WEEKLY REVIEW

ISSUE 44

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Original Prose is brought to you by Lurk and his friends

The four of them awoke in a narrow stone cell.

They were unbound, and soon had explored the limits of the small room. They weren't much.

It was about eight feet by ten feet, there was a narrow stone bench running on one of the narrow sides, and the opposite wall was made of iron bars in which a metal door was placed.

Lurk tried to pick the lock, then gave up in frustration.

Abraham was struck by a thought and turned to Rushell. "Could you try to magic the door open?" he asked.

Rushell shook his head. "I tried, but cannot perform magic here: I think she must have constructed this cell in such a way that spells cannot be cast from within."

"There must be some way to escape," Heather said.

"What do you think this is, a fairy tale?" Lurk scoffed. "You think I'm gonna just lean against the wall, and somehow push on the exact right place to hit some secret switch?" he said, folding his arms and leaning against the wall. Lurk was so intent on what he was saying, he didn't notice a small stone that moved slightly under his weight.

"And then, some hole is going to open in the solid stone wall," Lurk said, while a hole opened in the stone wall right beside him. "And if that actually happened," Lurk went on, completely oblivious to what was going on right next to him. "I suppose you'd expect me to go right on talking, completely oblivious to what was going on right next to me!"

"Lurk?" Rushell said, trying to get his attention.

"Don't interrupt me when I'm talking at you!" Lurk snapped. "Where was I? Yeah, that kind of thing happens all the time in fairy tales, but this is real life!"

"Lurk!" Abraham said.

"That sort of thing does not happen in real life!" Lurk bulldozered on. "You and me will go through our whole lives, and never see anything like that!"

"Lurk!" Heather barked.

"Oh shut up, I'm talking here!"

Abraham, Rushell and Heather exchanged a glance, then turned and walked right past Lurk into the secret passage

"Where you goin'?" Lurk exclaimed, then did a double-take. "What- hey, wait for me!"

As soon as he was through, the secret door shut, leaving no sign that the prisoners had ever been there.

HE LOOKED LIKE ICELAND

BluestWaves of water_mirage@hotmail.com

Cover Letter goes here: something about the work, the writer, or whatever else the writer wants to talk about.

I write because I can't go without words, but I don't mean my words to be that alone, no, I wish they become images, feelings, textures, scents you forgot long ago or the taste of a cake you've always liked. Whatever I write, I don't want you to read it, but to feel it. Should you like it, I'll invite you to read more of my work here: http://bluestwaves.deviantart.com/ Now, let me take you to Iceland...

he looked like iceland

he looked like iceland, with those white lips of his, those white teeth of his, that white smile.

he felt a bit like iceland, too, walking on the snow like the last man on earth, picking on the stray anchovites that gladed past us, by the shore, snorting at the constellations.

He was like iceland because he never left footprints and he was so far away, almost like the last standard of the Mid-Atlantic Ridge, unfathomable, solemn, circumpolar.

He was like iceland because he left my hands cold, and there was always a folk song whispering around him,

like he never did anything but speak in ancestral riddles.

But he looked the most like Iceland when I told him it was time for me to go back, because he smiled, white with frostbite,

and whispered in my ear he had survived many winters.

SOUL GAME

Louise Widell of louise_widell@hotmail.com

Visit our profile on Deviantart; OwlPocket

There was a slight trembling in Orion before I got back the full control over the avatar. Each time it had to be installed back into the system there was a small disturbance before it got stable. I looked around, expecting to find myself in Orions room, but instead found myself in a glass barrier with just enough room for my avatar. My hands moved the press against the dimmed glass, my eyelids moving closer, trying to look through it but failed to see anything then something similar to white frost on the glass wall. I tried speaking but it felt like my ears were blocked to hear anything but a low pitched signal. Even dough I couldn't really feel the cold, my avatars body began to shiver because of the low temperature that creped under its skin and made me feel numb. The panic I would 'we felt if it was my true self didn't bother me here. I could just log out if the curiosity didn't keep me from it. What was going on?

I started hitting the cold glass, hoping it would cause some attention or at least give me my hearing back since the light signal started annoying me. Each time my palm hit the glass vibrations consumed my ears. Not like a sound, just vibrations. After some time I gave up, the glass was obviously too thick for me to break it and it seemed like no one could hear me. Instead I scraped my nails against the glass, breathing warm air onto the glass, hoping that would revel... something. Small signals of pain went through my fingers, making me push then away from the glass. I looked at my fingers; they were almost white and felt swollen with blood that tried to circulate through them but almost failed. I tried moving my fingers but they almost disobeyed. I realized 2 things; the pain was from the cold and that was getting too cold for my body to handle. And that the pain wasn't just something my avatar felt. It was real. panic stopped in my throat and made me feel stum.

'log out, log out' I said to myself, but it was like the cold made me handicapped. My eyes widened when I realized that I couldn't log out. I was trapped. The sudden realization made everything different, suddenly I felt a fear of being trapped, of dying. Just as I was about to fall into hyperventilation a door opened up in the glass and let the cold air out. Confusion hit me but didn't keep me from taking the step out of the cold place that had panicked me. Warm air made me calm down but my heart was still beating as fast as I had been running.

'good job' a hand was placed on my shoulder. I quickly slapped it away, staring at amazement at a face I've never seen before who dared to be friendly after something like that.

The face smiled and didn't seem surprised by my reaction.

'don't worry, it wasn't like we were going to kill you' I only stared at the human before me (yes, human) what was he talking about. His appearance explained a little. A white lab coat.

He was still smiling, lowered his head a little, like to let me calm down. 'now, shall explain?'

I sat in my bed, eyes fixed on the chair across from me. i shouldn't be afraid to log in again. The scientist had explained that it was all a test to see how much they could trap a soul in the game. that all this was needed to save people and help our civilization to move forward. The panic and cold environment was to see how panic would the effect how people are able to logging out. In some way they had installed Orion different, making a part of my soul transferring to his body. 'Completely harmless but scary as hell' was what the scientist had said whit a crocked smile. I buried my face in my palms. I was shaking. 'fuck...'

School was boring like always. I skipped English and math class and I didn't do anything then daydreaming in biology.

'Next is... PE...' I read on our scheme. I signed. Should I go? I decided to go since I didn't have anything better to do. Today was basket, not really my favorite but I didn't hate it. My team won, I scored 2 goals.

I had just exited the building to go home when someone appeared beside me. 'hey Ian! Nice going today, I didn't know you played basket' it was Elliot from class 2B, an energetic guy with far too many friends. He was a little out of breath like he had been running to catch up with me. I smiled a little since he looked so silly as he tried catching his breath. 'I don't' he looked at me, surprised. 'really?' i nodded. 'cool!' he smiled at me with far too much energy. I got a little unsure what to do, should smile back? 'hey, where do you live?' 'ikuburo' 'really? Me too! I knew I had seen you on the train! (literally making this face: XD) 'heh, yeah' I answered still not sure how friendly should be.

I had heard that Elliot had had a sister. Apparently she died. I wonder how he can smile like that after something like that had happened.

Two days later I went back to Orions body. My duel with Jessica had been delayed to the next day, the leaders weren't happy but what didn't they do for their new hot shot.

To be honest I was a little nervous, Jessica was said to be one of the best female player...ever! How was I supposed to compete with that anyway? I was still pretty new, she had played for years. Not that I was bad or anything! I've been said to be a huge talent, even dough I knew the leaders tend to exaggerate I believe they had faith in me.

i stood alone in the arena, I had been planning to train but I just couldn't find myself to start. Players were aloud free access to the arena and NCPs to train with. I stared into the violet eyed program in front of me, it would not start until I did.

'it's just not the same thing...' I told the program to leave me, I didn't see any point in it being there since I knew I wouldn't be training tonight. I signed and felt something leaving me along with the air from my lungs.

I rarely left the arena, didn't see how the city in the game would be any different from the real world, but right then I just couldn't stay there, there was no point to it. I thought about going to the hot spot of the game: twilight city. but the among of people didn't interest me at the time. I ended up on the far edge of twilight city. The curiosity of seeing how big the leaders of the game had made it made my feet keep going forward. Buildings became less and less and soon there was just a dark path going up on something that looked like a cliff. The sky had a dark blue glow and when I walked to the far edge of the cliff I could see the bright light from the arena glowing by the horizon. I looked down to see something that might look like water, it lay completely still without any sign of life.

Far-away steps were heard behind me, I turned to see a figure running towards me. I waited for the person to come closer, curious why somebody seemed to be on a night jog in the game. As it seemed the persons goal weren't me but the cliff I took a step to the side. Was she/

he going to jump? The person slowed down just by me and nearly the far edge of the cliff were I had stood.

'already another barrier...? Small world...' the person in front of me spoke, the body was female. She looked at me.

'good evening' she said with a nod, turned and was just about to keep running when I took a hold of her shoulder.

'are you a player?' I asked, feeling something else then just another bystander in front of me.

She looked a little disturbed by my sudden force but answered anyway 'i am not'

I took my other hand to her other shoulder and made her face me. we both stood still, reading the others records and taking in the information that existed on this person. Her eyes were serious and seemed to have no problem reading mine. Her was harder, there was a lot of numbers and information I didn't understand. It all seemed extremely complex. She was obviously not just a bystander...

'Didn't your mother teach you not to lie?' I asked with a smile, unable to figure her out.

She looked at me with deep green eyes, filled with doubt. 'Didn't your mother teach you not to meddle with business that doesn't concern you' she said with a spiteful tone. She slapped my hands away and turned to walk away. She did it in a very lady like way and she seemed filled with pride that had been a little lost when I had read her disk without really getting her permission.

She was a couple of meters away when I got the feeling that i didn't want this to be our last meeting.

'hey! Let's play one of the games sometime!' I yelled after her, feeling like a puppy, not wanting his master to go.

'Don't think so!' she yelled back while she kept walking.

'Then at least come watch my match tomorrow!'

This time she just raised her arm to make a gesture of 'good bye', still walking away.

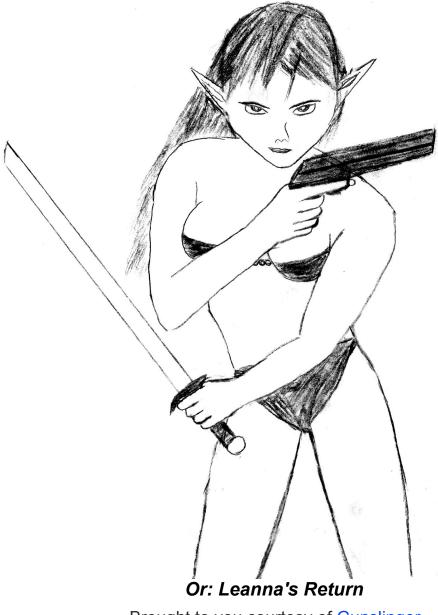
'jeeeessica!!! JEEEEESSSSSSSIICCCCKKKKAAAAAAAAAAAAA!!!!' the crowd loved her. Charmingly she waved at them with a gentle smile. although some was screaming my name as well it was obvious her fan squat was bigger. i stood still, just staring at the crowd. The camera was fixed on my face and the big scream showed it to the crowd. I smile, hoping it would at least give me a little more support. I was actually surprised when it worked and the crowd (mostly girls) started screaming

my name. I faced front, looking at Jessica, she stared back. This was the first match when two players played. When you played with NCP it was much easier, and the crowd didn't see it as exiting. Now they thirsted for blood. Now it was all about killing your opponent.

'game... begin!' the voice in the speakers yelled.

i smiled. this was it ...!

FAN FICTION



Brought to you courtesy of Gunslinger

EDITOR'S WARNING: SOME SEXUAL CONTENT

ME2 HELLDIVER SAGA CHAPTER 11: SUBJECT ZERO

Veyron722skyhook of veyronmaster722@gmail.com

Last but not least was the biotic convict, Jack. Austin couldn't say that he was looking forward to this. Convicts had often caused an awful lot of trouble for him and they often turned on people, and reading through the dossier didn't help either.

Jack (no last name known)

- Exceptional biotic ability

- Note: Criminal background, currently in custody

Jack is rumoured to be the most powerful human biotic ever encountered. Very little additional data regarding Jack is available, except that the subject has a history of violence and should be approached carefully. Currently, Jack is being held on the Turian prison ship Purgatory. The Arkane Council have negotiated for the prisoner's release.

"I hope the Council knows what they're doing." Austin thought.

As the ship docked, Austin decided on taking Griffin and Zaeed for their Blue Suns experience since he had just found out that the Purgatory was in fact a Blue Suns vessel. He finally decided to finish it off by taking Grunt as well. Hopefully it would at least allow him to get a preview of what the Krogan's personality was like. The Krogan was currently equipped with an M-22 Eviscerator Shotgun and an M-8 Avenger assault rifle.

The team quickly disembarked. Immediately, they found their way blocked by guards.

"Welcome to the Purgatory, Shepard. You're package is being prepped and you can claim it shortly. As this is a high security vessel, you need to relinquish your weapons before we proceed." Said one of the guards.

