

CPQ MAGAZINE

VOLUME 1 ISSUE 1

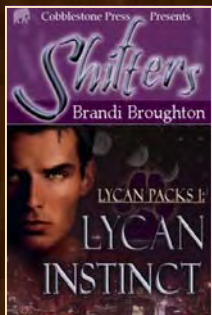


COBBLESTONE PRESS QUARTERLY

THE MAGAZINE FOR ROMANCE WRITERS & READERS

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For Readers

CPQ Magazine is more than just a magazine. It is an interactive experience.

All covers, banners, and photos are clickable links so you can discover more about the books and authors showcased in the magazine.

Some features are clickable videos to further enhance your CPQ experience.

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CPQ MAGAZINE

Cobblestone Press Quarterly (CPQ) is a publication of Cobblestone Press, LLC. 1000 Tanglewood Drive, Clinton, MS 39056 <http://www.cobblestone-quarterly.com>

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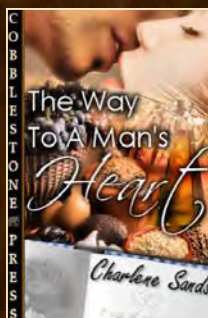
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UNCOVERING THE COVER



Some of Sable's
work at
Cobblestone Press



Meet Artist, Sable Grey

Sable Grey has been doing e-book cover art since 2005. She's worked with Venus Press, Loose Id, Romance At Heart Publications, and Ocean's Mist as well as doing commissioned work for individual authors. She currently is an artist at Cobblestone Press, LLC

ARTIST INTERVIEW

CPQ: What inspired you to create the image featured on CPQ?

Sable: I wanted to create an image for the first issue of CP Magazine that reflected the mystery, wonderment, and magic of opening a new book and discovering the story within the pages.

CPQ: How did you create this image?

Sable: Like most of my work, the image is created using photo manipulation. I'm a stock photo junkie and had found the image some months ago— not knowing what I would use it for. Using my art tablet and various graphic art programs I worked on the image until I was happy with the light and shadow and the texture.

CPQ: About how long did it take you to create the image?

Sable: About three hours. While some of my work takes a bit longer, photo manipulation allows me to create images quickly. Currently I am learning to use my art tablet to create original images so that I can combine the two styles to create something that is entirely my own. I believe that every artist is obligated to continue pushing themselves and their talent.

CPQ: Where can we find more examples of your work?

Sable: My main design site is at <http://www.sablegreydesigns.com> where I offer affordable design services to authors but I also have an art site at Deviant Art where I display personal works. That web address is <http://sablegrey.deviantart.com/>

CPQ: Thank you, Sable, for taking time to be interviewed and for the beautiful cover for CPQ. We expect to see more great things from you at Cobblestone Press, LLC in the future. Do you have anything to add?

Sable: Live Long & Prosper

VISIT SABLE GREY
[HTTP://WWW.SABLEGREYDESIGNS.COM](http://www.sablegreydesigns.com)



HOT MODEL INTERVIEW



Meet Andrei Claude

I was born and raised on an island just south of Sicily, right in the center of the Mediterranean Sea. I have been modeling professionally for almost six years now. I started out as a fitness model; however, these days I find myself doing romance novel covers, fashion, commercials, television, and also film. It's been very intriguing, and I'm always looking forward to more. Check out my Web page for all the latest news at:

www.AndreiClaude.com/news

Model INTERVIEW

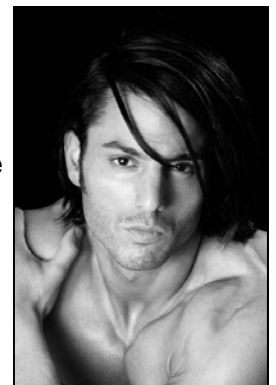
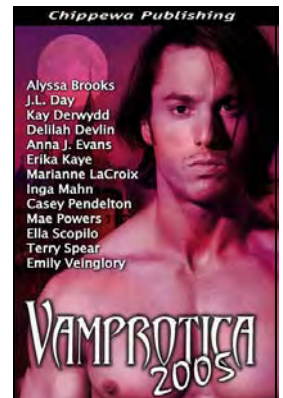
CPQ: Your image has quickly become one of the most recognizable of cover model faces and bodies in the romance industry, and your popularity continues to climb. What inspired you to become a cover model, and what was your first cover?

