

Yangire

Yangire is a more loose term in the anime community. What I will provide in this analysis is my interpretation of the character archetype.. Therefore, I appreciate everyone who wants to agree or disagree in the comments. Seriously guys, if you give me constructive feedback, I can make this article better. That said, enjoy.

An introduction to Yangire

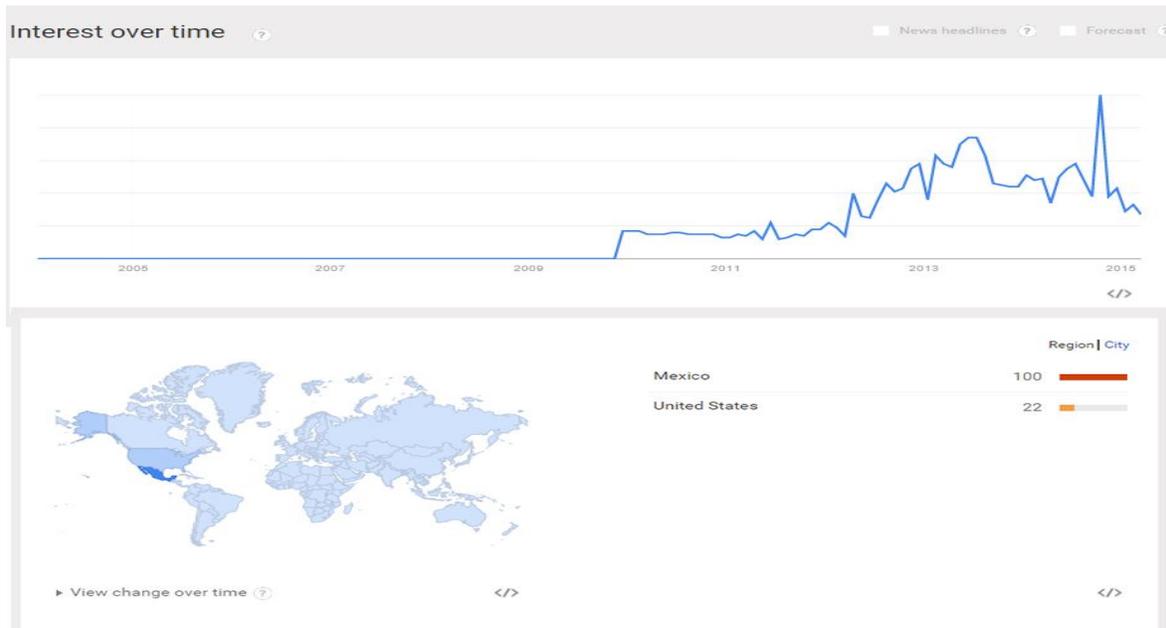
Yangire is a portmanteau of 病んで (yande), which means sick, and 切れ (gire), which means “to snap.” The character archetype “yangire” born from these two words means a character who is who will often snap into murderous episodes. When the Yangire snaps they become extremely violent and these mental snaps can be motivated by various forces such as jealousy or irritation. A Yangire is not held back by morals such as responsibility or compassion. They are rarely ever considered an “Anti-Hero” or an “Anti-Villian.” Their goals ultimately leave a trail of bodies while they smile in ecstasy. Sounds great right?

