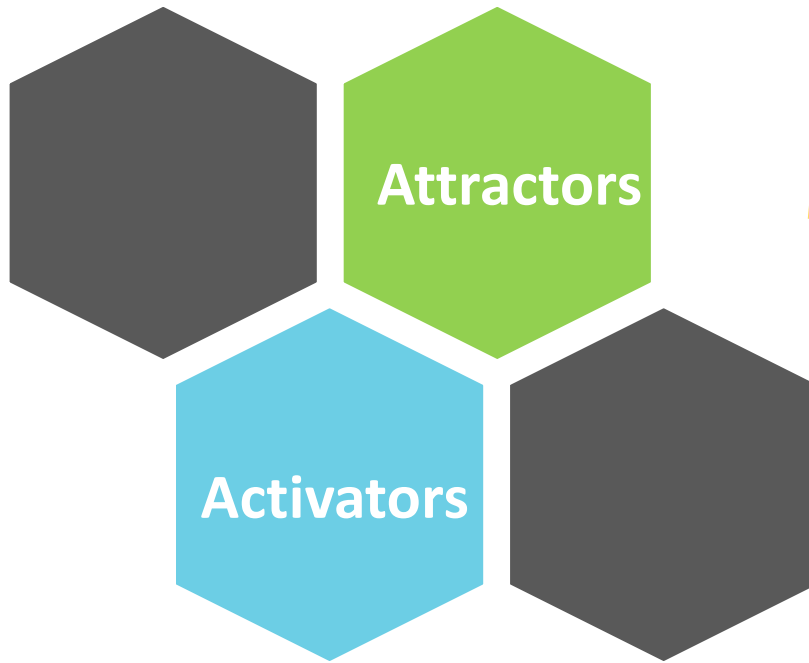
**Subjectivity** refers to looking at the same events from multiple points of view.



# Subjectivity



# 7 Performance



**Performance** refers to the possibility that the works made by fans become part of the transmedia narrative itself.





**Creator's Guide to  
Transmedia**

# References

[1] **Wikipedia: Transmedia storytelling**

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Transmedia\\_storytelling](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Transmedia_storytelling)

[2] **Transmedia 202: Further Reflections, Henry Jenkins**

[http://henryjenkins.org/2011/08/defining\\_transmedia\\_further\\_re.html](http://henryjenkins.org/2011/08/defining_transmedia_further_re.html)

[3] **The Revenge of the Origami Unicorn: Seven Principles of Transmedia Storytelling, Henry Jenkins**

[http://henryjenkins.org/2009/12/the\\_revenge\\_of\\_the\\_origami\\_uni.html](http://henryjenkins.org/2009/12/the_revenge_of_the_origami_uni.html)

[4] **Revenge of the Origami Unicorn: The Remaining Four Principles of Transmedia Storytelling, Henry Jenkins**

[http://henryjenkins.org/2009/12/revenge\\_of\\_the\\_origami\\_unicorn.html](http://henryjenkins.org/2009/12/revenge_of_the_origami_unicorn.html)

[5] **The Complete Guide to Transmedia Storytelling, Gianluca Fiorelli**

<http://www.stateofdigital.com/complete-guide-transmedia-storytelling/>

[6] **To Spread or To Drill? , Jason Mittell**

<https://justtv.wordpress.com/2009/02/25/to-spread-or-to-drill/>

[7] **Transmedia Principles**

<http://transmediaexperience.com/transmedia-3/transmedia-principles/>

[8] **Transmedia Education: the 7 Principles Revisited, Henry Jenkins**

[http://henryjenkins.org/2010/06/transmedia\\_education\\_the\\_7\\_pri.html](http://henryjenkins.org/2010/06/transmedia_education_the_7_pri.html)

[9] **Transmedia Storytelling 101, Henry Jenkins**

[http://henryjenkins.org/2007/03/transmedia\\_storytelling\\_101.html](http://henryjenkins.org/2007/03/transmedia_storytelling_101.html)



**THANKS**