

Incels and other misogynistic trolls regularly target women authors on platforms like [Amazon](#) and [Goodreads](#) through coordinated campaigns of online abuse, review-bombing, and in some cases, extortion. This has been an ongoing issue for years, with many authors reporting the problem to the platforms with varied success. [🔗](#)

Tactics Used by Trolls

- Review-bombing:** This is the primary tactic, where trolls post numerous one-star ratings and negative reviews to artificially lower an author's average rating, which can significantly impact book sales and career prospects.
- Extortion:** Some authors have reported being targeted by individuals who first "review-bomb" their books and then demand ransom money in exchange for removing the negative reviews.
- Harassment and Bullying:** Authors who speak out on social issues or identify as women have faced vicious personal attacks, including general insults about their writing, character, and person.
- Anonymity:** The ability to create multiple anonymous accounts allows bad actors to continue their harassment without accountability, a flaw in the system that authors have long petitioned to change. [🔗](#)

Impact on Authors

The trolling has had a significant emotional and professional toll on authors, some of whom have reported: [🔗](#)

- Experiencing emotional distress, leading to a loss of enjoyment in writing.
- Having their book series retired by publishers due to a drop in average ratings.
- Feeling that the platforms do not provide adequate protection, as Goodreads (owned by Amazon) has been slow to take action in many cases. [🔗](#)

Platform Response and Author Action

Goodreads and Amazon state they have community guidelines and reporting functions for abuse. However, authors often report that getting the platforms to act is difficult. When authors publicize the threats, an "army" of fellow authors and readers sometimes comes to their aid by posting positive reviews to counter the negative ones. [🔗](#)

Authors dealing with these issues are often advised to:

- Immediately take screenshots of all conversations and reviews as evidence.
- Report the abuse to Goodreads, Amazon, or other relevant platforms.
- File a complaint with the Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3), a division of the FBI. [🔗](#)

Books like Laura Bates's *Men Who Hate Women* and Talia Lavin's *Culture Warlords* have explored these online misogynistic and white supremacist communities, shedding light on the origins and tactics of these groups. [🔗](#)

Dive deeper in AI Mode



Goodreads

https://www.goodreads.com › topic › show › 23277865...

[INCOMPLETE] Cleanup: Men Who Hate Women Showing ...

Nov 17, 2025 — ... trolls and the incel movement. Drawing parallels to other extremist movements around the world, including white nationalism, Bates shows ... [Read more](#)

Goodreads

https://www.goodreads.com › 41214321-troll-hunting

Troll Hunting: Inside the World of Online Hate and its ...

Apr 16, 2019 — Troll Hunting is about cyberhate – relentless and malicious online trolling. It features stories of being the victim of trolling from many ... [Read more](#)

\$7.99 · 3.8 ⭐⭐⭐⭐☆ (819)

Goodreads

https://www.goodreads.com › 174670078-just-a-girl

Just a Girl by Alyssa Cole

Jul 25, 2023 — A college student on various social media is victimized by a gang of incels & misogynists. It turns into a troll fest with hate messages. The ... [Read more](#)

3.4 ⭐⭐⭐⭐☆ (7,062)

People also ask

- Why are people moving from Goodreads?
- Is Goodreads still owned by Amazon?
- [Feedback](#)

Goodreads

https://www.goodreads.com › book › show › 5099797...

Culture Warlords: My Journey Into the Dark Web of White...

Oct 13, 2020 — Culture Warlords is the story of how Lavin, a frequent target of extremist trolls (including those at Fox News), dove into a byzantine online culture of hate. [Read more](#)

\$11.99 · 3.9 ⭐⭐⭐⭐☆ (5,986)

Amazon.com

https://www.amazon.com › Culture-Warlords-Journey-...

Culture Warlords: My Journey Into the Dark Web of White ...

CULTURE WARLORDS is the story of how Lavin, a frequent target of extremist trolls (including those at Fox News), dove into a byzantine online culture of ... [Read more](#)

The Bookseller

https://www.thebookseller.com › news › goodreads-fac...

Goodreads faces further criticism from authors over trolls ...

Jul 10, 2025 — Does Goodreads do enough to protect authors from trolls? Goodreads reveals changes to prevent 'review bombing'. Other writers shared their ... [Read more](#)

Missing: ~~incel~~ ~~women~~

The Guardian

https://www.theguardian.com › books › booksblog › aug

Trolls: now available on Amazon books

Aug 1, 2014 — Troll reviewing is a release for them." This same release is at the heart of much online trolling. New cases of abusive behaviour towards women ... [Read more](#)

Missing: ~~incel~~ | Show results with: ~~incel~~

Time Magazine

https://time.com › Entertainment › Amazon

Cyberbullying's Latest Frontier: Amazon Book Reviews

Mar 5, 2014 — The creature with which Anne Rice is most commonly associated is the vampire, but that doesn't mean she's a stranger to trolls — at least of the ... [Read more](#)

Missing: ~~incel~~ ~~targeting~~

Facebook · For Reading Addicts

50+ reactions · 6 months ago

#BLOG: Goodreads Under Fire: Authors Speak Out Against ...

As an author, two of my novels have been targeted with low ratings by these Goodreads trolls who destroy author reputations as a blood sport. [Read more](#)

Missing: ~~incel~~ ~~women~~

Reddit · r/selfpublish

80+ comments · 2 years ago

A talk with the troll : r/selfpublish

I had a recent talk with the troll who has been trashing the books of many indie authors on Goodreads. Perhaps this post will shed some ... [Read more](#)

[I was trolled after self-publishing a novel. It's ruined ...](#) 130 posts Aug 10, 2020

[Article about Goodreads: How Extortion Scams and ...](#) 29 posts Aug 12, 2021

[More results from www.reddit.com](#)

Missing: ~~incel~~ ~~women~~

People also search for



[Feedback](#)

Incel trolls targeting women authors on amazon and goodrea...

Men Who Hate Women and the women who love them quotes

Incel trolls targeting women authors on amazon and goodrea...

Men Who Hate Women Book Barnes and Noble

Incel trolls targeting women authors on amazon and goodrea...

Men Who Hate Women Kindle

Men who hate women PDF

Men Who hate women Swedish book