

TL;DR: I was a former Junior Staff, Criticism and one other team that I don't want to discuss. I was the individual that had a 'relationship' with Subtletea and her online girlfriend. While I did not personally care what punishment they received, and would rather have stayed as far away from the site as possible, excepting a couple of smaller friendships, I do believe that subtletea should probably be punished to some extent. The wiki is filled with the following types of individuals in my experience:

1. Younger individuals who, either out of loneliness or out of a longing for community, join it and never leave it.
2. Competent to great writers who, for one reason or another, don't leave and go on to bigger and better things despite being clearly talented.
3. Moral and ideological busybodies who destroy potentially good fiction with badly written forms of politics (I am a Socialist and believe that a lot of political fiction on the site is not good for ideological as well as literary reasons); and
4. Sex pests.

If you're just interested in that leave now because this is going to be a bit long, so if you're not interested in reading about my experiences that's understandable. The big material (time line, personal experiences, etc) are all true. More specific information is either obfuscated or outright lies to protect myself and the people around me from identification. I don't care about publicity. I just want to write this to get my own personal feelings out there, and finally put this four year span of my life down for good.

And now, without further ado, here we go.

I -- The Beginning

I joined the SCP-wiki when I was 14 years old, around three to six months before I turned of age. I did it for two reasons: (1), it was the summer before I joined a new school and wanted some new friends to keep myself from becoming lonely and (2) I wanted desperately to contribute to the wiki. The 2016 website felt very different from today, with Series 3 being far from filled up. I had written a couple of reddit short stories, all badly written and deleted from the internet out of embarrassment (as most authors tend to do for their early, early work).

My first experience on the website's criticism was when a major writer on the website, around since I believe 2009 or so, criticized my work in a very harsh manner. While I do not have the original criticism, as it was on IRC and before I had IRCCloud, which keeps track of most logs from your time, it boiled down to "this sucks and go back and make it better", which felt like the

equivalent of colliding with a brick wall at ninety miles an hour. I will not attempt to make myself look tough as this was the first time I had received criticism above 'this is not the greatest thing' or 'this isn't good' and I did cry. Now a days it wouldn't, but it hurt back then. As far as I can tell, the author wasn't stopped from giving future feedback as newer users would have for similar comments, but I cannot confirm for 100% sure.

This is not to insult staff, but the culture of the website as a whole. While I did not realize it at the time it was my first time experiencing the differences between how a newer and established user experiences the site. I do not begrudge the author for giving me this criticism, for it was rather true on the article I had tried writing. Rather I begrudge the community for allowing different standards of harshness in criticism, and believe that either all criticism should be allowed regardless of its harshness or that a certain barrier of harshness should be allowed.

While, as far as I can tell, this doesn't happen as much nowadays, I have no doubt that double standard still exists not only for established users but for users who, while established, are not in the in crowd of individuals that can be trusted.

II -- The Troll

This section is about my experiences with Junior Staff and my relationship with the notorious Troll Xenomorph666, who had harassed the website from late 2016 to (I believe) mid early 2018. Xenomorph666 was found to have edited other people's sandboxes and post porn on the forums. At around the same time I became Junior Staff, specifically as apart of the new mega-project the Grand Crosslinking, which would ensure a wider acceptance of crosslinking and a shared universe in wiki fiction. I will not lie and say that my track record on the project was great, as it was not. But I would like to think it provide some net good to the community, even if I wouldn't dare associate myself with the community at the time.

When Xenomorph666 was banned, he contacted me and wanted to apologize to me and the community (specifically an other individual, who he had romantic feelings for, who I will call 'B'). I felt sorry for Xenomorph for two reasons: (1) he was autistic, and I thought that maybe this was some lash out that he realized was bad and (2) he seemed genuinely regretful of his actions. I will not deny that this was probably a dumb decision but I was a lot dumber and naive back then.

During this time I also got involved in criticism in the forum, and while I did some good here and there, one incident in my mind sticks out for myself falling into harshness in my criticism.

