**The Digitalization of Reader Response: How Technology Has Enabled a New Relationship between the Reader, the Text and the Author.**

**Grace Halden**

**Birkbeck College, University of London**

The Internet and the digitalization of texts have transformed the way literature is viewed, processed and exchanged. Although e-readers are traditionally used to view a text, this medium has numerous implications beyond its primary function. Some e-readers can access other electronic documents such as newsfeeds, and e-reader aps can be used in conjunction with the internet.

In this paper I discuss the wider implications of digitalized literature. I suggest that technology has resulted in a widening of the creative field to include supplementary ‘texts’ such as Twitter feeds, Facebook comments, Tumblr blogs and forum exchanges in which the reader is able to extend texts in new ways. This paper focuses specifically on e-reader applications for phones and computers, and how these applications enable a reader to both view a text and extend the text simultaneously through fan interaction on the internet. In addition, the ability of readers to converse with the author online through social networking sites will be discussed.

Reference will be made to the development of storytelling as a technology including oral traditions, art, print and e-readers. However, predominantly this paper considers how the Internet and e-reader applications enable constant ‘contact’ with texts in a variety of forms – a revolution which has fundamentally altered the way texts are experienced and has significantly altered the relationship between author and reader.