



FROM THE KOI POND

LOVE ~ LONGEVITY ~ PROSPERITY ~ LUCK ~ PERSISTENCE ~ INDIVIDUALITY

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"Giving up on your dreams is giving up on the essence of your self, and you should never do either."

Included in this edition:

1. Updates on the Edana stories & Samplings, and hints divulged at my leisure
2. Updates on "Dream Guy" and a discussion on transgender
3. Updates on "Bibliophile" and the possibility of more?

I know I haven't updated you on any of my heres and theres and going-ons this month, and I sincerely apologize. Unfortunately, life has gotten rather hectic at my end of things, and I haven't had the time to do more than write in a notebook on my breaks at work!

Still, I hope you'll forgive me, because I have poured myself into this letter just for you!

Dear friend:

When I have time to write, it always seems like life interferes with the whole thing.

My job kept eating more and more of my time, and when I did have time to work, my computer cord smoldered and then died.

It's unfortunate, but the longer I spend away from my work, the more I doubt myself -the more I think I'm absolutely crazy to persure writing as a career, the more I'm too scared of rejection to even attempt things.

But then I ran across this quote: "If your dreams don't scare you, they're not big enough."

And it was easy to agree with that. But when you really think about it, it's the *truth!*

Dreams are not about being comfortable: they're about reaching out beyond yourself and trying to touch the stars. They are about what you most *want* to be, *desire* the most, *love* the most, and often about the person who fits the same criteria.

Giving up on your dreams is giving up on the essence of your self and you should never do either.



The Edana Stories

I haves so adored getting to know my characters better in the Edana setting! Their pasts stretch out over such long life spans (well, at least my characters of focus at the moment!) and there is so much love and pain buried in their lives.

One of the things I've been working on this month is actually the *futures* of my beloved characters. As my setting develops, I see more and more places and people than have impact on their lives. While I haven taken them all over and planned out the intersections of lives, it amuses me to decide where -and with whom- their futures truly lie.

In case you had any doubts, *of course* Algernon and Ellery will play important parts in "Masquerade", though I will warn you that you may not recognize my darlings. Even better, you will make the acquaintance of the young man who will be the future that my darlings so deserve, though he may not be who you expect.

As you know, not everyone has the best past. In the excerpt, you got to see a little bit about how Ellery was raised. There are many things that led him to that place, but there are many wonderful things about him that come from his scars, be they physical or emotional.

What is your favorite thing about Ellery? Send me an email and let me know!

I can be found

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

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

After all, it is the author's pleasure to keep you guessing and to surprise you every once in a while, and you can't argue strenuously enough that it won't please me –because it absolutely will!

As my gift to you, however, I will leave you a teasing snippet, in which Ellery is musing over his past.

I remembered the smiling village girls with their "wands" giggling as they beckoned to me, asking me silently to play.

Everyone knew I had the most vivid imagination in the village, but few knew that of those things I'd "imagined" all of them were real –just as I knew that one of those girls wasn't a girl at all. I joined them, protesting as we were led closer and closer to the water by the girl-that-wasn't. I drowned the Wild Fae and saved my playmate -then went home to beating.

That was life.



I really want to know how you feel about this little spoiler! Good, bad, strange, confusing... did it make you feel something or remind you of something... Please shoot me an email at lucretia.aleron@hotmail.com and let me know!

“Dream Guy”

“Dream Guy” deals with a girl, Gypsy, who happens to be transgender. Of course, transgender has a lot of negative connotations, not to mention the fact that the concept can be rather hard to wrap your brain around.

A dictionary definition will tell you a transgender person seeks to be the opposite sex, but in my experience, that definition is much too simplistic. I really didn't have a great handle on the notion until I was in Sociology in college, to be honest. So let me explain, just in case anyone else is in the dark.

A person's sex is determined by their bodies. A person's gender identity is their personal sense of whether they are male or female. Another thing to take into account is that their sexual orientation does not match or mesh with sex or gender identity. So a person may be born female but perceive themselves as male, but their orientation may be gay, just like Gypsy in “Dream Guy”!