Andrei: Well, the romance novel cover modeling actually all started at the 2005 Romantic Times convention. Prior to that I was mainly involved in fitness modeling. Throughout the entire convention I established many contacts in the romance novel industry, and soon after winning the Mr. Romance contest I began doing covers. The very first cover was for a publication by Chippewa LLC named "**Vamprotica 2005**"

CPQ: You've won several acknowledgements and awards for your modeling including Mr. Romance 2005. It takes someone with great ambition and determination to have accomplished so much so quickly in such a competitive industry. Your success places you in a position to be a role model for other models who strive to reach the same level of accomplishment. Who did you look to when you first started out, and is there anyone now that you admire and look up to in the industry?

Andrei: Like I said, the romance novel industry is something which came as a total surprise, and I hadn't ever thought about it until just weeks before the convention. I had just signed up with a manager in the States who insisted that I attend and compete in the Mr. Romance contest. It's very satisfying knowing that I could be a motivation to other models, however, having said that, I wasn't inspired by any former cover models, simply because there just wasn't enough time for me to even learn anything about this industry. In a nutshell things happened too fast for me to even realize what I got myself into. In a good way of course!

CPQ: We understand you also have experience in television and film. Can you tell us a little about that?



Continued on the next page

HOT MODEL INTERVIEW



Andrei: Modeling is a really great job, but television and film is another world. I really like the fact that there's an entire cast and crew working together to get it right. The hours are long, but it's very rewarding once you see the finished product.

CPQ: Your body is, in a word, perfection. What kind of routine and diet do you keep to stay in top form? And is there an indulgence that you allow yourself ever, like chocolate or ice cream?

Andrei: Now you made me blush...but thank you. That's very gratifying. I've kept a steady workout routine for a number years now. I'm basically in the gym four times a week, for an hour and a half each time. I workout with weights for the most part; however, I also try and include some cardiovascular exercises at least twice a week.

That allows me to keep my caloric intake slightly higher, and therefore helps me recover fully from my workouts. The diet is very simple—I maintain a high protein, low carbohydrate, and low fat diet. I cannot deprive myself from pizza for too long. I can survive without chocolate and ice cream though.



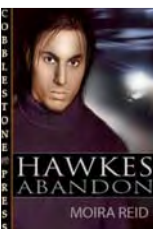
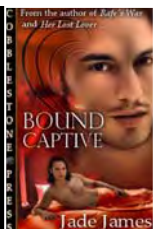
CPQ: Where can we expect to see you next?

Andrei: I'll probably be traveling to northern Italy again some time soon. I've been working on some fashion catalogs recently. We shot the spring/summer collection already, so I guess we'll be working on the fall/winter collection next.

CPQ: Thank you so much for taking time out of your very busy schedule for CPQ. Have you any other thoughts to leave with your fans?

Andrei: It's been a pleasure. The romance novel industry in general and the fan support have been fantastic. It's been extremely motivating to see such a positive response.

Available
Now At
Cobblestone
Press!



A ROUND COBBLESTONE PRESS

Cobblestone Press Best Sellers for Jan - Mar 2007

1	Lunar Mates: Chasing the Moon
2	Incognito: Healing Heather
3	Lunar Mates: Call of the Moon
4	Incognito: Owning Rachel
5	Incognito: Seducing Olivia
6	Incognito: Winning Angela
7	Season of Change: Dating Season
8	A Garden in the Moonlight
9	To Protect and Serve: Where there's Smoke
10	Lunar Mates: Under Cover of the Moon

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<http://www.cobblestone-press.com>
 & Join our Newsletter!

Happenings at Cobblestone:

• In The Cards: The Vampire Oracle

Artist, Sable Grey has been diligently working on the covers of this new 25 book series. Cobblestone Press authors will get to claim one of these creations for their own book.

• Cobblestone Press 1 Year Anniversary

June 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Cobblestone Press Celebrates it's one year mark with a kicking Friday night chat, special guest authors, and a contest parade thrown by Cobblestone Press authors.

• Octoberfest!

Cobblestone Press publishes paranormal and dark fantasy romance all month long in October with our special Hallowed line: stories set on Halloween.

• 12 Days of Christmas

Come join Cobblestone Press for this spectacular holiday phenomenon in December!

