

bandom big bang

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Welcome friends! Here you'll find all the information you need to participate in the challenge. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out using the information listed in the "Contact Us" section.

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CHALLENGE OVERVIEW

Big Bang is a fandom challenge designed to create an explosion of new work in a fandom. Traditionally, writers are challenged to write a long story (usually between 20k–50k), while being paired with an artist who creates a piece of art based on said story.

The Bandom Big Bang 2022 is traditional in many ways: writers must write a substantial amount of words (20k), they are paired with a partner, and all the work is released at a set time. However, unlike other BBB events, we welcome writers to publish their stories in multiple chapters and we allow writers to act as creators, writing short companion stories instead of art.

BBB 2022 participants will be divided into four groups: **writers, primary creators, secondary creators, and beta readers**. To be considered an official BBB 2022 participant, you must sign up for any one of these roles, but you can serve in as many roles as you desire.

Writers provide the “source material” for creators. **Primary creators** create art or a short story. **Secondary creators** create playlists, moodboards, edits, or anything that falls outside the primary creator requirements. **Beta readers** not only edit their partners’ work, but provide support throughout the writing process.

After writers submit their rough drafts a month before the BBB 2022 collection goes live, we will open up claims, during which creators may choose a work to create for. Works may be claimed by two primary creators or one primary creator and two secondary creators.

Claims will take place in two waves. During the first wave, only primary creators will be able to claim a work. Every writer is guaranteed at least one primary creator to work with. During the second wave, both primary and secondary creators may claim a work. For more specific details about creator claims and both waves, check out [the Rules for Creators](#) section.

RULES AND GUIDELINES

Please read all rules and guidelines carefully, as some things have changed since last year!

For All Participants

1. This is a bandom event. The focus of your creations must be on the members of a band and/or their close associates. Closely related content, like the Killjoys comics or Youngblood Chronicles, is welcome.
2. This challenge is [18+](#). You must be 18 by the time you sign up for the challenge in order to participate. We know this has been different in past years, but because of logistical difficulties with minors not producing mature/explicit works, and our own discomfort with moderating minor spaces, we've decided to restrict the challenge to adults only this year.
3. You must tag major content warnings. Incest, pedophilia, explicit underage, and explicit non-con are not allowed and will not be tolerated. These are the primary topics not allowed in the challenge. Other similarly disturbing content might also be excluded. Use your judgement to figure out other banned subjects based on those specifically listed. Message a mod if you are unsure. For more information on the content restrictions this year, look to the FAQ.
4. All written works must have a published English version.
5. You must have an Archive of Our Own account. All stories and creations will be posted there. Include a "Bandom Big Bang 2022" tag and post to the Bandom Big Bang 2022 collection on Archive of Our Own. You may also cross-post content to additional sites as desired.
6. All writers are guaranteed at least one companion creation (art or fic).
7. Writers will have access to the help of a beta reader throughout the writing process should they want it.
8. Writers are allowed—and encouraged—to participate as creators, but are not allowed to claim their own stories.
9. Email is required for all participants, and Discord is highly encouraged. These will be our primary modes of communication.

10. All deadline times are in EST.
11. Be respectful to your partner(s) and all other participants. Adhere to deadlines and communicate openly, early, and often if you are struggling to meet them. Be kind about others' work. Be kind about your own work.

For Writers

1. The minimum word count for all stories is 20k.
2. All stories must be fully complete (written *and* edited) by the final writing deadline: June 30, 2022 at 11:59 p.m. EST.
3. You may publish your story in multiple chapters, but all chapters must be uploaded to AO3 by the end of the posting window: July 31, 2022.
 - a. You must send a complete draft of your fic to the mods prior to your work being accepted into the collection on AO3. If you are planning to post incrementally, you must show the mods a posting schedule.
4. Stories must be standalone. You cannot submit a previous work.
5. Please include a "Bandom Big Bang 2022" tag and post to the Bandom Big Bang 2022 collection on Archive of Our Own.
6. You must have a complete rough draft of **15k–20k words** by **April 30, 2022**. Your story must have a beginning, middle, and end. You may continue to add, edit, and beta-read your story until the final writing deadline of June 30, 2022.
 - a. You must submit proof of completion of your rough draft to the mods prior to claims.
 - b. You must send your completed rough draft to your partner(s) within a week following claims.

