



FROM THE KOI POND

LOVE ~ LONGEVITY ~ PROSPERITY ~ LUCK ~ PERSISTENCE ~ INDIVIDUALITY

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“ [Passion is] something that makes you feel like you have wings at some times and cement shoes at others. Something that you love so ardently, so passionately, that it never feels like work.”

Included in this edition:

1. Updates on “Bibliophile” and the possibility of more?
2. Introduction of “Pale Moon” and some information
3. Updates on the Edana stories & Samplings, and hints divulged at my leisure

It has been a busy month for all of you, I’m sure. The Easter holiday is often a time for families and communities to gather together.

It’s also been a busy month for me, between family and work and writing, but I have faith that it will all be worth it. If nothing else, I take great amounts of pleasure in a finished project!

As busy as I am, I still take time for you, my darling koi!

Dear friend:

Writing has always been something I’ve loved, but do not mistake that with something that comes easily to me.

Don’t let anyone lie to you: writing is hard work. Yet I’ve always found it so rewarding! I still remember my first foray into fiction quite clearly. I was a third grader, assigned to write a short story. Proudly, I read my (long) short-story aloud to my classmates and gloried in their laughter and enjoyment.

That is why I was voted “Most Likely to Write the Great American Novel” in junior high *and* high school: I never kept my passion a secret from my peers, though I’m rather sure most of them had no *idea* what I composed in chemistry class.

The only thing I love better than writing, itself, was the joy and entertainment they brought with them!

Nothing you love is easy, my darlings. You work hard and become better because *it doesn’t feel like work*. Passion makes the mundane exceptional, the tedious exciting, the boring enchanting.

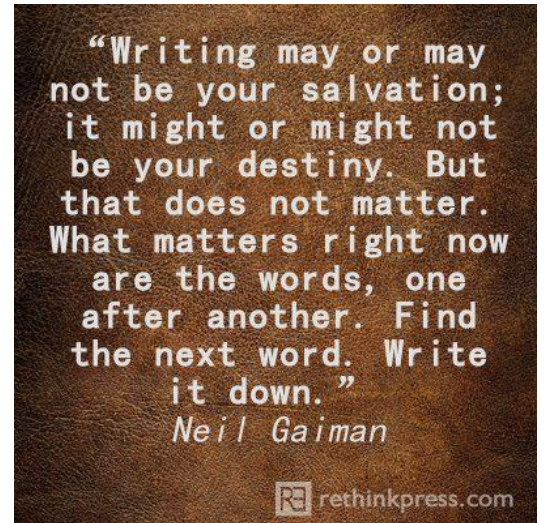
I bet something just came to your mind as I described that. Something that makes you feel like you have wings at some times and cement shoes at others. Something that you love so ardently, so passionately, that it never feels like work.

Those passions are not mistakes –they are road signs that point you toward things you will always find pleasure in doing. Do not ignore your passions, or you will smother your soul.

“Bibliophile”

As I engage myself more in the character of Reid, I find myself gazing upon those he surrounds himself with. As I mentioned last month, I have learned so much about Carson, his roommate, and I love him dearly, as well. The next character that I made the acquaintance of was Ian Callihan, Carson’s best friend and a dear companion to Reid, as well.

I suppose Ian is just the right ratio of sugar and spice: sassy, but not to the point of cruelty, and kind, but not to the point of being a doormat. So he frequently plays the role of Reid’s sparring



Ian is fast becoming one of my favorite characters, and I really want to see a lot more of him!

Is there one of the characters I've mentioned or talked about that you might want to see a Sampling for?

Let me know: you wish just might be my command~

I can be found

- On my [website](#)
- On [Twitter](#)
- On [Pinterest](#)
- On [Facebook](#)

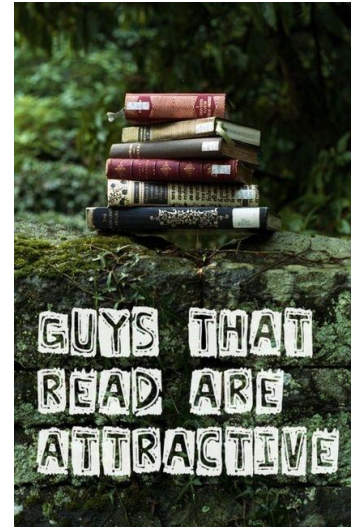
Or, you could just [email me](#).

partner and Carson's near-constant companion.