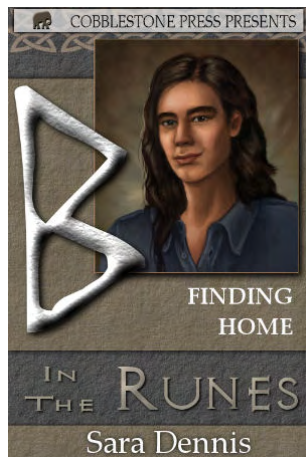


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ROUND COBBLESTONE PRESS

June Bash Releases!

6 New titles in Celebration of the one year anniversary of Cobblestone Press



In the Runes: Finding Home

Sara Dennis

Genre: Contemporary

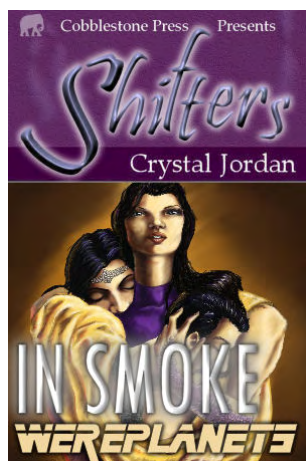
When Nora Whiteside gets a letter from the father she never knew, she heads to the house on reservation land he claims she's inheriting. And meets Tucker Greene, her father's surrogate son. Will they be rivals for his affection or does he hold the key to a new home?

Season of Change: Summer Hurricane Season

Loribelle Hunt

Genre: Shifter/Suspense

Quinn abandoned his home and became a park ranger on the Florida coast, when his mate, Celeste, died. As Hurricane Iris rushes towards shore, he is evacuating the area when he finds her alive but injured and unconscious. Can Quinn keep her safe or is he destined to lose her a second time?



Wereplanets: In Smoke

Crystal Jordan

Genre: Shifter/Futuristic

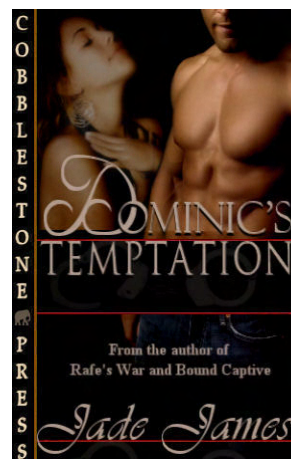
Lady Katryn is a weredragon raised among weretigers. When she's called home to Harena to join Lord Nadir's harim, she knows she'll never find love. Lord Tarkesh escorts her to the weredragon capital, and they find a fiery love with each other. But, weredragons have many secrets, and Katryn discovers that a harim is a three-way mating and she is destined to love two men.

Dominic's Temptation

Jade James

Genre: Contemporary Suspense

Madison Haines finds herself trapped in a hideous nightmare. Now she's caught in a demented killer's game and he's determined to end her life. With a serial killer stalking her every move, Detective Dominic Morales is determined to go above and beyond his duty to protect the woman capable of melting his heart.



Incognito: Charming Carmen

Madison Layle & Anna Leigh Keaton

Genre: BDSM

After years of servitude in a dead-end job and with her life in shambles, Carmen leaps at the chance to bid in a charity auction. The prize—a weekend of pampering by the gorgeous Carl at Incognito. But she gets more than she bargained for, because he's not what he seems.

Ain't Misbehavin'

Shelli Stevens

Genre: Contemporary

On a pre-wedding vacation to Europe with her friend, Lena learns her fiancé is cheating on her. Deciding she needs to have some fun herself, she indulges in the sexy New Yorker who's been trying to get into her pants. But will she lose her heart in the process?



READER REVIEWS



Review of Healing Heather
By Cobblestone Press reader, Debbie E.

Healing Heather, which is book #4 of the **Incognito** series from **Cobblestone Press**, is without a doubt a triumph for authors **Madison Layle** and **Anna Leigh Keaton**—as well as for readers. They took a subject that is so brutal and demeaning and deflating, but real for some people, and turned it into something that inspires you to get out there and help these women who are in battered and rape situations.

Let's face it—most of us want to escape our routine world and fantasize about love. And part of that is making us feel everything the characters do. Madison and Anna can do that like very few I've found can. One minute I'm hanging on the end of my seat for dear life in suspense and the next, I feel like the Grinch when his heart grew and grew and continued to grow with love and heart-warming emotion. The hero, Paul, is so patient with Heather and understanding of all the emotions she goes through trying to deal with her past and yet, he is a Dom. And Heather can't imagine herself ever giving up control of her body again or have the trust that needs to be there to flourish in a relationship, but she does.

