CAT PUN SCIENCE

OR WHY DOESN'T DAVEPETA SOUND LIKE DAVEPETA???

LIKE SERIOUSLY HAVE YOU READ *BEYOND CANON*'S UPDATE FROM HELL???

I MEAN NO HATE TO THE *BEYOND CANON* CREW, THEY'RE DOING REALLY GOOD AND I ACTUALLY THINK THIS WHOLE THING MIGHT BE INTENTIONAL? SO DON'T TAKE THIS AS ME HATING ON THEM, AT WORST IT JUST MEANS THEY'RE JUST MAKING DIFFERENT PUNS.

…Okay, I'm done with the bright, colored text gimmick. This is a for-fun project because I thought Davepeta's puns sounded really different, so I wanted an objective comparison of them. No one else seemed to be doing it, so I decided to put my research and statistics experience to work by doing some very basic comparisons of the numbers when it comes to the individual puns (i.e. the entire word with the pun), pun replacements (i.e. the word being added to make it a pun), and the pun parts replaced (i.e. what part of a word is being replaced with a pun).

Don't take this *too* seriously, it's meant to be all in good fun. As someone who roleplays as Davepeta, I like keeping up with the cat puns used, so this was also a good opportunity for me to collect all of the cat puns Davepeta makes in one organized spot.

Hypothesis

This silly little project hypothesizes that Davepeta uses significantly different styles of cat puns between canon and post-canon content.

Methods

On July 30th, 2024, I went to the *MS Paint Adventures Wiki*'s (*MSPA Wiki*) page for Davepeta and opened up all of their linked pesterlogs for *Homestuck*, *The Epilogues*, and *Beyond Canon*. I then went through the pesterlogs, checking each subsequent page for continuing conversation until the scene ended.

Next, I copied all of Davepeta's lines into this spreadsheet, organized by source. Each line was determined by a line break, noted visually by Davepeta's name appearing before the new line of text.

After all lines were retrieved, I went through and coded them as either having a cat pun or not having a cat pun and noted the individual pun. I chose to exclude themed words and only count lines wherein Davepeta clearly modified a word to include a cat pun. I went through each line and noted every single pun,

what the pun of the word was, and what the pun was replacing. This entire process was completed by August 1st, 2024.

Results

In *Homestuck*, Davepeta has 369 lines of text. Of those lines, only 20 (approximately 5.42%) of Davepeta's lines have cat puns in them. I will be excluding one line with one pun in it due to it being Davepeta repeating a pun made by Jasprose, as seen on [page 7897](#). Thus, 19 (approximately 5.15%) of Davepeta's lines from *Homestuck* will be included in this analysis. Each line with cat puns had an average of exactly one cat pun per line.

In *The Epilogues*, Davepeta has 20 lines of text. Of those lines, only 4 (20%) of Davepeta's lines have cat puns in them. Each line with cat puns had an average of 1.25 cat puns per line, with one word having two puns in it.

In *Beyond Canon*, Davepeta currently has 65 lines of text. Of those lines, only 18 (approximately 27.69%) have cat puns in them. Each line with cat puns had an average of 1.16 cat puns per line.

There were a total of 40 individual puns. When compared by word, only one (2.5%) individual pun (for into fur) appears in both canon and post-canon, used twice in both *Homestuck* and *Beyond Canon*. Only 3 (7.5%) puns (for into fur, course into coarse, and literally into litterally) were repeated in total, with the later two being instances of Davepeta being amused by the ingenuity of the pun and

repeating it immediately after having just used it in *Homestuck*, as seen on (litterally) and (coarse).

When broken down by what the puns replaced, there were a total of 35 individual pun part replacements; 16 in *Homestuck*, 5 in *The Epilogues*, and 19 in Beyond Canon. Of these pun part replacements, there were only 5 (14.29%) pun part replacements that overlapped between *Homestuck*, *The Epilogues*, and *Beyond Canon*. These can be seen in *Table 1*. Of those overlapping puns, only 3 (8.57%) pun part replacements matched between canon and post-canon. There were a total of 30 (85.71%) puns part replacements that do not get used in both canon and post-canon.

Part Replaced	*Homestuck*	*The Epilogues*	*Beyond Canon*
for	fur	-	fur
fr	-	fur	fur
mo	meow	-	meow
per	purr	purr	-
vriska	vwiskers	-	vriskers

Table 1. Shown are the five pun part replacements that occur in at least two out of Homestuck, The Epilogues*, and* Beyond Canon. *Puns matching between canon and post-canon are highlighted in green. Puns that only appear in* Homestuck *and* The Epilogues *appear in a lighter green, while puns that only appear in* Homestuck *and* Beyond Canon *appear in a darker green.*

There are 14 unique puns used to replace parts of words throughout all of Davepeta's puns in both canon and post-canon. These can be seen in *Table 2*. Of

those puns replacements, 8 (57.14%) appear in both canon and post-canon. Of those overlapping puns, the ones in post-canon are all used more or equal to the amount used in canon.

Pun Replacement	Homestuck	The Epilogues	Beyond Canon
claw	0	0	1
coarse	2	0	0
fur	4	1	8
lick	1	0	0
lioness	1	0	0
litter	2	0	2
meow	3	1	2
mew	1	0	3
nyan	1	0	1
paw	2	1	1
purr	1	2	2
spay	0	0	1
whiskers*	1	0	1
yiff	1	0	0

Table 2. Shown are the rates of pun replacement words in Homestuck*,* The Epilogues*, and* Beyond Canon*. Puns that only appear in* Homestuck *and* Beyond Canon *appear in a lighter green, while puns that appear in all canon and post-canon media appear in a darker green. *These were different spellings of the same pun on Vriska's name.*

Discussion

Based on this data, it is clear that the average of cat puns is higher in post-canon compared to canon. Particularly, the total number of lines with cat puns

were about 4~5 times higher in post-canon than in canon. In both canon and post-canon, Davepeta has very low rates of repeating individual pun words and mostly inserts the same types of words to make their puns.

Therefore, it's fair to say that the Davepeta of *Homestuck* has a low pun rate usage, while the Davepeta of post-canon has a comparatively high pun rate usage. They, statistically, have different punning styles in the sense of pun frequency and use a few different words.

The biggest difference though? It's how they pun Vriska's name. Boom, point made.

Conclusion

What have we learned here? Well, I've learned that I spend a lot of energy on cat pun science. I also learned that Davepeta never says "wrow" in canon, but says it in both *The Epilogues* and *Beyond Canon*.

Y'all might have learned that Davepeta, both in canon and post-canon, doesn't like repeating puns as far as we see. Personally, this supports my view that post-canon content is in some regards changing some characters' personalities to make them more like fandom caricatures intentionally. I think it's because it's all secretly friend fiction, but that's just my theory.

Anyways, to get a fuller picture of all of this, I could have analyzed Nepeta and Nepetasprite's puns throughout *Homestuck* for an additional layer of

comparison. However, I did not do that because that would be a lot of extra work that I didn't feel like doing. So, nyeh.

Anyways, here's the spreadsheet with my raw data again. Feel free to pursue it at your leisure or to make a copy of it to do your own additional statistics with. I don't care, go crazy. Maybe you can make the Nepeta pun follow up to this. I would really like to see that, so tag me on tumblr @visionaryparacosmos so I can see it.