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YA ANTHOLOGIES

Amplifying Voices, Building Community

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YA Anthologies

Amplifying Voices, Building Community

Elements in Publishing and Book Culture

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ABSTRACT: Despite their long publishing history, anthologies have received little scholarly attention. However, they play an important role in collecting, and reflecting upon, voices and identities that have all-too-often been on the fringes of publishing. This Element explores the sociocultural functions of anthologies in relation to discussions around exclusion/inclusion in the publishing industry. Focusing on YA anthologies, using a case study of *A Change Is Gonna Come* anthology (2017), this Element argues that the form and function of anthologies allows them to respond to and represent changing ideas of socially marginalised identities. In *A Change Is Gonna Come*, this medium also affords BPOC authors a platform and community for introspection and the development of both individual and collective identities. Beyond merely introducing writings by socially marginalised groups, this Element contends that YA anthologies embody a form of literary activism, fostering community-building and offering a means to circumvent obstacles prevalent in publishing.

KEYWORDS: young adult fiction, authorship, anthologies, diversity/inclusion, publishing/publishers

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