I am truly amazed by the talent these two ladies have—where they can take a situation, which would be against what you normally think should be right, and make you believe without a shadow of a doubt that it *could* really happen and, not only that, but you wouldn't mind being the heroine to give it a shot. LOL!

If you want to read something that makes you laugh, cry, cheer, sweat, and turns you on, you cannot miss this series—Incognito from Cobblestone Press.

Oh my God! I can't wait for the next book in the series, called **Collaring Kat**. Kat is the owner of Incognito, a BDSM sex club, and she's a Domme, but I don't think she will be the only Dom in this story. Go to the IncognitoSeries.com Web site and check it out, because there are another five books coming, and I sure hope they come *soon*! Pretty please, Sable. Thank goodness for the speed of publishing e-books! LOL!

Thank you, Anna and Madison, because you have given me hours and hours of enjoyment reading and re-reading your stories. You both are auto-buy authors for me now.



S

SHORT STORY
ROMANCE

Coming Clean By Kristen Painter

Stella hefted Jasper's blue carrying crate onto the stainless steel counter. Two trips to the dog groomer in two weeks. Fortunately, Charlie Tanner wasn't hard to look at. "Here's my little madman. Again."

"Man!" Charlie waved a hand in front of his nose and squinted his green eyes. "He really got into it this time. What is that smell?"

"The neighbor's garbage. I think they had fish for dinner." She wished seeing her handsome pet groomer didn't always involve her stinky dog. Then again, seeing Charlie this way was better than not seeing him at all.

"When, two weeks ago? Wow, that's a bad smell." Charlie pulled on rubber gloves before extracting Jasper from the crate. He held the wriggling terrier up for inspection. "You know, Jasper, terriers are supposed to have more dignity than this."

"Dignity?" Stella laughed. "Jasper doesn't know the meaning of the word. If he did, he wouldn't be getting into other people's trash in the first place." She sighed. "Or rolling around in dead things. And poo." Mercy, her dog had some nasty habits.

Jasper wagged his tail and panted, seemingly unaware of the stench rolling off him in waves. Or maybe he was proud of it. In his world, he probably thought he smelled just great. "Naughty dog. You're costing your mother an arm and a leg." Charlie put Jasper back in the crate before looking back at Stella. "Weren't you just here last week?"

"Yes, and two weeks before that." She shook her head at her little dog. "What can I say? He has a knack for finding the smelliest things in the neighborhood."

"Maybe you should move." Laughing, Charlie patted the crate, and Jasper barked. "Not that I don't appreciate the business, but you could just bathe him at home."

"When?" she asked. "Before or after I wash his bedding, have the carpets shampooed or rebag the neighbor's trash?" She shook her head. "Besides, he's too squirmy. I'd have to clean the bathroom all over again after I was done. This is easier. More expensive, but easier."

"Point taken." Charlie nodded, his green eyes sparkling. "Maybe I should start making house calls."

If only. Stella blushed from head to toe. Did he know how much she liked him? Because that was the best idea she'd heard in a long time. "I'd be willing to throw dinner in, if that makes any difference." The words were out before she could stop them. Her brashness surprised her.

Charlie grinned. "Kind of hard to think about food when you-know-who smells like you-know-what." He locked the crate door and wrapped his large hand around the handle. "Still, it's an interesting offer."

Just interesting? Stella sighed. Oh well. As long as Jasper's bad habits kept up, she'd get to see Charlie often enough.

"He'll be ready by five," Charlie said as he lifted the crate and carried Jasper into the back, giving Stella a little wave and another knee-melting smile.

"Thanks," Stella answered and waved back, trying not to look desperate. "See you then."

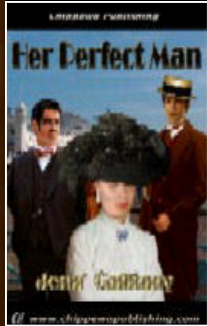
Her afternoon meeting ran long and by the time she came to pick Jasper up, Charlie had already gone home for the day. Disappointed, she tapped her fingers on the counter while another groomer, fetched Jasper. The girl came back with the crated terrier in one hand and an envelope in the other. "Charlie left you a note."