The more I get involved in this story, the more I want to keep it going, actually. I want Carson and Ian to find love, as well!

Still, this story is difficult for me to write. It takes so much examination of myself: as an author, how I think, how I feel, how I write, how I love... The novella is about three things I find most important: books, writing, and *love*, and I want to treat my subject matter well, to convey how I feel about these things. And it's always difficult to find the "perfect" words to say or to write.

Alright, so on a lighter note, this is the moral to the entire story, right here:



"Pale Moon"

So I haven't really mentioned much about "Pale Moon", mostly because I have been really focusing a lot of my attention elsewhere. But this month, I found myself inspired to work on it and it just makes me happy, so here goes!

"Pale Moon" is about a twenty-something named Shayne who is obsessed with the supernatural. Or, rather, he *was* before a werewolf chased him down and bit him, effectively dropping him into the plot of a paranormal novel. Still, he knows enough to seek out the head of a local pack of wolves and ends up tied to the Alpha's second in a mentoring relationship. Fallon is the epitome of a fantasy werewolf to Shayne, but he's hesitant to open himself up to the attractive older man. After all, the last group of people who were supposed to accept him no matter what tossed him out when they learned something they didn't like. How much more could a pack of wolves do when they learned the same thing? And how would he manage to keep his secrets with Fallon so close to him so much of the time?

I like writing about people struggling with their sexualities. Well, that may not be the way to say it: the struggle with sexuality makes a character deeper in some aspects, as well as relatable for many readers. So many people in my life have struggled with it, but almost as difficult to cope with is struggling with your sensuality, which I have definitely done. The reason it is so relatable is because it *isn't* rare that a person is uncomfortable in their own skin. Sometimes, it really takes a challenging event in our lives to make us stop denying it and face it head on. In my efforts to make Shayne a real person to myself and my readers, I have also thrown him one heck of a curve ball.

Emotional upheaval is frequently the only thing to make us face our problems in our lives and in our selves, and I hope to show that in this story.

I have to admit, right now I am rather biased and Ellery is my current favorite character in this setting. I think you will understand why better when you see his back story, but suffice to say that he has overcome so many things but he still has more to move past, including his past. He sort of... survived, but didn't really deal with it, and he's going to have to work through it if he will ever get to be happy.

Top 5 Reasons to Watch BBC's "Sherlock":
In no particular order

~Benedict Cumberbatch
~Martin Freeman
~The weirdest family relationship ever
~The Woman
~Brainy is the new sexy

Edana

It makes me sad that I appear to have made so little progress with this universe this month. The truth is, my real life job has kept me so busy that I have a hard time finding time to write. And even when I do find the time, I don't have time to type it up for you all.

This month, I'd like to explore something I've been working on for this universe –actually for one of my Samplings, so hopefully you will all get to see it soon! The prompt I'm working with is "Personal Demons" and as you have noticed, Ellery really is the character I have been focusing on.

First, however, I need to reveal a few things, the first of which is that my magick practioners (wizards, warlocks, and the like) are all throw-backs to "Dungeons & Dragons" character builds. I have taken a lot of liberties with them, but I've kept several things –like a warlock is half-Infernal (born of a union that included a daemon or a devil). This is really important and evident in Ellery Wylan, my wild wizard. Since he is a wild wizard, his magick forcibly made itself known in a plane where nothing is as it seems.

The second thing that you need to know about is the Hideaki, which is a secluded locale in Sada. What makes the Hideaki special is that it is a point where three planes meet: the material plane, the plane of good/light magick, and the plane of evil/dark magick. What happens in the place where they meet looks like something out of a H.P. Lovecraft story: the laws of reality, perceptions, and physics no longer applies, because the warring magicks have torn the plane to shreds. Nothing is as it seems and everything is warped through and by the magick.

The reason I mention all of these things is simple: *that place* is the deepest and darkest of Ellery's personal demons. The next Sampling I post should have a lot of detail about that nightmare realm.