"I can't do that." Said Austin.

At that moment the door behind the guards opened and another Turian guard stepped out. This one wasn't wearing a helmet, and like Austin, he carried an M-76 Revenant.

"Everyone, stand down!" he ordered.

The Guards did as they were told and the Turian then turned to Austin.

"Major, I'm Warden Kuril and this is my ship. You're weapons will be returned on the way out. You must realize this is just standard procedure." He said.

"It's my standard procedure to keep my gun." Said Austin defiantly.

For a moment, Kuril gave Austin a cold stare.

"Let them proceed. Our facility is more than secure enough to handle three armed guests, even if two of them are Helldivers. We're bringing Jack out of Cryo. As soon as the fund's clear, you can be on your way. If you'll follow me to our processing for the pickup, Major." Said Kuril.

The group followed Kuril through the door. From out of the glass windows that the corridors had they could see hundreds of individual prison cells on the walls. A large metal arm detached one of them and then slotted it into a port on a part of the corridor.

"Cell block two. As you can see, we keep tight control over the population. Each prisoner's cell is self-contained modular unit. I've blown a few out the airlocks as an example. The ship is made up of 30 cell blocks identical to this one. We house thousands of criminals. We can put the whole place in lock down on a moment's notice. Nothing goes wrong here." Said Kuril as he gave a small tour of the place.

"Let's get on with this." Said Austin.

The warden nodded and the tour continued.

"I doubt that you've haven't had any escape attempts. What's a prison without escapees?" Griffin asked.

"We're in space. They have nowhere to go and they know it. But still, we exercise extreme caution. These are dangerous individuals. We have many ways to control the population. I'm going to confirm that the funds from the Arkanes are cleared. Outprocessing is straight down this hallway. Just keep going past the interrogation rooms and the supermax wing." Said Kuril. The warden then made for the other door. "I'll catch up with you later, Shepard."

As the group made their way through the hallways, Austin couldn't help but get the feeling that the Suns where hiding something. Griffin felt it too. He himself had once been a Sun, so he knew a cover up when he saw one.

Soon the group came across several cells. A Turian guard was stood in front of one. They could hear several painful screams coming from within. Another Turian guard was in the cell with the prisoner. He was holding the gun the other way round and was using the butt to hit the prisoner.

"Torture? That's what these lowlifes are now reduced to?" Griffin hissed in a shocked manner. He managed to say it quietly enough though that the Blue Suns didn't hear him.

"No one walks away from torture unchanged. Not the subject, but the torturer himself. Never found torture worth the price myself." Zaeed commented.

Austin agreed with Griffin. This was very low, even for the Suns. He had to do something.

"Is there something I can do for you?" the guard asked.

"There's no excuse for beating a prisoner who can't fight back." Austin replied.

"This is a massage compared to what his victims went through." Said the guard.

"This degrades you as much as him." Said Austin.

"We have orders." Said the guard.

"You're not important enough to make your own decisions?" Griffin asked.

"I admit... I sometimes get tired of this. Does this really get us anything useful?" replied the guard.

"Stop this. For your own sake." Said Austin.

"Yeah. You're right." Said the guard. He then turned to the cell. "Call it off. At least for now."

The guard in the cell did as he was told and stopped the torture.

With that matter dealt with, the group continued to the out-processing. Again though they were stopped by one of the prisoners calling to them from inside his cell.

"Hey! Hey guys, over here. Let me ask you something." He said. "If you're buying prisoners, can you buy me? Man, I don't care where you take me or what you do to me, it's got to be better than this."

"We're here for Jack. Not you." Said Griffin.

"Jack? Forget what I said. I don't want to go nowhere with you." Said the prisoner.

"Thought as much." Said Austin.

Finally they reached the room just before the out-processing.

"Out-processing is through the door on the far side of the room." Said a scientist who was typing away at a console.

"I don't like this. Feels like we're just walking into a trap." Said Griffin.

"You worry too much." Said Grunt.

"That's enough, you two!" said Austin, forcefully.

Austin walked up to the door and it opened. What was inside however, looked like the inside of a cell.

"My apologies, Shepard. You're more valuable as a prisoner than a customer." Came Kuril's voice. "Drop your weapons and proceed into this open cell. You will not be harmed."

"I don't think so!" said Austin as he drew his weapons, the others did the same.

"Go to hell, Kuril. We'll send you there ourselves!" said Griffin.

"Activate systems!" Kuril ordered.

Almost immediately, a small squad of Blue Suns came through the door. Everyone immediately readied for a fight. What happened next though, took everyone by surprise. Grunt suddenly charged right at the mercs at full speed.

"I am Krogan!" he roared as he smashed into the mercs, sending several of them flying and treading over the others. He even stomped on one of their heads with his massive feet. Everyone simply stood there in complete silence. They had not been expecting that.

"Okay, remind me never to get on your bad side, Grunt." Griffin managed to say.

"Only if you stay out of the way and fight well enough." Grunt smiled.

"Let's get going guys. We've still got a convict to find." Said Austin.

"Reinforce Out-processing! Shepard is loose!" came Kuril's voice as the group made their way to the real out-processing.

"Shepard is on the loose! Repeat, Shepard is loose! Get people down here!" said a technician as he drew a pistol. Before he could fire though, Austin quickly aimed with his plasma cannon and fired. The technician was disintegrated within seconds. With the area clear for now, Austin headed over to a nearby control panel.

"You sure about this, Major? If that control is activated, every door on the cell block will open." Said Griffin.

"It's the only way." Said Zaeed.

"I'm doing it. Be ready." Said Austin as he activated the control.

From inside the large room they could see from the platform they were on, they could see at least four heavy mechs, all on standby in case the prisoner got out. A large metallic arm slowly moved out of the floor and moved over to some sort of odd cylinder in the floor. One it had latched on, it rotated a few degrees before then slowly rising out. The prisoner, Jack was revealed.

It was not however what any of them had expected. Jack was in fact a woman. The convict was completely bald. To be honest though, that was not the most noticeable feature. She was completely topless and only had a few straps to cover her breasts. The most noticeable feature though was that her entire upper body and part of her head was completely covered in tattoos. Other than that though, she didn't really look anything like

what her dossier had described.

"That's Jack?" said Griffin.

"Jack is small." Said Grunt.

Freed from the cryo, Jack slowly moved. She then suddenly awoke and became aware that she was clamped in place. Almost instantly, she freed her right hand and her left hand from their restraints. Jack then went for the clamp on her neck and then managed to force it apart. The convict stumbled to her knees for a second as she adjusted to her surroundings. She quickly noticed however that the heavy mechs had now detected her and where now moving towards her.

"We've gotta got down there and help her!" said Austin.

To everyone's surprise however, Jack flung herself at the mechs and almost instantly flared with biotics. She ploughed straight through one of the mechs and it exploded.

"Oh, I wanna see this!" said Grunt enthusiastically.

Austin quickly hacked the door and they moved down the stairs.

"Come on! I wanna see how long she can last!" said Grunt.

The door to the cell room opened. The whole place was a mess. Every single mech was completely in pieces and there was a massive hole in the wall.

"All guards: restore order! Lethal force authorized! But don't kill Jack! Techs: lockdown! Lockdown!" came Kuril's voice.

Austin and the others quickened their pace through the corridors. As they followed Jack's trail of destruction, the whole station looked even worse. The lights quickly went out and the red emergency lighting quickly came on.

"All prisoners: return to your cells immediately or I'll open every airlock on this ship!" Kuril yelled over the speakers as several of the escaped prisoners began firing on them with improvised weapons. Some had even taken the guns from the guards.

"Stay back!" Austin yelled as he fired several shots at the feet of the ones with improvised weapons. Griffin also did the same. The prisoners with guns meanwhile sought cover. It didn't work for long though and soon the prisoners attacked again.

Despite their disadvantage of numbers, Austin and the group where better equipped than the prisoners. They were also able to employ a very good tactic to dealing with their attackers. Since the prisoners with guns were staying in cover they were able to melee the ones that had improvised weapons. It was a quick, but rather messy battle.

"Shepard, the warden has locked down the area behind you. You must find another exit route." Said EDI through the comlink.

"Shepard, that door over there is sealed, but I may just be able to blast through with some explosives." Said Griffin.

"As long as you don't blow half the ship apart." Said Austin as he nodded.

Griffin walked up to the door and began setting up the explosives. He had it ready within seconds.

"I'll let you have the detonator this time, Griffin." Said Austin as they retreated to a safe distance.

"Fire in the hole!" Griffin yelled as he pressed the button.

The whole ship shock as the entire wall seemed to explode. Fire and smoke was everywhere as Grunt and Zaeed shielded their eyes. Austin and Griffin, who were wearing helmet's simply averted their gaze from the explosion. When the smoke finally cleared everything was an absolute mess. "What the hell..." said Austin as he looked at where Griffin had planted the explosions.

Rather than an expected small opening, the entire wall was missing and there was a massive smouldering hole where the door had once been. Everyone was completely speechless. Even Griffin looked a bit surprise by this. He did his best to look innocent as Austin stared coldly at him.

"You're only supposed to blow the bloody doors off!" Austin said crossly.

"I think I used a bit too much." Said Griffin, now very embarrassed.

"We've got company!" Grunt yelled.

Sure enough, more of the mercs where coming for them. Still, it was nothing they couldn't handle. As they ploughed their way through the mercs, the explosions that Jack was causing where getting louder. That was a good sign that they were catching up.

Only Cell block one was left now. Unfortunately, that was where Kuril was as well. He had gunned down all the prisoners with his own Revenant and also had his blue tech armour on. That would complicate things.

"You're valuable, Shepard. I could've sold you and lived like a king." Said Kuril as he fired a shot at them. It missed and the group quickly went into cover. "But you're too much trouble. At least I can recapture Jack."

Kuril fired another shot from his Revenant, but that missed too.

"Not happening! You're a two-bit slave trader and I don't have time for it." Said Austin.

"I do the hard thins civil governments are unwilling to! This is for the good of the galaxy!" said Kuril as he fired two more shots.

"And this is for your own good!" Griffin yelled as he fired a charged shot from his dual

shoulder cannons.

The plasma only just missed Kuril and he activated a large dome shield. However, that didn't last long since the generators for the shield had appeared out of the floor and were within firing distance of the group. The generators were destroyed with seconds, leaving Kuril exposed.

"Cut him down! I'm done with this bastard!" Austin ordered as Griffin unloaded his entire mini gun right into the Turian.

At that moment, they noticed someone running in one of the walkways they'd originally been in when they arrived. It was Jack. Two guards that where guarding the entrance to the Normandy noticed her as she slid under the door.

"Stop!" one of them yelled.

Jack however didn't listen and lifted him into the air with her biotics and smashed him against the window. She then simply used a charge on the other one. He was sent flying. One more came at the convict but a plasma shot from behind her took care of him. Jack looked behind her to see Austin and the others. Austin told everyone to put their guns down. The last thing they wanted was for Jack to attack them.

At first, Jack looked confused by the strangers in front of her. However, her face then turned to surprise when she saw Austin more clearly.

"You!" she said coldly.

"So, you remember me after all. I'm touched." Said Austin coldly. He had been afraid of this.

"You know her?" Griffin asked, almost speechless by this.

"It's a long story. I'll explain later." Said Austin.

"What the hell are you doing here and what the hell do you want?!" Jack shouted, ready to fight again in case things went nasty.

"He just saved your ass you know. You might be a bit more grateful." Said Griffin.

"That guard was already dead. He just didn't know. Now, what the hell do you want?" Jack asked again.

"Believe it or not, we're here to get you off this ship." Said Austin.

"I'm not going anywhere with you, Helldiver." Said Jack.

"Would you rather have Cerberus rescue you then?" Austin asked.

"Fuck that! Anything's better than those assholes! But that still doesn't mean I'm trusting you. Last time we met, you nearly cut my neck open." Jack replied.

"We're offering to be your friend. You do not want to be our enemy." Said Austin.

"Listen to Shepard. It'll save your life." Said Zaeed.

"And how do I know this isn't just another trick to get me back in jail?" Jack asked.

"We're here to recruit you. Why else would we go through all this trouble to find you? Besides, you were well caged up here. Why bother moving you to another prison?" Austin said, trying his best to be persuasive.

"Just shoot her and patch her up on the ship." Said Grunt.

"I'd like to see you try!" said Jack challengingly.

"No! We're not attacking her!" Austin objected.

"Good move. Look, you want me to come with you, make it worth my while." Said Jack.

"You have something in mind?" Austin asked.

"You're Helldivers and you fight Cerberus. So I'll bet you've got a lot of databases and Intel about them and some of their operations. I wanna look at those files. See what Cerberus has got on me. You want me on your team? Let me go through those databases." Said Jack.

Austin considered this a moment. It sounded like reasonable enough deal. It wouldn't compromise the Helldivers and it got Jack on their side. Why not?

"Sounds like a fair deal. I'll give you full access." He said.