Out of anger one night, I stated to a coldposter (an individual who posts articles without feedback) that it sucked and that they should stop doing this. It was harsher than it sounds, especially considering they were a newbie. I went to sleep and was contacted by the leader of the forum criticism team, Soulless Singularity, who asked if I did harsh criticism. I did not know what incident they were referring to, so I said no. They found that acceptable and went about their day. Then they came back and asked again, and when they elaborated, I finally realized what I did and I felt like a cock sucker. They were willing to allow this to be forgotten about because I did good things for the community, but they eventually let me go because a bit later I posted less than good criticism in the forums (non-harsh) because I was too excited to do some good for the community.

But what, in my opinion, destroyed the possibility of an early rise in site management was when it was revealed that Xenomorph, by around early 2017, was using a fake name to participate in SCP related stuff (writing, contests, IRC, etc.) Prior to this ProcyonLotor found out that I was still in contact with Xenomorph (he hated started a wikidot writing site and I joined it out of a sense of being friendly) and said that this was bad. It was, and I don't deny it, but I also felt that he had genuinely tried to reform. Yes, he had lapses and tried to join chat, but I felt he was at least trying to reform himself. My mindset was, well, if he was trying, why should I put him down because he did bad things in the past?

But the night it was revealed I was pissed and took it out on Xenomorph. He had lied to me. He had "backstabbed" me. I cut off most contact after that. I hated him. Now, though, I just pity him because he is apart of the same category of young people sucked into a community that served as a social outlet, to the point of obsession. I should have realized this but I didn't at the time.

Then when staff promotions went up, and I was one of the members, Procy revealed that I had been in contact with him. I didn't read most of the thread because I felt humiliated in public, but I knew my chances of rising to be dead in the water. I don't know the final vote count, but it must have been like 90% against me. I apologized to 'B' because of this, saying that I should have revealed personal information about them to Xenomorph (I told Xenomorph about 'B', nothing huge as far as I can tell, but just basic stuff that they revealed in chat). I do regret that and there's nothing I can do that would make me feel otherwise.

This was my last big interaction with staff.

III -- Sexual Relationships

Now for the stuff you probably care about: the fucked up shit of the wiki. My relationship with subltea was brief and almost non-existent, mostly her watching me and her girlfriend's e-fucking in a private chat room she had created. Aside from dirty talk she didn't speak that much.

I think there's two reasons why I, as a 15 year old, at the time did this was for two reasons:

1. I was romantically lonely. The 2017 year was a hard one for me when it came to friends. Outside of the SCP wiki community I had no constant human contact. Most of my crushes had turn to the internet, and I retreated to a fantasy world of fiction.
2. I was horny. Outside playing video games I was deeply horny. I must have jerked off three to four times a day during the worst periods of 2017. It was the only time I had any physical enjoyment in my life.

In this horny, depressed 15 year old's brain, who wouldn't wanna fuck some girl while her girlfriend watched? It sounds like a dream come true.

I will somewhat defend both of them in that I never explicitly identified myself as under the age. The closest is when I left the room when they asked 'are you 18?', which should have been an indicator, but they continued after I avoided the question. I don't know if that would hold up in a court of law but it's what happened.

Subltea and I became more disconnected, more like friends than fuck buddies, but her girlfriend and I continued it for at least a year.

I don't know how to feel about the situation. The rational, logical part of my mind understands that what happened was bad. It shouldn't have happened. I should have been smart. I should have realized this wasn't a good idea. But the emotional part of my remembers enjoying it. I liked it, and it would often get me through the day. I don't think it fucked me up, but I am no psychologist.

Side point: I will defend most of staff on this point, because three months ago, Soulless singularity came to me in a PM asking if I and tea had a relationship. Me, not wishing to acknowledge it considering I just wanted to move on from the community, said 'no we were just friends'. I lied. I don't know what I should have said. Maybe that makes me a pussy for not being honest.

The community created an obsession for me. Even after the public humiliation, I obsessively checked it and still wanted to write it. I wrote material I found good, and many in the community found good. (I have one 100+ article and many that around 50+). I made friends. By about 2019 I began to drift away but by that time I had multiple mental breakdowns either related to the site or contributed to by the site.