Yangire and Yandere

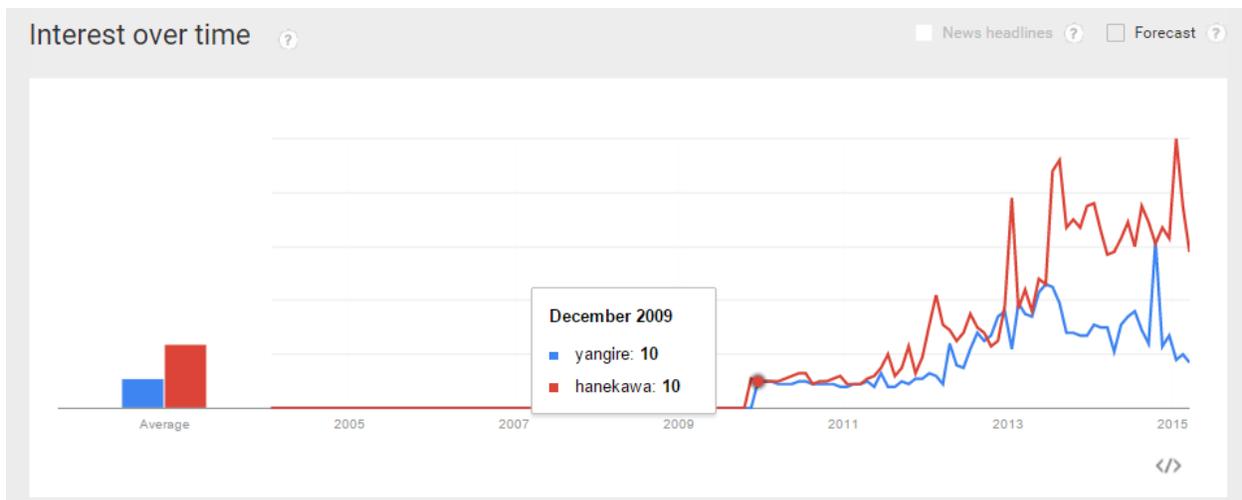
So wait...is Yuno Gasai a Yangire or Yandere? Yangire is closely related to Yandere and, in fact, can be considered a sub-category of it. The sub-categorization comes from how similar these are and how Yangire was coined after Yandere. It's more or less an arbitrary sub-categorization but I believe it is useful in understanding the entire “dere” family. The main difference that ultimately distinguishes these two character types is what sets off their psychotic episodes. A Yandere is constrained to their love interest and thus their psychotic episodes arise out of their dependence on that individual (think how Yuno snaps when thinking Yukiteru is in danger). The Yangire is not so constrained. As stated above, they can snap for various reasons that include jealousy but also can be for pure irritation. The Yangire is more of a “free spirit” serial killer than the “love-obsessed” serial killer we find in the Yandere.



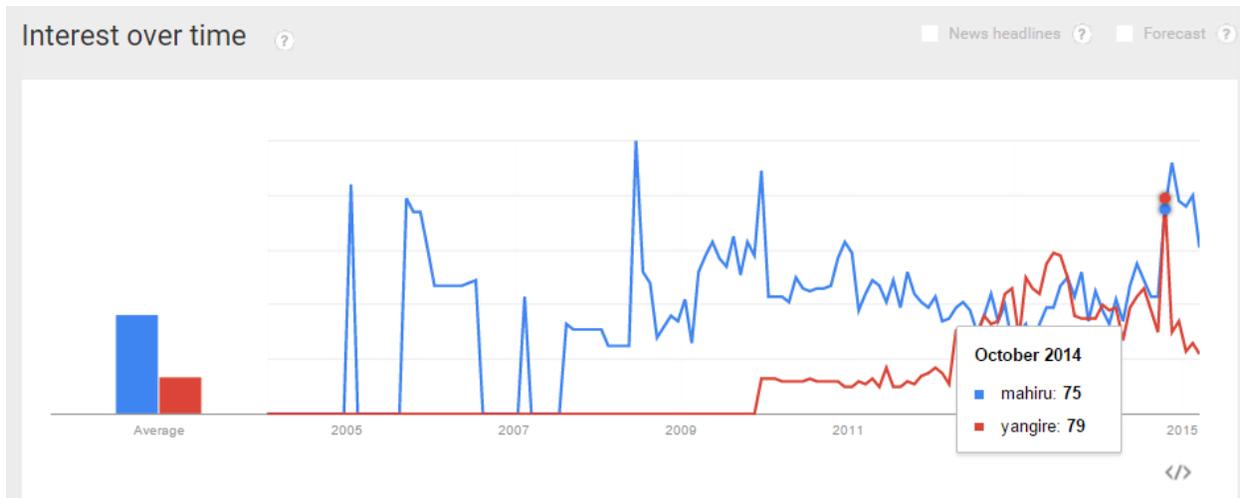
Yangire History



Yangire, as a term, emerged in December of 2009 according to Google Trends. Accordingly, it was also defined by Urban Dictionary in the same year. Check out the chart below.