"You better be straight up with me." Said Jack.

"I'm a man of my word, Jack." Said Austin.

"So why the hell are we standing here?"

Alpha Squad didn't have the best reaction to Jack's appearance. The fact that she was almost topless was very distracting for them. Still, they kept their cool and their helmets hid their expressions at least.

"Welcome to the Normandy, Jack. My name is Alaara T'onrak. Shepard's second in my command. This is the XO, Liara T'soni." Said Alaara as she introduced herself and Liara.

"I hope you will be comfortable here, Jack." Said Liara.

"I'm not looking for friends, Asari. Don't bother being pleasant. I'm here because of the deal." Said Jack.

"We'll give you the necessary security access to the Cerberus databases. Don't get any ideas though. You have access to the Cerberus files, and nothing more." Said Austin sternly.

"Whatever you say, Shepard. I'll be reading in the hold or somewhere near the bottom. I don't like a lot of through traffic. Keep your people off me. Better that way." Said Jack as she left the comm room.

"That one is going to be trouble. I can tell." Said Alaara.

"She won't try anything. After all, she does have bit of respect for me. Last time we met, I nearly killed her." Said Austin.

"Speaking of which, how is it that she knew you? Have you two met before?" Griffin asked.

"Something I should know about?" Liara asked, concernedly.

"It's nothing like that, love. She's not an ex-girlfriend." Austin said reassuringly as he kissed Liara's forehead. He then turned to Alpha Squad. "You remember a long time ago when I was on a freighter once that was attacked by pirates? You weren't there at the time."

"You're not gonna tell me that she was one of the pirates?" Sandra asked in surprise.

Austin nodded. "Most of the pirates were kept under control, but Jack, or Subject Zero as they seemed to call her, was not as easy to hold back. She and I clashed in the bridge when she tried to assume control of the ship. It was a very brutal fight. I was much stronger than her, but she made up for that with her biotics. She damaged half my suit and

broke half my ribs; she also gave me that scar on my neck." Austin explained. "Though I left marks on her too. Managed to fracture her arm and gave her the scar she has on her neck. Nearly broke my sword doing it."

"Why didn't you say something sooner?" Griffin asked.

"When I saw her in that cryo, I didn't know if it was the same person. Back when we first encountered each other, she had less tattoos... and more clothes on." Said Austin.

"We'll have her watched." Said Alaara.

"No. Give her chance. She hates Cerberus just like we do, maybe her tone will eventually change." Said Austin.

"If you're willing to risk that..." said Alaara.

"We're part of this team, including her. If we don't trust each other, then the Collectors have already won." Said Austin. "The only way we can do this is if we all work together."

"No offense, Shepard. But it's a bit hard to trust someone when they don't trust you." Said Ventra.

"Well, as I recall, when I first formed this team together, you lot didn't trust each other. And look how that's turned out." Said Austin.

"True. But this is a slightly different situation. Back then we knew where our loyalties lay. Jack however is a complete uncertain." Said Alaara.

"I'm not arguing with this any longer. For now, just keep an eye on her. If nothing happens for the next few days, we give her a chance. You know the old human saying; never judge a book by its cover." Said Austin.

"As you wish, Major." Said Alaara as she saluted and all of Alpha Squad left the room.

"Jack's tattoos are beautiful; as colourful as her past, I'm sure." Said Kelly. "I have concerns with her temper, though."

"You too have worries about Jack?" Austin asked.

"I know she'll be solid under fire, but her attitude suggests deep personal issues. She pushes people away, yet approaches sex casually. I don't think she understands her own motivations. I wouldn't be surprised if she makes advances on you. Though given that she has a small bit of respect for you, I suppose she may think twice about that." Said Kelly.

"I'll be careful around her. Nor will I do anything that will piss her off." Said Austin.

"Though, please warn me if you do. I want a chance to hide." Said Kelly.

Austin decided to first check on Joker first before he went down to see Jack.

"Okay, Shepard, glad you're back, but keep an eye on that last one. We can only hold so much crazy." Said Joker.

"I assume everything is going well up here?" Austin asked.

"It was, until the thing started questioning my every move. It won't let anything slide." Said Joker.

"You were deliberately falsifying maintenance reports, Mr Moreau." Said EDI. Her avatar currently had its omni tool and it appeared to be scanning.

"Not falsifying. Tweaking. I always round up on task times. Makes us look good when we come in under." Said Joker.

"Harmless self-promotion. EDI, you can ease off on that." Said Austin.

"Very well, Shepard." EDI smiled.

"Yeah, go pout. I win." Said Joker smugly.

"Joker!"

"Right, right. No hard feelings. Good game."

"Hey." Jack greeted as Austin made his way down into where she had set up her residents.

"I like to know my team. Tell me about yourself, Jack." Said Austin.

"I'm still finding out about me. Thanks for letting me look at these files." Jack smiled.

"What've you found so far?" Austin asked.

"Cerberus is into some nasty things. No wonder you guys fuck with their operations. I'm gonna find something I can use from you. I just know it." Jack replied.

"And when you do?" Austin asked.

"I go hunting. Anyone who screwed with me pays. Their associates pay, their friends pay. The galaxy's gonna be a lot emptier when I'm done." Said Jack. "Hey! I gave you those files as part of the deal, but I can easily take them away if it leads to you going on a killing spree, Jack!" said Austin forcefully.

"What I do after you're mission is my business, Shepard. And I think we both would rather avoid a repeat of our last conflict." Said Jack.

"What's your history with Cerberus anyway?" Austin asked.

"They raised me in a research facility. I escaped when I was a kid. Been on the run ever since, and they've been chasing me ever since. But soon I'm gonna chase them." Said Jack as she took out her pistol from her belt as she stood up from the bed she'd placed right below the engineering deck.

"You think about this a lot, don't you?" Austin asked.

"I go to sleep with this. I wake up with it. Everyone I kill, I pretend it's the ones that did this to me." Said Jack as she looked at the pistol like it was a childhood toy.

"You don't have to live in this pit, you know. I can provide you with better quarters." Said Austin.

"It's dark, quiet, and hard to find. That spells safety to me." Said Jack. The convict then suddenly leapt up onto the nearby table. "You know, this ship is a powerhouse. If I'd tried to take this ship as a pirate back then we defiantly would've struggled. Maybe **you** could go pirate. Live like a king. I could help."

"Now you're sounding like Kuril. This mission is too important. I don't have time for piracy!" said Austin defiantly.

"Think about it though! Lots of credits, and the freedom to go wherever you want." Jack smiled evilly.

"I'm warning you now, Jack. Try anything and I'll do far worse than give you another scar on the neck. Do you understand?" said Austin sternly.

"You're certainly brave to stand up to me like that and have no fear, Shepard."

"I'd prefer us to work together, Jack. However, if you're not willing to do that, you'll leave me no choice." Said Austin.

"This squad you have are interesting bunch, Shepard. Plus, you managed to survive a fight with me. That's enough to earn a bit of respect from me. For now, I'll follow your orders." Said Jack.

"Good to hear it. I should go." Said Austin.

"Yep."

Austin was currently sat on his sofa. The events on the Purgatory had made him really tired and he needed some rest. As he sat back and felt himself dozing off though, he heard the door open. Austin smiled slightly at this. He knew who it was since only one person apart from him had access to his quarters.

"Thought you might like some company." Liara smiled as she walked down the stairs and walked up to Austin.

"You know I'm always happy to see you, love." Said Austin as he patted a place next to him on the sofa. To his surprise though, Liara sat on his lap instead. He didn't mind though.

"So... anything you wanted to talk about?" Austin asked, now a bit unsure of what to say next.

Liara simply smiled and kissed Austin on the lips.

"No. I just wanted to be with you again." She said in a rather seductive manner. She then

laid her back against Austin and looked sideways at him.

Austin smiled slightly as he saw where this was going. He loved it when Liara was sexy like this. Deciding to go along with this, he slid his hands up and down Liara's waist.

"Mmmmm." she moaned as she savoured the feel of her bond mate's hands on her curves.

"May I inquire as to the occasion?" Austin asked, pleased with the pleasure he was giving his girlfriend.

"Do we need an occasion to cherish our love for one another?" Liara smiled as she intertwined her hands with Austin's and helped guide his hands as he continued to move up and down her waist.

"Well, when you put it that way." Austin smiled as a very naughty thought crept into his mind.

The Helldiver untangled his left hand from Liara's and began sliding lower. Liara expression to interest when she felt this. Austin smiled at her is his hand dipped lower and lower until finally it reached the Asari's nether regions. Even through her outfit, Austin could feel the heat emanating from Liara's Azure. Liara started to moan as Austin started rubbing her pussy slowly but roughly.

"Mmmmmm! That feels good!" she sighed as she enjoyed the feeling, getting wetter by the second.

Austin's other hand meanwhile moved up to Liara's right breasts and began to massage it. Liara then turned to face her bond mate and they began kissing again, this time it was long and very full of passion.

"This the sort of – thing you had in mind?" Austin asked in between kisses.

"Almost. But I think we can improve this." Liara smiled slyly.

The Asari then took Austin's left hand away from her Azure and brought it up to her mouth. To Austin surprise, Liara then took his middle and index finger into her mouth and licked them a few times until she felt they were wet enough. She then once again brought them back down to her covered Azure. This time though, she used her other hand to open up her trousers, allowing Austin full access to her now rather wet pussy.

"Hmmm. Now things are getting interesting." Austin smiled slyly as Liara guided him in.

Liara drew in a sharp intake of breath as his fingers slowly slid into her pussy.

"Oh Goddess!" she moaned.

The Asari threw her head back in ecstasy as Austin began sliding his middle finger right into Liara's folds. Because she was so wet, he slid in without any resistance at all.

"Feels good?" Austin teased as he began sliding his finger in and out of Liara.

"Oh yes! Faster!" Liara moaned through gritted teeth.

Austin immediately complied and began thrusting in an out at a much faster pace, causing Liara to moan even louder.

"Ah! Ah! Ahhhh! Fuck!" she screamed.

Austin could now feel himself getting very aroused as he was giving his girlfriend this much pleasure. Liara probably sensed this too since she could feel a bulge hardening against her buttocks.

"You getting hard?" she gasped as Austin used his other hand to massage her breast.

"Yeah." Said Austin.

"Let me see it." Liara whispered slyly as her right hand slowly moved down to where his erection was still growing under his trousers.

"All yours love." Austin smiled as he continued fingering Liara but shifted his arms slightly to allow her access to the zip.

The Asari eagerly pulled it down and immediately went to work on undoing the single button and finally tugging his boxers down. Austin's half hard cock immediately sprang out and Liara took it in her hands. The Asari then settled back into her original position of sitting on Austin's lap and lying against him while he continued fingering her dripping pussy while she now started stroking his cock. He got even larger within seconds.

"Oh yeah!" Austin moaned as Liara stroked him slowly, but held him very tightly.

"I love your cock." Liara moaned as Austin resumed fingering Liara vigorously. His fingers where now completely coated in her juices. Liara used her free left hand to gather up some of her sweet nectar and then used it to coat her bond mate's now pulsing member.

"And I love your pussy...Oh god that feels good!" Austin moaned as Liara resumed stroking his now very wet cock. He repaid her by thrusting his hand in as far as he could.

"Oh Goddess!" Liara screamed. At the same time the Asari tightened her grip on Austin's cock and even used some of the lubricant to give the drumming mushroom head some extra attention.

"Oh Fuck! You certainly know how to give me a lot of pleasure, don't you?" Austin moaned as he nearly came right there from the sheer pleasure alone.

"Same can be said of you, my love!" Liara moaned, now nearing her climax. Then a thought came to her. "I've got an idea. You know we re-enacted one of my dreams? I've got another one we can do since we're still partly clothed."

Austin smiled slyly. "What did you have in mind?" he asked.

Liara smiled and the two untangled themselves for a minute. Liara then turned her back to Austin and smiled seductively. "Take of your jacket." She said.

Austin immediately did so and began taking his jacket and shirt off. As he did, Liara winked at him and slowly began pulling her trousers down, revealing her white lace panties. Austin couldn't help but whistle at the sight.

"Whoa! Seeexxy!" he said as he watched Liara pull her panties down too, revealing her magnificent blue behind and her dripping folds. She then turned around and slowly unzipped her jacket. Her large breasts quickly came free from their confines. To Austin's delight, she hadn't been wearing a bra.

"I get the feeling that I'm really going to enjoy this." Austin smiled as Liara sat back down in his lap in the same position they had originally been in. Liara decided to go a step further and brought Austin's right hand up to her now exposed right breast and his left hand back down to her dripping Azure which was now easy to access since it was now exposed. Liara too brought her right hand back to Austin's still hard, wet cock and resumed stroking it. Liara immediately moaned again in pleasure as her lover's finger slid back into her pussy. This time it didn't take long to bring Liara to the limit.

"I'm gonna cum!" she moaned.

"I'm getting close too!" Austin moaned. After that Liara hit her climax.

