

1. What's your name and who is your fursona?

My name is, uh... Well, that's not really important, but my fursona's name is Voltaire Siano, though he simply goes by Volt.

2. What do you have in common with your fursona?

A lot, actually. At first, I wanted him to be a more logical and composed version of me, but as time passed he became more and more like I actually am; I think he has my sort of personalities, but takes them to extremes.

3. How long have you been a furry?

Two or three years? Yeah, that's about right.

Actually, it's hard to define a certain point. While I definitely wasn't a furry for my whole life, sometime between 2014 and now I just began to slowly lower myself into the waters of the fandom. It was a gradual shift.

4. What was your first exposure to the furry fandom?

Like a lot of people, my first exposure was seeing a fursuit. But there was more to it than simply finding one in the depths of an internet searching spree.

Basically, I one day found myself excessively interested in the idea of costumes, especially ones like fursuits (though I didn't even know the term at the time). So, I was looking across the internet for costumes and such, found a fursuit picture as one of my results, and it only grew from there.

5. Why are you a furry?

In what sense? A physical reason or chain of events, or an emotional reason that keeps me here? I'm gonna' go with the latter, seeing as I just explained the former.

First of all, I don't see any reason to stop being a furry; either I am or I'm not—and I am. But if you're looking for something more "in depth", it'd probably be the ability to share what I like with others. To share my work,

to observe that of others. It's really neat to see what others create, and to see that they like what you've created.

6. Who knows that you're a furry? Is there anyone you're keeping it a secret from?

By now, my whole family; my parents, brother, and both sisters. At first, only my mother knew. Then, much later, my brother discovered this fact. When I had ordered the sample furs over the mail, my dad saw the package and began asking questions, so he at least knows I'm into fursuiting. Finally, I recently showed my sisters the fursuit I'm currently working on, so they kinda' know also. Oh, and there's also two of my older sister's friends, who were around when I showed my sisters.

As for whom I'm keeping it a secret from, that would be pretty much everyone else; either there hasn't been an optimal time to talk about furies, and whether or not I am one (this would apply to friends), or I would just rather not let them know I enjoy the idea of anthropomorphic animals (this would apply to all the professionals in my life, like employers, professors, et cetera).

7. How do people usually respond when you tell them you're a furry?

My parents and brother took it in stride, and my parents think it's actually pretty cool (the fursuit at least). My sisters were a little confused when I showed them, but those were different circumstances.

8. Do you think the stereotypes for the fandom are accurate? Do you personally fit the stereotypes?

Eh, no. This is something I haven't gotten many chances to say, but it's just a fandom, and fandoms are made of people, who can be pretty stupid sometimes... some more than others. Unfortunately, we live in a day where certain outspoken people, and even the media, will take any chance they can to make others look bad. That chance comes from those "some" that

were previously mentioned. And this has become the stereotype for the fandom. Just keep in mind, however, that not everybody is a hater, and some people don't even know about this stereotype, and some don't even know about the fandom. So all is not lost for us.

If I haven't made it clear already, I don't fit the stereotype, thank the Lord.

9. Do you believe that you are entirely human or consider yourself human?

Yes, I am human—full-blooded, 100%, no-doubt-about-it human.

10. Do you have a fursuit?

Working on it!

11. Have you attended any furry conventions?

Nope. I'm a bit young to go by myself, and I'm still a bit uncomfortable about asking one of my parents to go with me. Not that I have a problem with them knowing I'm a furry, but I don't want to drag them into a whole building full of them just yet. I'll probably go when I'm eighteen, but I can wait until then.

12. Do you hate anything about the fandom?

The amount of inappropriate art that has entered the galleries. I mean, for Peat's sake! It is possible to make good art without showing off or exaggerating special parts... They make me uncomfortable....

13. Is there anything you would like to say to young or new members of the fandom?

Don't let anybody force you into a being one type of furry or another. There's thousands of different furries out there enjoying the fandom in thousands of different ways. Find your own!

Don't let the haters get you down. There will be haters, and that can't be helped. Either do one of two things: ignore them, or say something that'll get them thinking; thinking about the good things and such. I've seen many a perspective change simply because of a well thought out message.

And have fun! There's many different things to enjoy here. You like art? Try chipping in a work of your own! Enjoy a good novel? Heck, we've got writers here too. Or, simply enjoy the work of others and let them know you enjoyed it. This is a community—we work, chat, and enjoy life together.