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[HTTP://WWW.DIANACASTILLEJA.COM](http://www.dianacastilleja.com)



Diana Castilleja
where heart pounding adventure creates romance

S

SHORT STORY
ROMANCE

"Thanks." She paid and carried her sweet-smelling pup out. Tingles of anticipation raced down her spine. Maybe Charlie was asking her out? She shook her head, knowing it wasn't likely. The note was probably just a reminder that Jasper was due for a nail clipping.

Once in the car, she tore open the envelope. On a sheet of notepaper Charlie had written "In case of emergency" and a phone number. His phone number? Stella's mouth opened slightly and her heart thumped faster. This was a good sign, wasn't it? She stared at Jasper through the slots in the crate. "Let's hope the neighbors have fish for supper again very soon."

Two days later, Jasper went missing. Stella searched the block, calling and calling for him but he didn't come. She was sure he'd found something awful to roll in, but he always came when she called, even if it did take two or three tries. An hour of looking and panic settled over her like an unwelcome cloud.

Biting her bottom lip, she picked up the phone. If this wasn't an emergency, she didn't know what was.

Charlie's old blue pickup pulled into her driveway in less than fifteen minutes. He hopped out of his truck, adjusting his ball cap over his sandy curls. "Any sign of him?"

"No," she answered. "I can't imagine where he could be. I feel like I've already looked everywhere." She took a deep breath. "Thanks for coming. I know this isn't a grooming emergency but—"

"Don't worry about it." Charlie reached out and squeezed her hand. "Knowing Jasper, I'm sure he'll need a bath once we find him. We'll split up and each take one side of the neighborhood." He checked his watch. "Let's meet back here in an hour. If we haven't found him by then, we'll reassess our plan."

The hour was up and Stella still hadn't found Jasper. She waited for Charlie, craning her neck to see down the street as far as possible from her porch. No Jasper anywhere. She twisted her hands in worry until she saw Charlie coming through the neighbor's yard with a small, dirty fur ball in his arms. Jasper's pink tongue was the only visible spot of color. He barked and wagged his tail.

She jumped down the steps and ran to meet them. "You found him! Where was he?" She backed up a step. "Oh, Jasper! What have you gotten into this time?" She wrinkled her nose. The same brown muck covering Jasper was smeared all over Charlie's T-shirt.

"He was sleeping in a pile of manure in someone's garden about three blocks away. Made himself a nice little spot." Charlie shook his head and glanced down. "I told you this would end up being a grooming emergency."

"You were right. Looks like I owe you dinner," Stella said. "And a new shirt."

"Dinner sounds great but the two of us need some cleaning up first." He winked. "I've got an extra shirt in the truck I can change into after I hose this rascal down."

He'd said yes to dinner. Stella's head went light and fuzzy so she changed the subject. "How much is this dirty little dog going to cost me tonight?"

Except for a spark of mischief in his eyes, his face went serious. "I charge extra for house calls, you know."

"That's okay." She smiled. "You found Jasper. Name your price."

"I'm expensive."

"I'm okay with that."

He looked down at the stinky pup squirming in his arms and shook his head. "How about a date that doesn't include Jasper. What do you say?"

"I'd love to." Giddy with the thought, Stella laughed as she nodded.

"I promise an evening of mostly good clean fun." Charlie gave Jasper a stern look. "Not that you'd know anything about that, would you boy?"

BRANDI BROUGHTON
HTTP://WWW.LYCANPACKS.COM



S

SHORT STORY
ROMANCE

Jasper yipped, and Stella realized how wonderful it was to have the stinkiest dog in the neighborhood. "I should probably start dinner. You need soap or something? I've got some doggie shampoo. Not that I've ever used it."

"That would be great, and some towels for him when I'm done. Now, if you could just point me toward the hose?"

"Right around the back corner of the house."

"Thanks." He walked away, holding Jasper out in front of him and giving her ample time to admire his assets. The man made jeans look wicked.

She rushed into the house, trying to figure out what she was going to make for dinner. Lean Cuisine was not going to cut it. Her pantry held nothing interesting and her freezer wasn't much better. What was she going to serve him? Edamame and tomato soup?

"Stella?" Charlie's voice came from the back of the house. "I could use that shampoo."

She grabbed the shampoo, some old towels and headed outside. "Sorry, I got waylaid trying to figure out what dinner was going to be."