"Fuuuuuucck!" she screamed as she came all over Austin's hand. Once she'd come down from her orgasm, Austin slowly removed his hand from her Azure and brought it up to Liara's face. The Asari immediately took it in her free hand and put his fingers in her mouth, tasting her own juices.

"Mmmmm. Wow! Do I taste that good?" she asked as she licked at Austin's cum covered fingers.

"Yeah, you definitely do." Austin smiled as he also licked some of Liara's juices off his fingers.

Liara smiled and continued stroking his penis, enjoying its wet feel in her cum covered hand. Austin once again moaned as Liara's hand slid up and down his massive throbbing shaft.

"Ah! Ah... God you're so good at this!" he sighed. "I'm getting close!"

"I want you to come on my hand!" Liara moaned.

"My... pleasure!" Austin grunted as Liara's stroking sped up. A wet squelching sound came with every stroke due to the lubricant in Liara's hand. "AAAHHHHH!!!!"

Austin buckled as the orgasm finally hit his body in force. Cum shot out in force, his thick heavy cream shooting right onto Liara's hand.

"Ha, ha! Oh, wow!" Liara moaned as her hand was covered in her bond mate's seed. The Asari slowly brought her hand up to her mouth and licked it up. "Mmmmmm! Delicious."

With the both of them now having had their release, they simply cuddled against one another.

"That... was incredible." Liara panted as she looked happily into her lover's eyes.

"I love you, Liara. You are by far the best thing that has ever happened to me." Austin smiled as he caressed Liara's waist.

"I love you too, Austin. And I think you're the best thing that is ever going to happen to me in my life." Liara smiled back before the two kissed. "We should do this more often."

"I thought you said we had a mission?" Austin asked teasingly.

"As long as it doesn't affect the mission, it'll be fine. Besides, it gives us strength and we both have something to come back to." Liara smiled.

Austin smiled back and the two kissed again. "Up for another round?" he asked.

"Definitely!" said Liara as Austin scooped her up in his arms and carried her over to the bed.

"Leave the jacket on though. It looks nice on you while you have it unzipped like that and have your tits on display." Austin smiled slyly.

Liara smiled back at Austin. "Kinky!"

SOUL EATER AFTER STORY PT 2

Anna Bingham of kyosomagirlz@gmail.com

We just stayed like that for a while...suddenly I felt a strong hand against my shoulder..... "D-Dad...M-Mom?" "Yes Dawn, it's us don't worry we're here."Dad "We need help.....BSJ'S HURT BAD REALLY said as he and Mom smiled at me. I hugged BSJ tighter still sobbing. "Dawn it's Ok....Aaron came with BAD!" us." Aaron was here....thank god, he was Stien's son, he was a medical doctor just "Alright everybody the wounds are sever, and all of my tools are at like his Dad. the academy,we'll have to go there if i can fix him up."Aaron said with concern in his "Lets get in the car."Dad said as he and Aaron carried BSJ into the car. voice. Mom and me sat in the back with BSJ over our laps... "Dawn.he'll be Ok...."Mom I just nodded......I didn't speak,or look up.....I said with a smile on her face. was to disgusted with myself to even talk...I was the weapon who was prepared to have my life taken before my misters......what if...he doesn't make it? My heart was racing....

ANGEL

Kasey Timerding of ktimerding@yahoo.com

Prickles of frozen drops charmingly tumbled from the darkened hue of the overcast sky, bringing a sense of peace and tranquility despite of the Earth's gloomy aura. The mixture of wind separated each flake as it fell from the clouds, creating a dusty mist that spread in all directions; obscuring vision. Every moment or so, Jeremie would remove his glasses in an attempt to clear the fog that heavily brewed; but doing so would only leave the lenses coated with icy droplets. It was either fog or water, either way he wouldn't be able to see.

Except for her, of course. She was always noticeable, a dancing pink blur twirling around amidst the gentle storm. He would zone out, watching her move around with such grace; until a gentle tug on his arm would snap him out of his daze. Perhaps his coat wasn't even necessary, because every time she did so little as merely brush against him it would produce enough heat in his body to start a furnace. She dragged him along, urging him to keep walking.

This girl is insane, he would think to himself as they dashed down the slippery sidewalks, trying hard to keep his lack of balance. For wanting to go on a walk, for craving a moment of exploration in a storm like this? Surely she was insane. But the insanity is what drew him in even closer every day. The constant curiosity of the world, the burning desire to learn as much as one possibly could. He found it...inviting. And he certainly wasn't going to hesitate to be the one to teach her, to succumb to her innocent pleas.

The poor tracking of her boots got the best of her, and she slipped on the thin, icy sheet that had coated the roads and trails. His heart skipped after hearing her surprised yelp, and immediately he latched onto the hood of her coat; pulling her backwards. She toppled against his chest, giggling at her clumsiness. Again he could feel his face sweltering, and he was surprised to see how cold it was outside with as hot as he was feeling. He almost asked if she was okay, but it was clear she was fine. Nothing would stop this woman, or bring her down in anyway. Just one of many things that continued to lead him towards her.

In the distance, a looming, stone figure sat solemnly in the blizzard, guarding a gate of sorts. Of course, she was immediately lured towards it by her inquiring nature. Uncertain, the nervous blonde almost called out to her, begging her to wait up; but he decided it was meaningless to do so. He merely chased after her, calling her name in simple laughter.

An angel, made of beautiful sparkling marble, blended in with the white ice that collected on it's ridges. It's wings had become even more elegant as bits of meager light from the coated sky dazzled against each snowflake. She gasped, standing on her tip toes as she reached out to run her sensitive fingertips against the smooth facial features of such a lovely, frozen creature. Her warm breath escaped as clouds of fog, almost melting some of the glimmering ice that coated it's cheeks. Beyond the angel rested several, leery tombstones; hovering over ancient bones and lost souls. It creeped her out a bit, but she had become too fascinated with the being before her to care much about what lied beyond.

"What is this?" she breathed through her chapping lips, peering over at Einstein with twinkling emerald eyes. She always had this certain look about her when she was entirely intrigued, causing him to respond with a slight smirk. Not a mocking kind of smirk, but a 'wow, I really love you' kind of smirk.

"An angel," he replied, glancing up at the statue. "They are supernatural creatures, a benevolent, celestial being that acts as a guardian spirit or guiding influence. They are supposed to be very... graceful," he paused, looking back down at Aelita who enthusiastically continued to explore every inch of the marvelous artwork. "...beautiful, compassionate, uh... and, flawless." He cleared his throat, still gazing at the pink and purple bundle that had to stand on her tip-toes to even reach it's wings.

"Wow," she whispered.

"They say everyone has a guardian angel that watches over them throughout their life, to protect them. And there's a lot of cases of human-angel interaction in old textbooks, things like that."

Aelita snapped her head towards Jeremie, resting back to stand flat on her feet once again. "Have you ever seen an angel, Jeremie?" she keenly beamed.

Jeremie paused a moment, watching Aelita steadily approach him as she had fulfilled her exploration of the majestic sculpture. He closed his eyes, letting out a soft chuckle before looking over at Aelita.

"Yeah," he exhaled, spending not a single second looking in any direction other than her shimmering green irises. "I have."

PHANTOM'S CREED

Kyarathehedgehog of kyara425@hotmail.com

cover letter: hi my name is Rachelle brown or kyarathehedgehog. anyway this is the first chapter to a new fanfiction i am working on called phantoms creed. it is a crossover between Danny phantom and assassins creed. so far this is all i have finished but if you want to keep reading other chapters when i post them you can find them on my DA account here http://kyarathehedgehog.deviantart.com/

Amity Park: a small town that is known mainly for being the most haunted city in the entire United States. It's most famous haunters are a pair of elusive twins. Most simply refer to them as the phantom twins but a very few know of them as Danny and Diane phantom half ghost protectors of amity park. The day had started out like any other for Danny and Diane Fenton, they got up and got ready for school ate a quick breakfast and then met up with Sam and Tucker to walk to school, and as usual dash and the other jocks ended up shoving Danny in his locker only to be chased away by an irate Diane. Everything seemed to be going as usual for the two even to the point of the box ghost showing up iust before literature started which led to Danny getting detention as it was his turn to capture the annoving ghost. Tucker, Sam, and Diane all waited by the tree just outside the school and when Danny rejoined them they all went to the nasty burger to hang out. Yes, today seemed to all, as though it were a perfectly normal day devoid of evil ghosts bent on destruction or conquest, but all that was about to change.

Deep within the ghost zone in the realm beyond time, clockwork stood in front of his orb

watching as

Diane and Danny argued over whether or not they should play Doomed or go out patrolling a brief flash

of emotion crossed over his eyes before disappearing as he turned away and walked over to a pedestal

holding a Fenton thermos. He gazed at it seemingly pondering something, and completely oblivious to

the shadow creeping up behind him. Suddenly clockwork found his staff pulled out of his grasp, and

spinning around to face whoever had the gall to try and steal his time staff came face to face with none

other than Eris the spirit of chaos. Scowling in barely restrained rage clockwork asked her, "I thought

you were banished from this realm Eris, especially after you murdered Serena." His scowl darkened even

further after he muttered that last word as he continued to stare down Eris. "Ah yes, your late wife, I'd

send my condolences, but I see no point in lying just to please you. " Eris sneered back at him then she

casually turned around to look into clockworks time viewing orb as she continued, "you certainly seem

to like those two humans, in fact I can't put my finger on it but they look familiar..." suddenly her eyes

rose in surprise as she laughed softly and stated in disbelief, "oh you have got to be kidding me Clocky, is

that really them? No wonder you are constantly watching them," laughing louder in demented glee she

continued," oh this is too rich... hey why not take things a bit further eh? I'd love to get to meet them in

person." Clockwork froze, his glare quickly turning into a look of utter horror as he heard those words.

Suddenly his face settled into pure determination as he muttered quietly," I won't let you touch them

you monster." He then lunged forward and snatched his staff back and dashed toward the thermos

grabbing it as well just to be safe he then began to teleport the clock hands starting to spin around him

only for him to find out that his staff had been snatched from him yet again just as he disappeared in a

puff of smoke.

In the Fenton's house that night.....

"I SAY WE GO OUT AND PATROL!" "WELL I SAY WE TAKE A BREAK AND

PLAY SOME DOOMED!" both

Danny and Diane were sitting in Danny's room arguing with each other on what they should do and their

argument had gone from simply trying to reason with each other to the both of them yelling at each

other nearly at the top of their lungs only to be silenced when their older sister Jazz kicked the wall and

shouted for them to shut up so she could finish working on the papers for her enrollment in college.

Quieting down again Diane tried to reason with Danny once more replying quietly, "Danny come on

you've been working yourself to rags lately. Besides there haven't been any ghost attacks today not

counting the box ghost. You should try to relax and enjoy the free time you have while you have it." But

Danny just scoffed and shot back saying, "I understand that Diane but I—" suddenly in a puff of smoke

clockwork fell out of the air and fell on top of the both of them nocking several things to the floor in the

process. Diane quickly phased out from under the pile and shouted at the door that everything was

alright after hearing Maddie call up from the kitchen below. Then turning she couldn't help but snicker

at the sight of Danny trying desperately to claw his way out from under clockwork who was also trying

to get up but had managed to get his cloak snagged under Danny in the confusion of his abrupt

entrance. Unable to hold it in anymore she burst out in a fit of giggles as she managed to remind them

that they could turn intangible in between gasps. Disgruntled and embarrassed both clockwork and

Danny turned intangible and stood up dusting themselves off as they returned to tangibility once they

finished both Danny and Diane turned to look at clockwork with questioning gazes as clockwork set the

thermos down on the desk. Danny cleared his throat and standing straighter asked, "what's up

clockwork? Why are you here? And why do you have "him" with you?" clockwork still facing the desk

sighed and replied quietly, "this has nothing to do with "him" Daniel. It has to do with you and Diane."