Although there can be many explanations, looking at the correlation between “Yangire” and “Hanekawa” suggest an increased interest in the character archetype after seeing “Black Hanekawa” on Bakemonogatari which ran in the same year. Of course there’s doubt with this theory but I thought it was an interesting correlation. As a contrast to other parts of the “dere” family, Yangire is exclusively used in Mexico and the United States. Yangire is much more popular in Mexico compared to the United States with the 100/22 search results show (check out image). It reached its highest point in December of 2014 as noted by the chart. Check out the chart below.



See the correlation between the terms “Mahiru” and “Yangire?” Mahiru “Shinya” Banba is a popular character from the 2014 anime “Akuma no Riddle.” Mahiru is an excellent example of what a yangire character is and it’s highly likely that the popularity of the character from the anime coincides with an increased interest in what “yangire” is.

Types of Yangire: Y1P and Y2P

Y1P: Type One

Y1P is shorthand for Yangire 1 Personality. Y1P are Yangires that have just one personality. To phrase it another way, Y1P are Yangires that have full control over their actions and are not motivated by some type of mental illness. Y1P are Yangires that have a full sense of right and wrong and, as such, their atrocities are done by their own will and desire. Due to this fact, Y1P has few redemptive qualities as they could be easily classified as a serial killer. Some Y1P put the pleasure of killing as equal to their very existence.

Example: Black Hanekawa from Bakemonogatari



Black Hanekawa is a villain from season 1 of Bakemonogatari. I chose her to illustrate this character archetype because she fits the framework pretty well. Yes, Black Hanekawa is in some ways an “alternate personality” of Hanekawa Tsubasa but for the most part she is not. The spirit that takes over her body does not represent her attitude and feelings but those of the spirit. Now why do I argue she is an Y1P? She embodies an Y1P type because she does not switch between playful and murderous for obvious psychotic reasons. Her playful and murderous tendencies reflect one personality and do not indicate any type of mental disorder. Her constant use of “nya” in her speech indicates her playful depiction while her attempts to murder Araragi reflect the other. Let me stress why she is Y1P, she is in full control of whatever playful or murderous tendencies that she expresses in the show.

Y2P: Type Two

Y2P is shorthand of Yangire 2 Personality. An Y2P are Yangires who suffer from two or more personalities and they show clear signs of mental illness. Y2P are often forced to share their mind with a psychotic personality and often the normal person lives with that another personality until they have a psychological break. These breaks can be caused by triggers such as anger, fear or stress and the “sane” personality is repeatedly blamed for the crimes of their alternate personality.

Example: Mahiru “Shinya” Banba from Akuma no Riddle



Mahiru is from the popular anime series Akuma no Riddle which ran from April 3, 2014 – June 19, 2014. Mahiru has two distinct personalities, Mahiru and Shinya which arose out of severe trauma in her past. Mahiru is the shy, timid girl who constantly gets

bullied. She is considered highly anti-social. On the other hand, we have Shinya who is almost the complete opposite. She is violent, gross and unashamed. She does terrible things and finds no remorse in her actions. Now how is this character an example of Y2P? Mahiru has two different personalities she has to work with. Her “trigger” to switch into her violent side is when the sun sets. Although it is not “stress or jealousy,” “nighttime” is still considered a trigger for the Yangire.

Thanks for reading you guys. Check me out on YouTube.com at “[Anime History](#)” Right now I’m working on a “dere” family tree video collection. It’s gonna be really cool when it’s finished I promise. If you like this I also have an video on lolicon on my Youtube channel [here](#) or an article [here](#). If you want to support what I’m doing with my here, please consider pressing the donate button in the sidebar on [animehistorian.weebly.com](#). Thank you.