

Fic Ratings According to Maturity Level

Disclaimer: This is a guideline I have posted for people who may be curious about my rating system for my fics. I know I may rate my fics differently than others (for example, many people may prefer tagging wholesome fics with topics such as incest in G or T categories, but all incest content I produce will be tagged either M or E). **I decided my ratings based on what I imagine a typical audience of that maturity level would be able to handle.** I was not very typical in my own consumption of media, both as a child and as a teen, so I know firsthand that content ratings aren't necessarily a good reflection of what you may or may not personally be able to handle. I advise you to read through my tags in each fic, and to read at your own discretion. I can't stop you from reading my fics if you are not at the proper maturity level, so I am therefore not responsible if you find the content disturbing or inappropriate. If you are underage, I request you not to read my mature or explicit fics. I also want to explicitly state that **what I write in fiction does not reflect what I do or do not condone in real life.**

I use fanfiction to explore, which means I write a large variety of styles, genres, topics, ships, dynamics, character interpretations, etc. Therefore, I have stories in all fic rating categories. Rating alone does not show whether or not that story is suitable for your consumption preferences. **Please be sure to check out the additional tags of each story, so you are better able to gauge if that story is suited for you.**

- **General Audiences (G):** Anyone can read, no sort of mature topics or language is involved.
 - I do not write many G-rated fics, especially now that I am focused on TMNT. I tend to find most content I write not suitable for child audiences, and for good reason.
- **Teen And Up Audiences (T):** This content was created with a teen-and-up audience in mind, so it will include things such as swearing, mentions of mental illnesses, implied sexual content, etc.

- I don't write many T-rated fics anymore now that I am focused on TMNT, but when I do it is normally platonic content meant to explore a character's role or personality in a way the source media isn't able to.
- **Mature (M):** This content was created with a mature audience in mind, so it will include things such as implied sexual content, and topics such as self-harm, incestuous relationships, minor x adult relationships, etc.
 - For the purposes of this account, ALL content with incestuous or otherwise transgressive pairs will be rated M.
 - Most of my current angst will be included in this category since it often has either non-explicit self-harm or incestuous relationships.
 - The majority of my stories are rated M.
- **Explicit (E):** This content was created with an extremely mature audience in mind, so it will include things such as explicit pornographic content, underage sexual content, explicit gore, non-consensual sex, and any other content most audiences would not be comfortable reading.
 - This content is almost exclusively pornographic and to varying degrees. However, occasionally my more experimental dark stories with explicit gore, explicit self-harm, or detailed character deaths will be included in this.

Additional Notes Related to Other Tags and Content Warnings:

These are not only tags that I most commonly use, but tags that I am very careful about using and have very strong guidelines for that help me define when I should or shouldn't tag a fic with one of these categories. I take these tags very seriously, whereas other tags I place as I feel are right for a specific fic. If you are curious about these tags, or if they are particularly triggering, here is a guideline on how I tag this kind of content.

- **Incest** - Technically, incest is defined as sexual activity between two human genetic and/or legal familial relatives. For my fics though, I define incest as any sexual OR romantic activity between any number of cognizant creatures who are related (either by blood, law, or strong classic familial-like roles). So yes, that means Turtlecest and any other relationship between related anthropomorphic characters will be tagged as incest.
 - I have the common names for each broader ship tagged as well if you would also like to avoid those tags (ex. BLMatsu, Warnercest, Turtlecest, etc)
 - I have sibling incest and other specific familial dynamic incest tags on my fics as well
 - If I am writing an AU of a ship that is typically incestuous, but the characters involved are not actually related in this AU, I will not tag incest as it misrepresents the kind of romantic content trying to be portrayed in the story. However, I will still tag the ship name so those who don't like it can still avoid it.
- **Creator Chose Not to Use Archive Warnings** - I try to avoid this warning tag when I can, but with the TMNT fandom in specific it can be hard to know when I should use the Underage tag. For the 2012 series, it is not clear how old they are by the end of the series, and with all iterations, many of the fics will have the age vaguely set or it will take place at a vague time within the story. For that reason, sometimes I will

use this tag in place of having to choose between "Underage" or "No Archive Warnings Apply."

- Very rarely will I use this tag to avoid story spoilers, but I've done that a couple of times in the past. If you choose to read these fics, go in assuming the worst.
- Important note related to the ages of the characters: All fanfics I write take place *after* their respective series unless otherwise stated or implied due to canonical timeline events.
 - This is important in the case of the 2003 turtles, since I was able to find out that they are canonically 19 by Back to the Sewers, and are therefore 18 by Fast Forward. That means anything taking place before season 5 makes them underage. Anything taking place after season 5 makes them of age.
- **Noncon versus Dubcon** - Both of these categories would legally (at least most of the time according to the United States Judicial System) be considered rape. However, for the purposes of my fics they will be categorized separately. These categories are hard to define specifically and separately in real terms, but I will try my best to explain how I view the differences.
 - **Noncon** involves any sexual act that is explicitly against the consent of the other party. However, it also includes any sexual act that the victim party may not have explicitly protested against, but would not consent to if they were cognizant of the situation. This is often relevant in the case of hypnotism, heavy drug use, and other similar forms of extreme and acute situational manipulation.
 - **Dubcon** involves any sexual act that has not received explicit consent but is not entirely unwanted by the party in question. However, this also includes 'consensual' sexual situations where grooming, manipulation, lying, and other forms of manipulation are involved. Oftentimes I will further clarify whether a fic has "mildly dubious consent" or "extremely dubious consent." The more consensual the act, the more "mild" it is.