Then turning to face both Diane and Danny he continued," both of you are in grave danger we have to

get out of here now. I brought "him" just to be safe. Is there anywhere we can hide the

thermos?"

nodding Danny quickly knelt down and pulled out a box from under his bed opening it and grabbing the

thermos he placed it inside the box replacing the lid and shoving back under. When he was finished he

turned back to clockwork and tilting his head in confusion asked," what's coming after us? And why do

we have to run instead of just fighting whatever it is?" clockwork sighed again and replied so quietly it

was barely above a whisper, "I didn't want to drag you into this. I'm sorry. My tower was attacked by a

rogue spirit named Eris. She used to be the spirit of chaos before she was banished for killing Serena the

spirit of courage and hope. Usually when a spirit is stripped of their title and banished they are stripped

of their powers as well but somehow Eris has regained her powers over chaos and now she is coming

after the both of you simply because you were in my viewing orb when she looked into it. Now I'm

serious we need to get out of here bef—"he was suddenly cut off when a loud crack of thunder sounded

inside the room and an explosion of smoke blew the three of them back. When the smoke cleared

Danny and Diane's eyes widened as they saw the entity before them. Standing before them clutching

clockworks time staff in her right hand was a beautiful woman. Long lanky black hair fell down past her

shoulders and she wore a long dress with a slit up on side colored a deep red. Her shoulders were bare

revealing the pale ashen skin and her eyes glittered like twin rubies as she gazed down at them her

fingernails were also colored a deep red and they were long and thin like claws. Quickly regaining their

composure both Danny and Diane quickly looked at each other each communicating with the other

simply through their gaze. Then slowly getting into a crouching position they waited for just the right

moment as Eris began giggling like a demented child again. Then smirking she looked right at Danny and

Diane regarding them with cold amusement as she lightly tapped the end of clockworks staff against her

head. Clockwork scooted over to Diane and Danny and whispered in their ears before moving away

right after so as not to let Eris notice, which led to Danny and Diane each nodding very slightly to each other before turning back to face Eris with a scowl. Eris suddenly started giggling again as she said, "I have an idea... why not deal with all of you at once and by using my new trinket too." As she said this she pointed clockworks staff at the three of them and began charging energy into it. Clockworks eyes widened in fear as he quickly shouted "NOW!" and all three of them surged forward to grab the staff. They managed to get it out of Eris' grasp but they were still too late to stop themselves from being sucked into the portal that was quickly forming from the energy that had gathered. After what seemed like forever of tumbling through nothingness clockwork, Danny, and Diane all fell into a heap in what appeared to be a wagon full of hay. After a few moments all three of them burst out of the hay spluttering and coughing. After a bit they finally calmed down enough to get a good look at their surroundings and what they saw confused them greatly. It looked like the images they saw in their history textbooks when they had been reading about the renaissance in Italy. Finally after several long moments of simply gawking at their surrounding Danny opened his mouth and said one simple sentence, "guys.... I don't think we're in amity park anymore...." Elsewhere a wealthy looking man stopped his horse two retrieve an odd looking item than had seemingly fallen from the sky. Upon closer inspection he found it to be a long staff with a clock sitting at its tip. after a few moments of examining it his mouth turned into a wicked smirk as he

headed back to his horse and rode off...

ANGEL PROBLEMS

Amber Watkins of shadowraider666@yahoo.ca

If you like my work please visit me on DA under Drade666 also I'm on Fanfiction.net under Shadowraider666@yahoo.ca thanks.

Dean let out an exasperated sigh as the baby angels flew around Bobby's study causing havoc wherever they went. Sam slumped into a chair in the kitchen exhausted from the barely 24 hours they've been looking after the fledglings while trying to figure out how to reverse the spell that had been cast. Teresa walked over to Sam rubbing his shoulders trying to sooth the obvious tension that was building beneath his surface while Sam pinched the bridge of his nose in frustration.

"What the hell are we supposed to do?" Dean asked pacing the kitchen now

"Well there's only one thing I can think of doing" Sam stated letting his hand fall from his nose to his side now as his other hand waved absently in the air.

"Fine if you have to...call her" Dean choked out as if a piece of bad food was caught in his throat.

"Call who?" Teresa asked looking at Sam then to Dean

"A friend that came around before you" Dean explained briefly before pulling a small pentagram necklace from his pocket giving it a squeeze then concentrating for a moment before putting it back in his pocket.

After a few moments a large portal opened behind the boys in the kitchen as a redheaded women stepped through it into the room. Teresa took note of the women who entered the room her figure was slim but muscular, her long hair was blood red down to her waist with a brown trench coat over dark wash jeans which flared at the bottoms, to top off her

outfit she wore black high heel – knee high boots but the thing Teresa couldn't get over was the bright emerald green eyes that flashed with power.

"Hello boys! What can I do for you...ah?" Drade stated before being grabbed from behind at her ankles.

"Well I think that pretty much answers that" Dean stated looking down to the very tiny baby angel holding onto Drade's ankles.

Drade looked down to see a small angel with hazel eyes and golden wings looking up at her. Drade collected her thoughts for a moment then looked around the room into the study where she saw several other baby angels who seemed surprisingly familiar flying everywhere.

"Okay so anyone care to explain what occurred here?" Drade inquired raising an eyebrow at Sam and Dean before her gaze drifted slightly over to the brunette rubbing Sam's shoulders.

"Who are you?" Drade asked curiously not having met Sam's lover

"Well who are you?" Teresa retorted as she dropped her hands from Sam's shoulders

"Right...um Drade this is Teresa, Teresa this is Drade" Sam introduced as Teresa gave a warm smile to Drade.

"Charmed, mussel tuff" Drade stated looking over to the brunette again before bending down to pick up the angel at her feet. Teresa's smile faded as she scowled a little at the stern huntress who walked over to the entrance of the study. "So now explanation for this mess would be nice and why you called me" Drade said holding the fledgling to her chest.

"Crowley cast some stupid spell effecting every angel in a 30 mile radius these 4 got caught in it" Dean explained swiftly looking at the fledgling in Drade's arms

"Oh crap! Let me guess Castiel obviously, Gabriel, Balthazar, and who?" Drade finally asked after naming off all the angels that would have been with the boys unable to think of the forth until suddenly she was hit from behind as one of the fledglings ran in to her!

Drade turned to see who hit her only to see just who the forth angel was...Lucifer! The tiny archangel sat now square on his butt on the floor after having fallen there his eight reddish coloured wings shimmering even at this age he was certainly the morning star. Lucifer's eyes started to well up with tears as his bottom lip quivered slightly obviously upset for being knocked on his butt possibly it had hurt a little too, Dean and Sam braced them selves for the water works but before he could even get a sound out Drade leaned down placing Gabriel back on the ground then scooped Lucifer into her arms.

"Oh, oh, oh it's okay, hush little one" Drade cooed softly to the young archangel soothing him as she smiled warmly at him. Lucifer immediately calmed at the affection being shown by Drade but Dean and Sam were a little taken back by Drade's affections having seen her as nothing more then a killing machine really to see her so gentle, caring was a little odd.

"So can you...maybe...you know...turn them back?" Dean inquired as he watched Gabriel play with his toes threw the light green jumper he was wearing.

"I do know a spell that can turn them back but it needs to be performed on the night a full moon" Drade explained holding Lucifer to her chest now while gently rubbing his back.

"Great that's a whole week from now" Sam exclaimed in exhaustion

"Yep but luckily you boys have me here now plus this isn't the fist time I've had to perform this spell" Drade stated as she watched Teresa pick up little Cas who was crawling by in a bright blue jumper.

"When did you perform it last?" Teresa inquired cradling Cas in her arms while looking up at Drade

"I can't even remember now it was years ago but I do know it lucky for you" Drade stated plainly as she looked back towards the study where Balthazar was chasing Gabriel now on his hands and knees.

"But we can't take care of babies!" Dean protested looking down again as Gabriel crawled through the kitchen trying to escape from Balthazar but before Balthazar could get too far Drade reached down grabbing the fledgling in his black jumper his purplish coloured wings flaring slightly at the sudden change in altitude.

"We'll make do" Drade said simply before gesturing for one of them to snatch up Gabriel as she moved into the study. Sam eventually grabbed Gabriel holding him gently as if he was a doll that would brake if he held on too tightly then he made his way into the study with Teresa and Dean close behind.

"Dean get some pillows, blankets anything soft then place them in a circle on the floor" Drade instructed as Lucifer nuzzled his face into Drade's shoulder softly cooing as he did so. Dean did as he was asked while Drade set about giving Sam instructions on how to properly hold Gabriel so he wouldn't squirm out of Sam's hands. After the soft materials were all in place Drade put the babies down into the circle having Sam and Teresa do the same then she sat cross-legged in the circle with them. Sam and Dean shot each other confused looks as Drade lifted 2 fingers into the air swirling them in a circle while concentrating, the air got heavy for a second then 4 plush toys were conjured into being in front of her. The 4 young fledglings were interested almost immediately by what they saw making their way towards the toys as Drade pushed the plushies at them so they could pick which ones they liked.

"They'll be hungry soon better get some bottles ready" Drade told the boys who were still a little hesitant about having to take care of 4 baby angels for a whole week.

Teresa had been a huntress for a while now so she knew how to kill things but not to help take care of things especially not babies. Drade instructed her to watch the babies while she helped out Sam and Dean in the kitchen to make the bottles, Teresa obeyed the command sitting down on the floor mostly to make sure they stayed in the safe circle. Drade walked into the kitchen removing her trench coat along the way then hanging it up by the front door, after making her way towards the counter Drade conjured up 4 bottles with formula inside them.

"There now all you need to do is put the kettle on, let the water sit for about 10 minutes to cool then pour and shake, got it?" Drade inquired watching as Sam took in every word like it was the word of god or something.

"Got it, we'll take care of this" Dean said having obviously not caught much of what Drade had said but she wasn't worried Sam would take care of it.

Drade moved her way back into the study getting there just in time to hear on of the infants start crying. Scanning the room Drade saw right away what was going on Teresa had broken up a play fight between Gabriel and Castiel but now Cas was upset that Gabriel had pulled his hair causing him to cry. Teresa looked up at Drade needing help badly as she struggled to calm the now crying baby, Drade crossed the room the sound of her heels muffled by the shaggy dust mop Bobby called a carpet grabbing the little dark haired, black winged angel from Teresa.

Drade smoothed the little angel's hair down back into place as she gave a small smirk, caressing the angel gently making soothing sounds from deep in her throat. Slowly the angel calmed moving more closely to Drade's chest as she placed her chin on his tiny head of messed hair he closed his brilliant blue eyes. Sam and Dean finished a little while later making the bottles for the babies, when they did Drade wasted no time grabbing one baby at a time to hand off to the hunters, Dean was completely against it but Drade pushed little Cas into Dean's arms.

"Here now mind his head, keep the bottle at an angle so he can feed properly" Drade instructed as she put a bottle in Dean's other hand. Once Dean was secure with Cas happily eating his bottled meal Drade scooped up Gabriel into her arms before handing him off to Sam who had watched her show Dean mimicking it like a pro. Drade gave Teresa Balthazar who took him with no problem after a little instruction then Drade cradled Lucifer into her arms to feed. 20 minutes past resulting in all 4 fledglings happily sleeping bellies full of milk as Drade placed Lucifer in the nest bed, Sam, Dean and Teresa followed suit with their babies with Drade then placing a blanket over all 4 before the 4 hunters made their ways back to the kitchen.

Sitting at the table Dean grabbed 3 beers for himself, Drade and Sam seeing as Teresa didn't drink beer he didn't bother. Drade popped the top on the beer then swigged it down content until she noticed the boys staring at her.

"What?" Drade inquired setting her beer on the table before leaning forward slightly in her chair.

"Um...well" Sam stuttered not quite sure how to approach the question

"Sam spit it out" Drade insisted

"Okay, how do you know how to look after babies?" Dean asked finally

"Oh that...um...women's intuition" Drade stated with a clear lie

"Yeah right! I've seen tones of women who couldn't take care of a baby if their lives depended on it" Dean stated as he took another swig of his beer while leaning against the kitchen counter.

"What he's trying to say is that it was all a little too perfect, you knew everything" Sam pointed out picking at the label on the beer bottle nervously because he knew how private Drade was about her life.

"Yeah well...Okay I may have had some previous experience" Drade admitted drinking her beer again while still leaning forward on her elbows.

"Previous experience?" Dean inquired with raised eyebrows having heard that term before from one of Lisa's friends who had...

Dean's train of thought led him to a sudden realization as his look softened into one of concern and sympathy for Drade.

"Drade did you...have kids?" Dean inquired gently his voice very low this time almost a whisper as both Teresa and Sam shot her a questioning look. Drade swiftly averted her gaze from all 3 of them before leaning back in her chair to take a sip of her beer then closed her eyes for a few moments. When Drade reopened her emerald green eyes there was an obvious pain there something Dean and Sam hadn't seen since she'd explained her chest and back scars to them.

"Years ago...yes, I was young just back from my service with the military during WW1..." Drade began

Teresa was surprised by the comment that Drade had served during WW1 but she decided that any questions could be answered via Sam at a later date.

"I was pregnant but I was also foolish during WW1 I lost my first lover he was murdered and I was betrayed so all I wanted was to work luckily WW2 started up giving me my chance. Just as I was to ship off for my second service my twin girls were born but I was not fit to be a mother so giving them no more then life and a name each I dropped them at an orphanage leaving them behind, never looking back" Drade explained

"Several years later I was tracked down by Katty one of my girls who reintroduced me to Dradonna my other girl but my life is no place for children they got caught up in the case I'd been working then..." Drade continued before stopping her gaze shifting to the beer on the table she was spinning slowly around

"Then what?" Sam asked tenderly

"Then Katty got kidnapped when I went to save her, the creature slit her throat. She died...in my arms" Drade finally choked out.