I felt disliked and hated by everyone in the community. I was mildly successful, and I felt like most people (taking aside the xenomorph incident) respected me, but I was never going to be a djkaktus figure. I would always be small fry. It ate at me inside, which contributed to a bit of an inferiority complex. Many of my articles were small things, while well liked, had very little love from the wider community.

I don't want to sound like I am bitching, but it is how I felt. Now a days I realize it was stupid. But back then I wanted people to respect me, to like me, to think of me as being an important member in the community.

Mark Fisher, a socialist theorist who tragically ended his own life in January of 2017, stated the following that sticks with me today:

It goes without saying that all mental illnesses are neurologically instantiated, but this says nothing about their causation. If it is true, for instance, that depression is constituted by low serotonin levels, what still needs to be explained is why particular individuals have low levels of serotonin. This requires a social and political explanation....

This was what happened with me. I internalized the depression within me -- that the problem was me, that the depression was entirely biological with no social reason for existing -- and not anything else. It isn't the SCP community. It isn't my own personal life, or my role within it (or lack thereof), or even the nature of our entire society, but strictly my own fault.

And it ate away at me.

I deleted my account two times. I thought I could get away by shutting it all down but I couldn't. It stuck its claws into me and it wouldn't go away. I always came back.

There was only one person who helped me get away from that website. He is my boyfriend, who I will not talk about here but he is the most important person in my life who helped me get away

from this horrible void that had developed in my mind. I still struggle with depression. But it is better without dealing with a wider community where you feel like another brick in the wall.

V -- The Conclusion

I am writing this for two reasons, one selfless (at least I would like to think this reason is selfless) and one selfish: because I want to inform others of my experience and to finally bury this demon of mine. Ever after a year of having left this website I still check up on it, reading, checking the forums and (of course, as usual for any obsessive SCP fanboy and girl), O5 command.

The problem of this community is that we have individuals who are completely unaccountable to the userbase. It is officially meritocratic but is in reality in sorta oligarchic democracy for the enfranchised, where admins and moderators and operational staff get to determine who is let into the club.

Obviously, it can't just outright ignore the will of the users. No one (outside of people who were obsessed with the website) would stay with it. Like the old urban political machines of New York or Chicago, they had to be responsive or else they would lose everything. All the rules and laws they put up to a 'democratic vote' are from individuals who at least try to keep a pulse on the community. Sometimes they fail, sometimes they succeed, and sometimes they just jam their reforms down the throats of the userbase. The latter is the least likely, but it has happened.

How to fix the SCP community is a difficult thing. Any entrenched community leadership will not give up their power willingly. It is the nature of power. They play politics, such as silencing dissent, because politics is the science of power: how to get it and keep it. I don't think most of staff is aware of this, any more than any politician is aware of it, but those instincts exist either way.

But here is how I would fix it:

1. Admins and moderators become elected positions. Difficult to enact but plausible if votes are counted by a third party (or, failing that, votes of confidence in admins and moderators by the public)
2. Admins and moderators are term limited, or rotatable, with being six to twelve month terms.
3. All staff chats are completely open and available to the public (excepting sexual harassment cases).
4. Making site membership 18+

5. Make it legal to ban individuals who have shown themselves to be mentally ill, and with evidence to suggest that the SCP wiki is contributing badly to their mental health.
6. Make voting non-visible to individuals without an account, and only visible if an individual explicitly turns on this function.

A lot of this can only be done on a self made website, the likes of which is being currently created by the SCP staff. But I think it could be done. I understand that a lot of this may sound utopian but I think some amount of democracy is important to keep abuses of power in check.

I understand that this was long but I had a lot on my mind. From now on, I am done with this community. I am done with the SCP wiki as a whole. Maybe I'll come back when things have gotten better, but I don't think that's apart of the hand I'm dealt.

I feel no regrets, other than that I didn't write this earlier.

See you, space cowboy.