The term transgender, however, is a broad term that covers a variety of gender-variants including genderqueer, transsexuals, and cross-dressers. Some refer to themselves as female-to-male (FTM) or male-to-female (MTF), though not all will.

I do have a lot of friends who are LGBT, and I have been concerned by the distinct lack of realistic portrayals in books and media –especially for transgender, as a general rule. I understand that it's a difficult concept to understand, but it is even more difficult to go through, especially alone.

That's why I chose to write “Dream Guy” in the fashion I did. It's tough being transgender, stuck in a limbo where you're not comfortable in your own skin and you're not comfortable with who you might be beneath is. It's *hard* to face up to the decision to remain as you are or change your body. There's nothing easy about the situation –even explaining it to people!

“Dream Guy” is meant to help people feel like they aren't alone, and I hope it will live up to that.

Carson Foster is actually inspired by a wonderful woman I was blessed to live with for a year and a half. All of the things that Carson tends to do for Reid were things she used to do for me, though our give and take was a lot less one-sided than theirs is.

Reasons I love this series:

*~Broken men are sexy
~Hot Irish cops
~Donal Morgan, who should receive the Best Dad Ever award
~Sinner's Gin!
~The bromance between two of the main characters
~Dude*

"Bibliophile"

I don't know about you, but caller ID has made my life easier. If it's a call I don't want to answer, I just let the phone ring until they hit voice mail. Of course, I remember old-school answering machines –the big ones, with the tape and everything– and I was frequently guilty of allowing the call to go to the machine so I knew who was calling before I picked up.

If you're wondering what any of this has to do with my "Bibliophile" novella... well, I use the concept to introduce one of my favorite characters so far!



"The Look" -- found via deviantART.

[\[Link to Original Image\]](#)

Name: Carson Foster

Gender: Male

Birthdate/Age: May 12/33

Hair/Eyes: Medium brown (short)/blue-gray eyes

Height: 5'11" or so

Occupation: Junior High English teacher

Distinguishing Features/Marks: Short by a lot of standards; clean-cut; all tattoos are concealable (and he has a few).

Personality Traits: Nurturing, attentive; open and loving; smart; inherently kind; outgoing and warm.

In case some of you are wondering why you should care about Carson... well, he's my darling Reid's wonderful roommate, and he will be bringing you some of the cutest moments in the story! Oh, and keep an eye out, because I'm thinking about writing a story just for Carson...!

Obsession of the Month

Rhys Ford is a crazy awesome person, and I am quite proud to have made her acquaintance. We actually bumped into each other in January, but I have made it my mission to properly stalk her on Twitter and Facebook.

I acquired a copy of "Sinner's Gin" in January of this year and immediately fell in love with her deep characters and her evocative writing style, so when St. Patrick's Day rolled around, I knew there was nowhere else I'd rather go for sexy Irish men than her books –and I ordered "Whiskey and Wry" right away!

I am desperately awaiting number three, "Tequila Mockingbird" (which is due out in June!) but to tide me over, I'm rereading the first two!

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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.

*May the road rise to meet you,
may the wind be ever at your back.
May the sun shine warm upon your face,
and the rains fall soft upon your fields.
And until we meet again,
may God hold you in the palm of his hand.
~An Irish Blessing*

Art Appreciation

I follow all sorts of groups and artist on deviantART, but Yue-Iceseal always produces some of the most beautiful art I have ever seen!

Title: Dream of a Past Spring

Artist: [Yue-Iceseal](#) (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

Saint Patrick's Day has always been my signal that spring is here –even if it really doesn't look like it outside!

Plus, my family *loves* corn beef and cabbage, so that's our second excuse to eat it each year!

Here's hoping that yours was wonderfully green, wonderfully drunk, or filled to the brim with hunky Irishmen, whichever works best for you.



I'm afraid that's all for now, dears! That's all I have to report for March! But never you fear: April will be here before you know it and all sorts of things can happen between now and then! I hope you've enjoyed some of my madness and my spoilers. I can't wait to share more with you next month!

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