"Oh I'm so sorry" Sam said once Drade finished

"You didn't cause it so don't be" Drade stated firmly gulping the last of her beer down

No one said much more for the rest of the night, the next morning the young ones woke up bright and early luckily Drade didn't sleep allowing her to greet them as they began to stir. Gabriel sat up first rubbing his hazel eyes as he yawned sleepily while Cas followed soon after doing much the same then Lucifer but Balthazar stayed asleep not wanting to wake up yet. Drade smiled warmly at the little fledglings as Cas immediately started giving her grabby hands indicating for her to pick him up which she did.

"Oh man are they up already" Came a very horse sounding Dean from the staircase

"Yep, babies start the day bright and early" Drade told him cradling Cas

"Okay I'll go wake Sammy and Teresa" Dean stated walking back up the stairs

Drade was rocking Cas gently in her arms as she turned back to the other 3 infants still in the bed nest in the study when she heard a low whine come from the nest. Gabriel was pouting at one end of the nest while making low moaning sounds, concerned for the little archangel Drade put Cas back in the bed earning her a little annoyed look from him as she picked up Gabriel to see what was wrong. Drade gave the little archangel a once over realizing right away what was wrong, Gabriel was annoyed because of 2 different problems Drade was about to remedy the one when Dean trucked down stairs with Sam close behind.

"Where's Teresa?" Drade asked noting the brunette who was usually glued to Sam's hip wasn't with them.

"I decided to let her sleep" Sam said flatly

"Okay well grab a baby each of you...we have some changing to do" Drade stated grabbing up little Lucifer from the nest just because he was the closest.

"Changing?" Dean asked throwing a confused look at Drade

"Yeah, they ate before they went to sleep last night remember" Drade hinted raising her eyebrows

Dean's face suddenly turned from confused to horrify when he got what Drade was saying.

"Oh hell no! I don't do diapers!" Dean stated firmly throwing both hands up in defiance

"Well too bad because I'm not changing 4 babies on my own now grab a baby!" Drade stated harshly in that if you don't do it I'd kill you tone that he hated.

"Fine" Dean finally agreed picking up little Balthazar who was still pretty much asleep. Sam Grabbed little Cas then followed Drade upstairs into the big bedroom.

After shutting the door Drade placed little Lucifer on the floor while she rolled Gabriel onto his back on the bed he was still a little fussy so Drade leaned down as she knelt on the ground to blow on his belly finally getting a laugh out of him. Sam and Dean raised their eyebrows in surprise to the gesture Drade did but soon followed her example setting Cas and Balthazar on their backs. Drade finished changing Gabriel in about 3 minutes but Sam and Dean took about 15 to change both Balthazar and Cas so she had decided to change Lucifer as well.

"What now?" Dean asked whipping his forehead with the back of his hand

"Now we need to bathe them," Drade stated pointing towards the bathroom

"What? Why?" Dean protested again

"Because their wings are getting dirty and if a fledgling's wings get too dirty it could damage them," Drade explained pointing to Gabriel's wings

The feathers were starting to stick together on a few of the little archangels wings plus there was a few out of place sticking everywhere. Drade stood up from her spot on the floor opening the door to the bathroom then with a flick of her fingers she conjured up 4 bath chairs for the babies to sit in before finally turning on the water to a nice warm temperature. Drade squeezed some bubble bath into the tub then ran out to grab up a baby angel or 2. Once all 4 babies were in the tub Drade encouraged Sam and Dean to get down and dirty with her, after a little coaxing they did indeed join her as she showed them how to clean then preen the angels' wings.

Sam and Dean were actually starting to like this as the little ones played with the bubbles floating around the tub. Gabriel grabbed to piles of bubbles into his little hands before piling them on his head causing a giggle to escape from Sam as he washed the golden feathers of Gabe's six wings. Balthazar sat staring at the water with great fascination until a large wave of water splashed over his head causing him to wrinkle his nose as he looked over at Lucifer who was now laughing quite hard after splashing his little brother making Dean laugh now because he could remember doing the exact same thing to Sam when they were little. Both brothers stopped cold though when a low chuckle rang out from beside them...it was Drade she was chuckling at case while giving him a warm smile as the little dark haired angel threw bubbles into the air smiling as they floated down again.

Drade, Sam and Dean finished bathing the babies before finally drying them then taking them back down stairs for playtime. Teresa woke up a few hours later walking down the stairs realizing everyone was already up in to the study where she was met by a very unexpected surprise, Drade was sitting with the little angels while they played with several more conjured toys but that wasn't what was strange. The thing which was strange was the 2 large leathery wings protruding from her back, Teresa watched in shock for a few moments not sure what to do or say then she noticed one of the babies crawling away from the rest (little Gabe of course) trying to make it to the kitchen, she was just about to grab him when one of Drade's large leathery wings unfurled stretching out towards the angel baby scooping him up into it before bringing him back to the nest sliding him down into it with the others again before refolding to her back.

Sam saw Teresa from the kitchen then gestured to her to come get some coffee, as Teresa entered the kitchen she took note that Dean was leaning against the counter drinking a beer.

"Did you notice...?" Teresa trailed off pointing absentmindedly back at the study

"Yes Drade isn't what you'd call human she was some oddities" Sam responded

"Oh, so why are you guys out here while she's in there?" Teresa added curiously

"Well we decided to leave her alone with the angels for a little while seeing as this is the most content we've seen her in years," Sam explained

"Yeah I noticed that she was so cold when she first met me but now she seems really happy and nice" Teresa explained

"Yeah she's usually harsh, straight forward and well a bitch!" Dean said flatly

"But that's changed for some reason, I've never seen her act like this before, ever!" Sam stated glancing back into the study seeing that now Balthazar was trying to decide weather of not he wanted to touch Drade's wings as he hesitantly hovered a tiny hand over one of the large appendages under Drade's watchful gaze of course.

Drade smiled warmly at the little white haired angel then gently unfurled the wing he wanted to touch pushing it into his tiny hands as she watched his face light up with happiness she smiled even warmer as he explored the soft velvet of the membrane between her finger bones. Turning back to the other fledglings Drade was pleased to see Gabriel playing with Cas showing him how to build a small fort with blocks, gently patting his little brother on the head in praise when their towers matched earning a smile from Cas who reciprocated with a hug to Gabriel tiny hands squeezing around his brother. Drade chuckled lightly as she looked to one side finding Lucifer sitting alone tracing absent patterns with one little finger on the blanket he was sitting on Drade furrowed her eyebrows as her smiled turned to a concerned frown looking at the little archangel his bright red wings drooping to either side of him.

Drade unfurled one large wing closest to the little archangel being careful not to hit Balthazar who was still exploring her other wing occasionally drooling on it but she didn't mind, then she spread it over to Lucifer curving it under him them scooting him over to her with it until he was close enough to pick up into her arms.

"What's wrong little one?" Drade asked softly as she cradled the little archangel in her arms. Angels even when their little always hold their wings in an arch no matter what but Lucifer even after being cradled drooped his wings also he showed a but of a pained expression on his face but didn't cry.

It didn't take long before Drade put the pieces together Lucifer was suffering from growing pains in his tiny wings something all angels go through at this age but for archangels it's a little worse because of the number of wings being greater.

"Ah, do they hurt my little one" Drade cooed as she closed her eyes then nuzzled Lucifer's cheek gently. Lucifer gave quiet little whine as he curled up a little more in Drade's arms only now did she notice their was a wait on her shoulder. Drade looked up from Lucifer to find Balthazar hanging over her shoulder looking at Lucifer with concerned eyes, then a set of hazel eyes and another set of blue eyes came looking at Lucifer from her lap as she held him closer to her. "Luci?" Gabe asked concerned reaching out with a tiny hand to touch Lucifer's arm

Lucifer rolled over into Drade's chest grabbing onto her shirt with his little hands as he started to quiver slightly. Lucifer was trying not to but Drade could tell he was upset by the pain in his wings having gone through it herself when she was young Drade new the feeling, it wasn't pleasant.

Drade reached up pulling Balthazar from her shoulder to place him in her lap with Gabriel and Cas then she gently wrapped her wings protectively around the infants as she rocked Lucifer gently in her arms making hushing noises while she rubbed his back trying to quell the pained little archangel who whimpered into her chest. Drade out of heart wrenched pain suddenly began doing something she never did before, singing.

Sam and Dean were sitting with Teresa in the kitchen when a sound was heard from the study soft and low they worked their way towards the study cautiously. Once at the entrance to the study they all froze when they realized that the sound was Drade quietly singing to the babies a song they'd never heard before but she obviously knew it. Lucifer was asleep in her arms while the others were asleep snuggled in her lap surrounded by her wings. That night Sam and Dean retired early with Teresa while Drade slept with the infants in the study until dawn.

The next few days were pretty much easy sailing the babies behaved for the most part and Lucifer recovered from his little issue with his wings. Finally the night arrived to return the angels back to normal but there was one problem they had Lucifer so should they kill him once he's normal or let him go.

"He won't be a problem" Drade told the boys and Teresa as she placed the ingredients in a bowl before chanting something over it then she moved in to the room with the angels in it then held her hands up chanted once more then a bright light appeared forcing Sam, Dean and Teresa to close their eyes when they reopened them again the angels were back to normal for some reason in their normal cloths again too. The angels woke slowly as they all questioned what had happened Drade smiled at Gabe who arched his wings in response to her before walking over to her planting a kiss on her lips.

"What the devil happened?" Balthazar asked rubbing the back of his neck as he curled his wings behind him after all with all 4 angels in one room with all their wings exposed they kind of didn't fit.

"It's a long story," Drade stated with a slight laugh

Drade looks over to Lucifer who swiftly shifts his gaze from hers making Drade have a moment of thought. Could Lucifer remember bits of what happened? After all he was an archangel one of the first to be born maybe he could see through such a spell, remember everything.

"So we're all here Lucifer you going to just take us now?" Dean asked looking at the archangel who was acting slightly awkward.

"No for now we are even," Lucifer stated simply shooting Drade a look before taking off

The rest of the angels sat down to listen to the strange tail of Drade's babysitting.

HEROES OF LIGHT, ASSEMBLE! CHAPER ONE

The Kidshinra of tenshizaki@yahoo.com

Cover Letter goes here: something about the work, the writer, or whatever else the writer wants to talk about.

Greetings and thank you for this opprotunity, I am The Kidshinra, and this is a little bit about me. I was born in seventeen log cabins, all of which existed in the same spacial coordinates across seventeen realities. With me was born my ability to write, crude at first, but by the age of six, I was well on my way to greatness...and glue eating. But now, in the future, I have achieved nothing, but that all could change as the stars align, the moon eclispes the sun, and leo has cancer and must be put to sleep, much to the sadness of Orion. Also, yes. I read the thingamabob and know the whatsitwhosits about what I'm getting involved in.

This short little chapter is the beinging of something I hope will be long term. I had this idea around...geeze, I have over 140 plays on Brentalfloss's newest song "Ballad of the Mages." This song set me up for a wild night of several rough drafts. Some serious, some corny, and then this shining jewel of comedy showed itself to me after a good four hours of nonstop writing. My fingers were sore, I was out of soda, but lo and behold. The Heroes of Light, named after the actual characters I will be playing in my game of Final Fantasy on the Game Boy Advanced, shall embark on a new quest filled with jokes, sadness, and yes...chocobos. NOW, ONTO THE STORY!

The castle town of Cornelia, a relatively small comunity for a spot of such signifigance. The prophacy said this was the spot to converge on, but the open town square was tiny, with a tiny fountain to boot. Sure, there were magic shops and even an arms and armor store; however, the size of it all was underwhelming. Guards milled about looking sternly over every resident, citizens roamed about dispite some form of emergence, and there was an old man talking to a tree behind the magic shops. Certainly an odd place for an adventure to start.

Standing with a boot propped against the fountain, a red cloaked figure pushed up his wide brimmed hat up with a single white gloved finger. His steel grey eyes peered up at the noon sky while his long, silver hair billowed in the wind. "Well, today's the day, guys," he turned around, facing his group of comrades. "Today, we've been chosen by the

elemental crystals and we alone will shape the destiny of the world! I, Kory, the obvious leader and hero of great skill and talent, do hereby strike forward with you! Let us save this world!"

The group Kory had glanced to was comprised of three other people, a female, and two other males. The white robed woman of the group tucked her long blonde hair under her hood and did her best to keep from laughing at the show-off that was the red mage. "Really? Do you even know where to begin? We all just recieved our crystals and journied here. I just now learned your name in that speech you gave when I introduced myself when I shook your hand!"

"Oh you did?" Kory scratched at the side of his angular face as he tilted his head, the feather on his hat bobbing as he did. "I must've not heard it, I was all kinds of giddy to finally do something great!... So, what was your name again?"

With a huff, the white mage replied, "Ruby, and if you forget it again, I swear I'm going to hit you in the manhood with my staff so hard you'll be casting spells in a falceto."

The last mage in the group couldn't help but laugh at how the others were treating each other. He removed his reflective yellow eyewear and wiped away tears. "Oh, man. you guys should get married or something," he chuckled as he replaced his glasses and tilted back his pointed yellow cloth hat. His dark skin complemented the blue robe he wore rather nicely, and was a stark contrast to all the ghostly pale members of the group. "But, since you may've forgotten my name as well, I'm Gilles, your black mage."