For Creators

1. Primary creators may submit art or fic. The accepted media for art submissions are digital and traditional art. You may participate in first and second wave sign ups. Works can receive up to two primary creations: one in the first wave of claims and one in the second wave of claims, but are only guaranteed one.

2. Secondary creators may submit playlists, edits, manips, moodboards, etc. You may participate in second wave sign ups after primary creators have selected their works. Up to two secondary creators may claim a work in the second wave of claims, provided that work has not been claimed by two primary creators.
3. Creators may claim up to two stories. If you wish to claim more, you will need additional mod approval.
4. Creations must be made specifically for this challenge and based on your partner's story.
5. Your creations must be available on Archive of Our Own.
 - a. For primary creators: Creators who write companion fics should publish their story with an "inspired by X story" link. Artists may either post their art separately on AO3 with the same guideline, and/or have their art embedded in their partner's story. Please include a "Bandom Big Bang 2022" tag and post to the Bandom Big Bang 2022 collection.
 - b. For secondary creators: Much like primary creators, secondary creators may post their work on AO3, if applicable, with an "inspired by X story" link, and/or have their work embedded in their partner's story. Please include a "Bandom Big Bang 2022" tag and post to the Bandom Big Bang 2022 collection.
6. Minimums for primary creations:
 - a. Art — One art piece (a banner, character portrait, comic panel, etc.)
 - b. Fic — 2k companion story (a prequel, spin-off, epilogue, etc.)
7. There are no specifications for secondary creations.

For Beta Readers

The official beta reader position is new to BBB in 2022!

1. A beta reader is someone who supports an author during the drafting and editing stages, offering feedback on a variety of things, such as grammar, flow, ideas, etc. Essentially, they help the author understand their writing from the

average reader's perspective. The ideal author-beta relationship is a partnership throughout most of the process that gives the author encouragement and motivation.

2. Betas will differ in the kind of support given, but should be ready to be the most helpful in June, when most writers should be entering the final editing stage on their projects.
3. Sign ups for beta readers and author opt-ins will end on February 28. On March 1, beta claims will open and last until March 7. For purposes of beta claims, authors will provide details regarding possible story ideas, triggers, and the qualities that they would value the most in a beta reader.
4. The beta reader position is a longer time commitment than the other supportive creator roles. Accordingly, if you think that there is a strong possibility that you will not be able to fulfill your duties as a beta reader throughout the rest of the process, reconsider claiming a fic. This especially applies to beta readers who also plan on contributing a fic to the collection or acting as a creator.
5. Betas and authors should discuss their expectations for each other and their needs as soon as possible. Some authors might only want help in the editing stage of their work, and others might primarily struggle with motivation and would benefit the most from a cheerleader.
6. Betas should be kind and supportive to their authors. Authors seeking beta help are encouraged to be forthright about the level of constructive criticism they are willing to receive, and betas should respond accordingly to that. Remember that while we all want to put out our best work possible, at the end of the day, authors write fic for fun and for free, and we value a supportive environment over perfect work.
7. You are your claimed author's official partner, but you are not restricted to only giving constructive feedback to your chosen partner. This is a community space in which we can ideally regularly share ideas and ask for advice. Of course, authors are welcome to seek beta help outside of BBB or their official beta reader if they choose.
 - a. The beta readers channel is an ideal place for authors to ask for short-term help and advice. Don't feel slighted if your author asks for help from other people. Some of the best things about writing communities are all of the different perspectives on your work you can get from others!