"Many men had stumbled down the dark paths of the Hideaki. If I'm honest, the odds are that I stumbled over each of their bodies and barely noticed in my efforts to escape the twisted creatures that resided there. Stumbling into the Hideaki isn't all that rare. Emerging from it again, however, is almost unheard of."

I hope you look forward to my next Sampling, because I am looking forward to sharing it!

Obsession of the Month

BBC's "Sherlock" is this month's obsession!

I finally caught up on all of the new episodes, and I am so, so excited for series 4! It has a lot to do with the fact it centers around a crime-solving bromance with a heavy side of sass and some absolutely impeccable casting and scripts.

I would say it was a guilty pleasure, but I simply don't feel guilty for it. I do, however, feel guilty about the fact I have a board on Pinterest devoted to it –but not guilty enough to stop!

*I look through tons
and tons of art when
I'm in writer's block
mode.*

*But, nothing gets me
writing again as well
as a nice specimen of
masculinity.*

*I wonder what that
says about me, haha.*

*"Is the spring
coming?" he said.
"What is it like?" ...*

*"It is the sun shining
on the rain and the
rain falling on the
sunshine..."*

*— Frances Hodgson
Burnett,
"The Secret Garden"*

Art Appreciation

Pookystar is one of the most amazing people I have met on the interwebs. Not only is she incredibly talented, she is so so sweet and down to earth and easy to talk to. I do love my Pooky :))

This should probably come with a warning, but everything is covered, so enjoy~

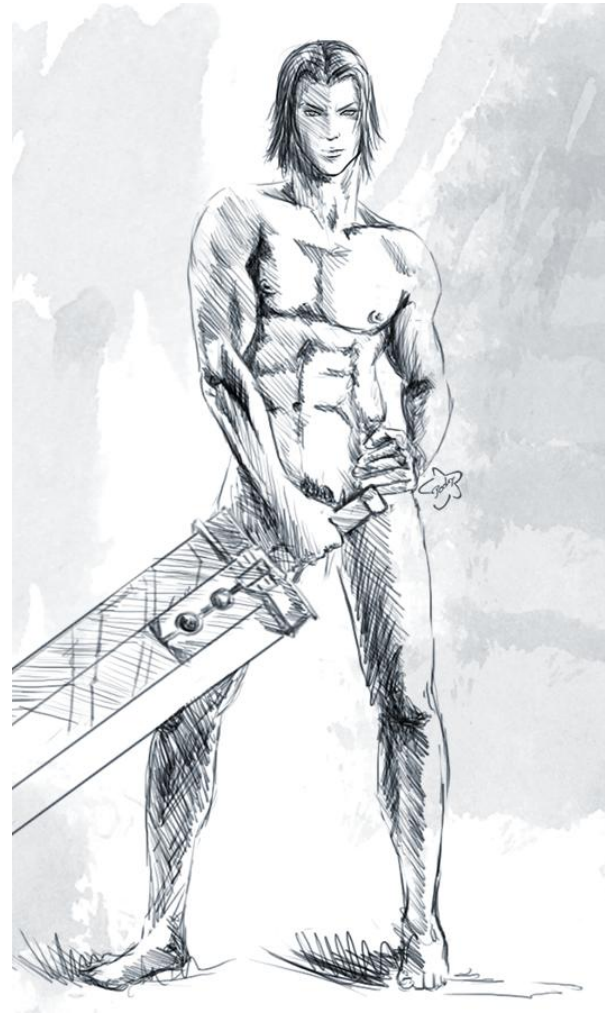
Title: Angeal

Artist: [Pookystar](#) (dA profile)

Source: DeviantART

Click on the image to visit the original page!

If you have a piece of art or have seen a piece of art you wish to see featured, feel free to shoot me an email and a link so I can have a look!



Other Things Worth Mentioning

Hope that every one had a "hoppy" Easter full of hope and spring and fun –and maybe some family time.



Well, April was a busy month for me. I worked a lot and had so little time. Still, it is my hope that this newsletter can be more of a conversation than a monologue. Feel free to send me an email to ask me questions, send me things you'd like to see featured here, or just to talk. My email is lucretia.aleron@hotmail.com and I always welcome new friends! ((:

*With much love,
Lulu*