With almost all of the reintroductions made, Kory turned his gaze to the only member of the group in armor. He must've been a fighter, but he'd not yet said a word. After a hushed conversation with the other magi, it turned out that none of them knew just who he was, only that he had a crystal. During their meeting, the armored young man had taken to drawing crude stick figures in the dirt with a bemused smirk on his face. His skin was a bit tanned, but looked more like he had just been sunburned many, many times. His wild blonde hair also showed signs of sun damage, no that may actually have been cause by fire.

"Hey, other guy," Kory shouted at the distracted fighter who, after several more times of being called to, finally acknowledged the other members again. "What's your name?"

Several minutes of hard thought and silence followed, even the nearby townspeople stood still as they awaited whatever name could take this long to produce. Finally, in a rather flat voice, the fighter answered, "Argus," and went back to drawing in the dirt.

The magi could only groan and sigh, surprised that the element of water had chosen

him, but even the most simple of tools can have the most effective use, at least that's how Gilles described the situation. "Right," Kory clapped his hands together to change the pace of the conversation, "how do we begin this quest? We all have our crystal slivers, correct?"

Each member of the group produced the tiny shards of colored glass the great crystals had bestowed upon them, Argus presented his with a little aid from Ruby's staff across his back. "Good...now what?" Gilles asked and waved his crystal around, almost expecting something to happen.

At that time, one of the stonefaced guards that had been patrolling the same five-foot square of grass caught sights of the wanderers and pointed in the most dramatic of fashions, his bronze helmet crashing to the ground while his spear held his weight. "Th-those crystals!" he stammered, obviously flustered by the sight, "You must see the king at once!"

"Well, easiest way I've ever heard of things happening," Kory frowned, obviously holding high expectations for his first shot at being a worthy adventurer.

A shrug was all Argus could muster as he picked up his shield from the ground. "Fine by me, the dirt was getting a little boring anyways...what was your names again?"

An other consensual groan came from the three mages as the town guards began to lead them up to Cornelia castle. No matter how hard this quest was to be, none of the group was prepared to be stuck with a meat shield like their fighter.

FALSE ALARM

Teresa Criss of t.criss22@hotmail.com

Hi, my name is Teresa. I am 20 years old and live in Canada. I am a huge Supernatural fan and as of resent have started writing fan fictions involving my OC (Teresa). I know she has the same name as me but think of it like how Bobby Singer is named after one of the producers. All of my Fan Fictions are on my deviantart page, http://swindchesterlover22.deviantart.com/ In some of my Fan Fictions I have also inserted my Step Sister's OC, Drade, and I take no credit for her.

In this Fan Fiction, Teresa has just come back from her trip to Italy to find that Drade and Gabriel have given birth to a baby boy. And being the Trickster that he is, Gabriel decides to play a little prank on the Sam by making him think that Teresa is now excepting his child. But when Teresa finds out about Gabriel's prank she decides to give him a taste of his own medicine by announcing her pregnancy to the whole group. After she announces her fake pregnancy to the group Sam gets down on one knee and asks her to be his wife, thinking it is all apart of the prank, she says yes, but after the cat is let out of the bag, she finds out that Sam wasn't faking it when he asked for her hand.

Disclamer: I don't own anything except my OC Teresa. Supernnatural belongs to Eric Kripke and the CW. Drade belongs to my Step Sister Amber

Aggrement: I read your message on Devianart and I agree with all the conditions.

Story:

False Alarm by Teresa Criss

For the last few months Teresa had been in Italy helping out a friend who had a slight monster problem, but now she was back home and excited to see everyone.

"Hey anyone home?" She chimed as she walked into Bobby's house. The next thing she knew she was pulled into a tight, slightly suffocating, hug. "Sam it's great to see you but can't breathe."

Sam released her only to pull her into a deep kiss, "Boy have I missed you!!"

"I missed you to. Sorry I was gone for so long but just as we fixed one monster problem another would show up." She smiled up at the man who she knew wouldn't let her go for at least the rest of the day.

Sam wrapped his arm around her shoulder and started to lead her towards the living room, "We have so much to tell you."

"Really?" Teresa asked with a raised eyebrow.

The couple walked into the living room to see Dean leaning up against the archway between the living room and kitchen and Gabriel was sitting on the couch with his iconic lollipop in his mouth. They both looked up when the couple entered.

"Teresa, your back. Now we can stop hearing about how much Sam missed you" Dean smiled as he pulled the young huntress into a hug, while Sam through his older brother a bitch face.

"He's not kidding, everyday it was 'I miss her so much! When will she be coming back? I haven't been had any in so long." Gabriel mocked from the couch earning him the biggest bitch face yet from Sam.

"Hey where's Drade?" Sam asked trying to change the subject.

"I'm right here, and may I say nice subject change, there Sammy." Drade's voice came from behind the couple.

"Hey Drade how . . . " Teresa trailed off when she saw that Drade was holding something wrapped in a blue blanket.

Sam looked at his lover and then to Drade, "Oh right, Teresa you remember at Christmas. Drade said she was pregnant."

"Ya . . . But it has only been two months since then . . . So how?" Teresa stumbled as she tried to figure out if this was just some silly prank.

"I'm afraid that's another trade secret kiddo." Drade smirked.

"How am I not surprised." Teresa said with a small smile.

Just then Teresa could hear cooing sounds coming from the blanket.

"Would you like to meet the newest addition to our group?" Drade asked with a smile.

"Yes please." Teresa beamed as she slowly made her way over to the happy mother. "I'm guessing it's a boy by the blue blanket."

"You always were the smart one, Sweet Tart. The boys had to ask us." Gabriel laughed from the couch.

"Ya, his name's Tanner." Drade said shuffling the bundle so Teresa could see what was wrapped in the blanket.

While the girls talk about the baby, Sam went over to where Dean and Gabriel were. When he got there Dean handed him a beer. Sam popped the top and took a swig.

"So Sammich, when are you and Sweet tart going to start popping out kids?" Gabriel smirked, making Sam spew his drink all over Dean.

"Dude, what the hell!" Dean yelled as he wiped the beer from his face.

Drade and Teresa look up from Tanner with raised eyebrows, "Sam you okay?" Teresa asked a little worried.

"Ya I'm fine." Sam says as he wipes his mouth.

Teresa gives him one more look before turning back to Tanner, who she was now holding in her arms, "I have to say Drade he's the cutest baby ever. I just hope one day soon I'll have one of mine own." She says softly as she starts to rock him back and forth.

Sam's eyes fly open as Dean and Gabriel try to hold back the laughs that was threatening to escape their mouths. Gabriel took a deep breath and looked from Sam then to Teresa, causing Drade to smirk because she could almost see the light go off over his head, but she didn't feel like stopping it.

"Well it looks like she will be getting her wish soon." Gabriel chimes after getting the approved look that he needed from his mate.

Sam spun on his heels to face the fallen archangel, "What?"

Gabriel reached behind him with his right hand and softly snapped his fingers, so that when Teresa shrugged off her coat and tossed it on the couch Dean and Sam's faces drop, because there was a slight baby bump that was starting to show underneath her shirt.

"That must have been one hell of a last night you gave her before she left there Samsquatch." Gabriel chimed.

Sam was trying to figure out what was going on when Teresa made her way over to the boys and wrapped her arms around his waist.

"So why don't we go out and get something to eat? I'm having a weird craving for curly

fries." Teresa chimes as she squeezed Sam one more time before grabbing his hand and pulling him towards the door.

The group headed to a local diner, but the whole way through dinner Sam tried to figure out what to do about Teresa. Well he knew it was too late for him to do anything, but what he couldn't figure out is why she hadn't said anything to him yet. Especially since every night, while she was in Italy, they would talk on the phone together, and she seemed to have forgotten to tell him she was excepting his child.

Then a scary thought came to his mind, Teresa had spent the last two months surrounded by Italian men, and the reason why she hasn't told him was because it wasn't his. But that thought quickly vanished when Drade's hand met the back of his head.

"Drade what did you do that for?" Teresa barked at the huntress.

Drade pats the back of his head, "Sorry, but there was something crawling around up there that shouldn't have." She passed Tanner over to Gabriel before standing up and grabbing Sam's arm, "I'm just going to make sure that it's gone." She started pulling him from the table and out the door.

"Ow ow ow. Drade let go!" Sam cried as he was pulled outside.

Drade finally let go of Sam only to hit him one more time across the back of the head, "Really Sam! I can't believe you could think that Teresa would cheat on you!" Drade growled at the tall hunter.

Sam knew Drade meant it when she used his and Teresa's real names, "Drade but she's . . ."

"Pregnant I know. But do you honestly think that she would cheat on you." Drade narrowed her eyes at him, "She is having your baby and just think of how hurt she will be when she finds out that you think she cheated on you and is now having someone else's baby."

Sam rubbed the back of his neck, "I guess you're right. But why hasn't she told me yet?"

"Maybe she wanted to tell you in person. Look Sam I know this can be a little over whelming, but just think this is a good thing." Drade said, hoping that she was getting through to Sam.

Then a small smile came to Sam's face, "I'm going to be a father."

"Sam is everything alright?" Teresa asked as she peeked her head through the door.

Sam walked over and pulled her into a hug, then kissed her on the lips. Drade just shook her head and headed back to their table. After a couple of minutes Sam released a very confused Teresa.

"Sam, what's going on?" Teresa said as she tried to catch her breath.

"It's okay I know." Sam smiled down at her.

She tilted her head in confusion, "Know what?"

Sam gets down on his knee and places a hand on her stomach. "I know about the baby."

Teresa gave him one more confused look before her eyes opened in realisation, "What? Sam, honey, I'm not pregnant. Whatever made you think I was?"

"Gabriel." Sam breathed through his teeth, as he got up off his knees, feeling like a complete fool.

Teresa shook her head, "How am I not surprised." Then a small glint came to her eye.

Sam raised an eyebrow, "Teresa, what are you thinking?" He asked even though he was pretty sure he already knew what she was thinking.

Teresa leaned up and kissed him, "Follow my lead." She grabs his hand and starts to pull him back into the diner.

Sam smiles but follows anyway. Teresa kept pulling till they were right in front of the table. Sam throws his arm around her shoulder and pulled her close so he could kiss her forehead.

"Hey guys what's up?" Dean asked as he noticed the look on the couples face.

"Not much but . . . why don't you tell them." Sam says with a huge smile.

"I'm pregnant." Teresa sang as she pulled Sam in for a kiss.

Gabriel's eyes flew open in surprise, while Dean started to choke on the bite of the burger he was eating. Drade raised her eyebrow, before clueing in to what the couple was doing, and then a small smile came to her face.

"Wait your. . ." Gabriel stuttered as he tried to figure out what was going on.

"Yep, isn't it great!" Teresa smiled as she placed a hand on her stomach.

"Oh wait there's one more thing." Sam smiled and turned Teresa so she was facing him. "I love you and I'm so excited about the baby so I was wondering . . ." Sam got down on one knee, causing Teresa's eyes to fly open, Gabriel to spew his milkshake, Dean to choke some more and Drade to stop feeding Tanner and turn to face the couple.

"Teresa, will you marry me?" Sam asked as he pulled out a ring from the inside of his pocket.

Teresa didn't know what to say. All she could do was stand there and look at the mand that had just asked her to be his wife. Then she remembered that they were trying to get back at Gabriel so she put a huge smile on her face.

"Yes! Of course I will marry you!!" She sang as Sam got up and put the ring on her finger, but just after the ring was on her finger Sam and Teresa burst out in laughter.

"I can't believe you guys fell for it." Sam laughed holding his side.

"What?" Gabriel asks in confusion.

"I'm not pregnant! And I know you tried to make Sam think I was." Teresa smirked throwing Gabriel a look saying that he was totally caught.

Gabriel looked from Teresa to Sam and then back. Then he started to laugh, "Wow that was a good one Sweet Tart."

"So wait, you're not pregnant?" Dean asked still a little confused.

"Nope." Teresa smiled, still laughing.

After a couple more minutes of laughter the group decided to head back to Bobby's place, but just before Teresa headed out the door Sam grabbed her and pulled her into his arms.

"Well that was a lot more fun than I thought." Sam smiled.

"I think proposing to me was a great touch, I think that make them really believe it." Teresa smiled. "Oh, which reminds me." She started to pull the ring off her finger but stopped when Sam's hand landed on hers.

"What are you doing?" Sam asked.

"Giving you the ring back." Teresa raised her eyebrows slightly.

"Why?" Sam asked with a slight hurt look on his face.

"Because the prank is over. Isn't it?" Teresa looked up into his eyes.

"That part wasn't a prank." Sam said softly.

Teresa thought for a second then her eyes flew open, "You mean . . ."

"We have been through so much together, me going to hell, coming back soulless, getting my soul back, and seeing Lucifer. I don't want to lose you again." Sam smiled down at the women he had decided to spend the rest of his life with. "And when I thought you were having our baby, I got to thinking. I love you so much and I want to spend the rest of my life with you. So please do me the honor of becoming my wife."