TIMELINE

All deadlines are at 11:59 p.m. EST unless otherwise stated.

- December 1 — All Sign-Ups Open
- January 31 — Writer Sign-Ups Close
- February 28 — Beta Sign-Ups Close
- March 1 - 7 — Beta Claims
- March 26 - 27 — First Check-In
- April 23 — Creator Sign-Ups Close
- April 30 — Rough Drafts Due
- May 2 - 7 — Creator Claims*
 - May 1 - 3 — First Wave
 - May 4 - 7 — Second Wave
- June 4 - 5 — Second Check-In
- July 1 - 31 — BBB Posting Window**

*The list of works to claim will be released on May 1. Claims officially open on May 2 at 12:01 a.m. EST.

**The collection goes live on July 1 at 12:01 a.m. EST.

Total Time: 7 months

- 4 months for writers to complete a rough draft.
- 2 months for writers to finish editing, creators to complete companion pieces, and betas to make final suggestions.
- 1 month for posting.

LINKS

Sign-Up Forms

Writer Sign-Ups: <https://forms.gle/VohQXsYJCoQegt4D9>

Creator Sign-Ups: <https://forms.gle/4ZXo8TtyvEhk8tFK9>

Beta Reader Sign-Ups: <https://forms.gle/58h9J5Hhus7Rv4wW7>

Community

BBB 2022 Server: <https://discord.gg/kp4gcuegw2>

Bandom Creator Server: <https://discord.com/invite/jHckVBVAvQ>

AO3 Collection

BBB 2022 Collection: <https://archiveofourown.org/collections/BandomBigBang2022>

Resources

Guide to BBB for Writers:

<https://bandombigbang.tumblr.com/post/673028799704793088/what-will-bbb-look-like-for-me-as-a-writer>

FAQs

Q: What is a Big Bang?

A: Big Bang is a fandom challenge designed to create an explosion of new work in a fandom. Traditionally, writers are challenged to write a long story (usually between 20k–50k), while being paired with an artist who creates a piece of art based on said story.

Q: How does Bandom Big Bang 2022 differ from other Big Bangs?

A: BBB 2022 is traditional in many ways: writers must write a substantial amount of words, they are paired with a partner, and all the work is released at a set time. However, unlike other BBB events, we welcome writers to publish their stories in multiple chapters and we allow writers to act as creators, writing short companion stories instead of making art.

Q: More specifically, how does 2022 differ from last year's BBB?

A: This year, we are tightening up the posting window and creation mediums. All works, including multi-chaptered works, must be fully published within a month of the day that the collection is revealed on AO3. That means that while you must publish at least the first chapter of a story on July 1, you have from July 1–31 to post your story, at which point the collection will close. We are dividing creators up into two tiers: primary and secondary. Primary creators must contribute fics or art, while secondary creators may contribute playlists, edits, moodboards, etc. We are adding new restrictions on age and content, which you can read more about below.

Q: I want to write for BBB 2022, but I'm afraid I won't make the deadline.

A: We encourage anyone who is interested in participating to sign up. If you cannot make the April 30th deadline, then your story will simply not be posted for claims. There is no harm or foul for signing up and dropping out before the April 30th deadline.

Q: Are there any limits on what type of content we can write or create?

A: Yes. The BBB collection will not host works containing incest, pedophilia, or graphic depictions of underage or sexual assault, nor will discussion of these topics be tolerated in BBB community spaces. Beyond that, there are no specific content restrictions. Use your common sense and tag for major, expected content warnings.

Q: I am a minor. Am I allowed to participate?

A: No. You must be 18 by the time you sign up for the challenge to participate. We welcome you to consume the content produced by BBB 2022 (so long as you respect age guidelines on Ao3) and join when you are old enough.

Q: Why are there new restrictions on age and content this year?