Tears started to come to Teresa's eyes, she couldn't believe this, "Yes . . . I will marry you!"

A huge smile came to his face as he pulled her into a passionate kiss. Sam was now the happiest man in the world, now all he had to do was tell his brother.

CLOVER AND GAMZEE FAN FICTION

Gianna Stone of giannalynstone@gmail.com

Hi guys! I'm Gianna, I'm 15, and this is my first Fan Fiction. This fan fiction is a homestuck one. It's about Gamzee Makara and my fan troll Clover Megido. It has a fan troll named Sakora that belongs to a friend of mine. The other characters that aren't part of homestuck belong to me. I hope you all enjoy the story!

Fan Fiction:

The sun had just set on Alternia. Other trolls were getting ready for bed but two were out walking around. The two were matesprits known as Gamzee and Clover. They walked around in the forest that surrounded their hive. On Alternia it got dark quickly so as they made their way deeper into the forest it got darker. Clover hung on to the tall troll next to her to keep from falling. She could see clearly but didn't trust this part of the forest.

Rumors had gone around for several sweeps saying that there was some kind of horrible evil that lived in the forest. Gamzee and Clover had decided to explore the forest and see if it was true.

They paused to take a break and eat something. "I'll be right back" Gamzee said. He walked off behind a tree but didn't go very far. Clover sat on the ground and pulled a bottle of Faygo out of the bag they had brought. She took a nice long drink before putting it back. While waiting for her matesprit she leaned back against the tree and closed her eyes. Clover sat there for a few moments enjoying the peace of the forest around her. Suddenly she heard a loud honk. She bolted up from the ground and ran to the tree that Gamzee had disappeared behind. There was no one there.

Clover began to panic. She searched the whole area but there was no sign of the male troll. "Gamzee! Where are you?!" Clover called. She waited for a response but there wasn't one. She walked around the area again but only found a small horn. It was the one Gamzee had been carrying around with him.

Now Clover really began to panic. "Gamzee!" She screamed. There was still no reply. She began pacing wondering where he could have disappeared to. It wasn't like him to leave her alone in the forest. Something was up and Clover was very worried. Out of the corner of her eye she saw a flash. She ignored it though as she was more concerned about Gamzee. She had stopped pacing for a moment and someone came up behind her and wrapped a hand around her mouth. Clover was about to scream when a voice said "I suggest you keep quiet if you want help getting your matesprit back." Clover nodded her head and the hand was removed from her mouth.

Once the figure had stepped away from her Clover whirled around pulling a knife from her boot as she did so. The figure threw up it's hands. "You're feistier than I remember Clo." The voice was male and sounded much like hers but deeper. "Who are you and what do you know about my matesprit?!" Clover demanded. The male laughed and took

off his cloak reveling that he was a troll as well. "I'm hurt Clo, you don't recognize your own twin brother." He chuckled. Clover took a closer look at the other troll and gasped. "Drazer?" She said her voice questioning. She wasn't sure if it really was him.

The other troll nodded at the sound of his name. "The one and only!" He said with a big grin. Clovers face lit up and she put away the knife before giving her twin a hug. She hadn't seen Drazer in almost three sweeps. "What are you doing here? And what do you know about Gamzee?" Clover questioned. "I came to find you, a little birdy told me you needed some help." Drazer stated. Clover nodded . She really wanted to find Gamzee. She hoped he was okay. "I can help you get to him but you have to know where he is. Do you remember when we were little wrigglers and Butterfly mom went missing? You touched her bed and described to me where she was." Drazer continued. Shivers shot down her back as she thought about that. "I'm guessing you want me to do that with Gamzee's horn to find him?" She asked. Drazer nodded. He knew how much this scared Clover but she had to know where they were going.

Clover closed her eyes and focused on the horn in her hand. It took a few moments before her mind started traveling. She saw each and every step that Gamzee had taken. When he got to the tree clover started to describe what she was seeing.

"He walked behind that tree. He saw something colorful and then tripped. When he fell, he went through what appeared to be shadows. As he went through he dropped his horn. He continued to fall through complete darkness. When he finally hit the ground he was alone. It looked like daytime. The dirt under him looked as if it had been badly burned. It was very hot. Hotter than Alternia ever gets. He looked around and saw buildings with tall points off in the distance. The sky was a deep red like Aradia's blood. Then he heard barking and he thought it was dogs. He turned to look and realized they weren't dogs. He didn't know what they were. Next creatures with charred leathery skin and wings grabbed him and carried him to a castle and took him down to the dungeon." Clover dropped the horn and stumbled back. Drazer caught her before she fell. Clover looked up at Drazer with a look of immense anger and a bit of horror.

She knew exactly where Gamzee was and what had happened. "So?" Drazer asked. Clover took a few deep breaths to calm down before explaining. "When Gamzee tripped and fell he went through a portal, one that had just barely been placed there. The portal that he had fallen through took him to the world of demons. A few of the demon's appeared, grabbed him, and threw him in the dungeon below the castle." She finished. Drazer nodded. He already knew this but Clover had to realize it herself before they could go. Drazer tossed Clovers bag up in the tree and took her hand. "You ready?" He asked. Clover nodded and watched as Drazer opened a portal, before she tightly shut her eyes. She hated portal traveling.

As they stepped through the portal and stepped onto solid ground Clover opened her eyes. She let go of Drazer's hand as she looked around. She hadn't been to this castle in a long long time. People around them gasped and the guards looked terrified. Clover grinned. "It's good to be back isn't it Clo?" Drazer remarked with a grin. They walked through the gates and up to the front door of the castle. The guards wouldn't step aside. "Sorry Drazer, your little friend can't go in." They said. Clover growled at being called Drazer's little friend. "I suggest you step aside and let my brother and I in or I'll rip your throats out." Clover retorted. The guards eyes went wide with recognition then fear as they stepped aside. Everyone around here knew that Clover Megido never made empty threats.

Drazer and Clover walked into the castle. "We're here!" Drazer announced. Footsteps pounded down the stairs as a small troll came running towards Clover. Clover hugged the small troll. It was her little sister Sakora, the youngest of the Megido family. The rest of the trolls came down the stairs and stood in front of Clover and Drazer. Clover looked up and saw Aradia, Damara, her mother the Hand Maiden, and Zargos the one troll she had hopped she wouldn't see again. She hadn't seen Zargos since she was two sweeps. She let go of her little sister and glared at him. "Hey there Clo" He said smiling at her.

Clover walked over to Zargos and as soon as he was within arms reach she slapped him. "Now now Clover, that's no way to treat your daddy." He remarked. Clover glared and her eyes blazed with anger. "You left Drazer and I with Butterfly mom in a forest! Then when you want me to come visit you open up a portal underneath my matesprit and throw him in the dungeon! Honestly Zargos, if you ask me that is no way to treat your daughter. Bring Gamzee up from the dungeons this instant or I will kill you." Clover growled. No one else in the family looked surprised but Zargos did. He also looked a bit frightened.

"Guards you heard her bring the clown up here." Zargos ordered. The guards did as they were told and brought Gamzee up to the entrance hall. As soon as Clover saw him, she ran over and hugged him. He hugged her back and picked her up, spinning around. She squealed with delight and gave kissed him. Drazer cleared his throat. Clover's cheeks flushed a pale green and she pulled away from her matesprit. Taking his hand she lead him over to her family to make introductions.

"So guys, this is my matesprit Gamzee, son of the Grand High Blood. Gam this is my little sister Sakora, my twin brother Drazer, my mother the Hand Maiden, my father Zargos, King of the demons, and you know Aradia an Damara." Clover stated pointing to everyone as she said their names. They all exchanged greetings and when they were done Gamzee came to stand behind Clover, wrapping his arms around her.

"Now if that's all Gamzee and I will be going. It was nice to see the family again but we've got to head to sleep." Clover said waving to everyone before teleporting herself and Gamzee back to the forest on Alternia. Gamzee reached up and grabbed their bag out of the tree and they walked hand in hand back to their hive. When they arrived home they put their things away and climbed into bed. "Good night Gam, I love you." Clover said as she snuggled into his arms. "Good night Clo, I love you too." Gamzee replied pulling the covers over them. He kissed her forehead and they drifted off to sleep.

The next morning Clover had gotten up before Gam had. She called Sollux and left a message telling him that she need his help making a barrier around the deep forest. She didn't want anyone else to fall into portals to the underworld.

POETRY is published here thanks to John Mahler's <u>Quotes of</u> <u>the Day</u>.

Some people, at least, have enjoyed my Quotes of the Day, so here they are, for your amusement and bemusement: one entire year's worth of quotes. My quotes by the way; nobody else's. These are my thoughts and observations on the world around us: funny, sad, uplifting, evocative, inspiring, silly, and occasionally just plain stupid, they are all here for your perusal: enjoy!

WE WRITE OUR OWN HISTORY

Sherrie Anderson of ravenandterra@hotmail.co.uk

All my aim is, is to be the voice for the ones without their own and inspire the next generation of writers. That's what i live for.

Here's the poem:

From the day that we're born, The path is laid straight, Wither you chose to run with your fate, We all have our own faith, Wither you wanna be immortal or disappear, You've gotta stop a minute, And open your ears, Is that a melody or painful screaming you hear? If you hear the screams of the undead or the lost, I suggest, To run forward, Into the light, Don't let the darkness get you, Or you'll die of fright, You'll be caught in the claws of the demons, Block your ears and don't listen to the screaming, When you're trapped in hell, You gotta keep looking up, Because one day you'll be told the secret of success, And when you've got that knowledge,

You'll wanna keep it beating, to the rhythm in your chest,

The melody in your head, Will forever be lost when you're dead, So for as long as the blood pumps in your veins, Do what you must, Make people hear your name, Because one day... It won't be in vain, Live for the moment, And try to keep up, The clock will keep ticking, But time if you let it will run amok, And by the time you catch it, It'll all be too late, You spent to long contemplating your fate, So maybe you're scared of rejection, And for this, I'll ask you a question, Are you willing to give it all up? Or would you rather be stuck, With the zombielike infection, People who strive for perfection, Have to erase their own intention, They miss out on all of the sensation, And will never be anything to the nation, When you live, You breathe to be unique, Not to fall into the same pattern and become a sheep, With our art we draw out the chapters, So one day, in the mist of the rapture, The future can bring back the missing links, And maybe just maybe our story will have them on the brink, Of their seats, And with this pen,

We can re-write history.

FALLING IN LOVE

Maria Kubiak of bloodymary16@hotmail.co.uk

Just a short poem, about this one guy. Those words are meant to show how I feel right now. That falling in love is something good but it brings bad things too.

Loud alarm in my head. Am I falling in love? Am I giving away my heart? This is it. He took control over my body, It is the way he speaks to me, It is the way he looks at me, It is the way he touches me. Someone? Help me!

I'm falling in love, I'm giving away my heart. This is it.

LIFE'S GOOD

Red of piratesgirl88@yahoo.com

Message from Authress: I wrote this out of boredom... It really has no purposfull rythym. There are tidbits from songs in here, I do not own those bits.

Woke up early today, Still gonna be really late. My phone doesn't work, it's out of power. So, how're you doing?

I just want to scream and lose control! Throw my hands up and let it go! Forget about everything... Laugh so hard it hurts like hell, And just forget about everything....

So-so's how I'm doing if you're wondering, I'm in a fight with the world but I'm winning. Just 'cause I'm smiling doesn't mean it's genuine. Don't fall for love, Fall for yourself. That way you never get hurt.

Who ever said the sky's the limit? Why can't the sun be the limit? I say there are no limits.

SKELETON TRUTH

Amanda Tucker of amandajoy210@yahoo.com

skeleton truth (DA Link:http://mandywarh0l.deviantart.com/#/d5pb2dg)
Pick my bones clean,
floss my hair between your teeth.
Have I earned any of your respect?
Is there anything left of me for you to reject?

Throw my love to the wind and throw my dignity to the dogs. Is it any wonder if from time to time I come unhinged with your lies always lurking under the fog?

Crouching there in the murky water, trying to keep track of its subtle moves, but before I know it, I become the slaughter. While it butchers me, it also soothes.

Because it stings so much worse you know to know nothing but the whole truth. Sometimes better it is to cushion the blow and ignore every piece of glaring proof.

SKELETAL DANCE

Kavita Rae Songbird of thegothicsongbird@gmail.com

His skeletal hand caressed the pale lady's face, A voice sewn from spider webs begged, "Be my final choice." He spun a dance and twirled his cane; It was a shame that she barely could recall his name. They let their hearts entwine into one, Or so the maiden thought - the lies had begun. His claws enraptured her soul as they fell from the cliff, Promises of freedom echoing from his lips. In the darkness of the tomb, she knew not What had made her trust the creature that lay beside her. His skin was cold as ice, eyes dark enough to that The girl should have thought twice. When such beings enter our world there is an allure; In defense for her, she was already quite disturbed.