A: In the past, BBB has allowed for participation of all ages and submission for all kinds of content (with restrictions on minors writing and interacting with mature/explicit works). We understand the well-intentioned reasoning behind the decision of prior mods to run the challenge this way, but we have decided to moderate BBB in a way that feels right to us.

The goal of BBB is community building—to encourage collaboration and creation between fandom creators. We believe that within the community spaces central to BBB, the presence of minors (who would not be able to participate in much, anyway, with age restrictions) and works including incest, pedophilia, and explicit underage/sexual assault would deter many from feeling comfortable there. This has been the case in the past.

After a lengthy discussion, we have reached the conclusion that, while some people who have participated in the past will be excluded this year, the very small decrease in content will help participants feel more comfortable. We prioritize the comfort of people participating in the challenge over someone's ability to associate their work with the challenge's name. Therefore, we reserve the right in very rare cases to deny participation to specific individuals whose presence within the BBB22 community would make the majority of members feel uncomfortable and unsafe within those community spaces.

If you have questions or concerns about this specific aspect of the guidelines, please feel free to reach out.

Q: I want to participate, but I am worried that the quality of my work won't be good enough.

A: We encourage anyone who is interested to be involved. Remember that at the end of the day, we are all doing this for free and because we love it. You definitely do not need to be a professional to join!

Q: You say the challenge starts on January 1, but sign ups and the Discord server open on December 1. What's the difference? What exactly starts on January 1?

A: While BBB 2022 only requires that you produce an entire work that has not yet been published online, the general idea of the challenge is that participants start writing in January when the challenge starts. Once the challenge officially starts on January 1, we plan to host events in community spaces (primarily the Discord server—please join it!) such as group writing sessions with the Sprinto bot or group check-in voice calls.

Q: What community is there for writers and creators?

A: BBB participants are highly encouraged to [join our Discord server](#) for writing sprints, informal check-ins, brainstorming, support, beta-reading, and general bandom chatter.

Q: What are claims?

A: Claims are the process in which creators select which story(s) they want to create for. Challenge moderators will contact creators and beta readers with details regarding works available to be claimed.

There are two waves of creator claims. All stories must be claimed by a primary creator during the first wave before anyone can claim a second story.

Q: Can I sign up as both a creator and a writer, as a writer and beta reader, or as some combination of those different roles?

A: Yes! In fact, this is highly encouraged.

CONTACT US

Please feel free to contact the mods on the BBB 2022 Twitter or Tumblr, individually, or by using our joint email!

Bandom Big Bang 2022

- Email: bandombigbang2022@gmail.com
- Twitter: [@bandombigbang22](https://twitter.com/bandombigbang22)
- Tumblr: [@bandombigbang](https://www.tumblr.com/bandombigbang)

Carp (primary challenge moderator)

- Twitter: [@antspaul_ao3](https://twitter.com/antspaul_ao3)
- Tumblr: [@antspaul](https://www.tumblr.com/antspaul) / [@girlfriend-frank](https://www.tumblr.com/girlfriend-frank)
- Ao3: [antspaul](https://www.fanfiction.net/u/12345678/antspaul)

Owen (primary challenge moderator)

- Twitter: [@ochresaturn](https://twitter.com/ochresaturn)
- Tumblr: [@findingsaturn](https://www.tumblr.com/findingsaturn)
- Ao3: [findingsaturn](https://www.fanfiction.net/u/12345678/findingsaturn)

Vyn

- Twitter: [@memoriesglow](https://twitter.com/memoriesglow)
- Tumblr: [@bringmoreknives](https://www.tumblr.com/bringmoreknives)
- Ao3: [runandgo](https://www.fanfiction.net/u/12345678/runandgo)

Sophia

- Tumblr: [@grammyawardwinnermeatloaf](https://www.tumblr.com/grammyawardwinnermeatloaf)
- Ao3: [grammyawardwinnermeatloaf](https://www.fanfiction.net/u/12345678/grammyawardwinnermeatloaf)

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