"Squeeze some of that on this mutt, will you?" He nodded at the shampoo, both hands occupied with Jasper. "How 'bout some take-out?"

She ran a line of orange soap down Jasper's back. "That sounds great. You like Thai?"

Please say yes.

Jasper disappeared under a mountain of suds. "Love it. The spicier, the better."

She might be in love. "How about two orders of Pad Thai, extra spicy, and some spring rolls from Thai Kitchen?"

"I love that place." Charlie grinned. "Two orders extra spicy? You're my kind of girl, Stella."

Which was exactly what she wanted to be. She grinned back. "I'll just go call that in, then come help you dry this beastie off."

Her hands were still trembling when she hung up the phone. She hurried back outside. Charlie was rinsing the last of the soap off Jasper.

"Good as new and twice as sweet." He handed the terrier into her towel-covered arms.

"But not as sweet as you."

Her heart stopped. Completely. Stopped. "What?"

He glanced at the ground, nudged the hose sprayer with his toe. When he looked up again, his face had gone slightly red. "I like you, Stella. And your stinky dog. I've never been so happy that a client's dog got into such messes."

She couldn't breathe. "I like you, too."

"Good to know." Leaning over Jasper, Charlie brushed his warm, full mouth across hers.

"Because I really want to do that again. Without manure all over my shirt."

Sparks of fire and light danced through her. She laughed, the most giddy, school-girlish sound she'd ever uttered. "I want you to do that again, too. And I don't care if you're wearing a shirt or not." Her eyes widened and heat coursed through her cheeks. "I mean—"

He laughed, eyes bright. "I know what you mean." He winked. "Very encouraging, all the same."

Mercy, he was a delicious hunk of man. She shook her embarrassment off and concentrated on drying Jasper. "Why don't you go change that shirt and come on in? I'm sure we can find a way to occupy ourselves until the food gets here."

He hooked his thumbs through the belt loops on his jeans. "Like I was saying, my kind of girl."

VISIT AUTHOR YOLANDA SFETSOS AT
[HTTP://WWW.YOLANDASFETSOS.COM](http://www.yolandasfetsos.com)

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INTERVIEW



CPQ Magazine Agent Interview: Jessica Faust

As a literary agent and cofounder of BookEnds, LLC, Jessica Faust welcomes the challenge of representing published and unpublished authors in both fiction and nonfiction. Jessica began her publishing career as an acquisitions editor for both Berkley and Macmillan and has been able to take her editorial background and experience with her to BookEnds.

More information on Jessica and BookEnds can be found at

<http://www.bookends-inc.com> or

<http://bookendslitagency.blogspot.com>

Interview:

CPQ: You are an agent with BookEnds, LLC. Can you tell us a little about this agency?

Jessica: Jacky Sach and I started BookEnds in 1999 originally as a book packager. Our plan was to take our ideas for fresh new nonfiction to publishers. After about a year of packaging we realized we weren't as fulfilled as we had hoped. We missed fiction. So the company made a natural transition to agenting. A place I think we were always meant to be. Now, together with Kim Lionetti, BookEnds represents commercial fiction and nonfiction in a variety of genres, and we are still able to come up with our own fresh ideas—we just pass them to our clients to write.

CPQ: It states at the BookEnds Web site that your expertise includes historical, contemporary, fantasy, paranormal, and erotic romance, erotica, women's fiction, mysteries, and suspense. Is there anything specific you are currently looking for?

Jessica: Paranormal is hot these days, so I'm looking for anything with paranormal or fantasy overtones that can fit in those genres. I'd also love some good suspense—romantic suspense or a suspense series—either paranormal or otherwise.

CPQ: When considering a manuscript, what turns you on about a book, and what turns you off?

Jessica: The hook is what grabs me or doesn't grab me immediately. Before even reading any of the material, I make part of my decision based on the query letter. If your hook sounds exciting and different I will start reading your material with excitement. However, if you don't have a strong hook I might not even get to more than a few pages of your material. Of course, after the hook, it's all about the writing—a solid plot, great characters, etc.

CPQ: With so many predators posing as agents, what are some tips you could give authors about seeking an agent?

Jessica: Research, research, research. Check out all of the great publishing resources online. Predators and Editors should always be one of your first stops as should message boards and discussion boards on the subject. Find out before you even submit to an agent whether or not they are reputable and whether or not they even represent the type of work you're writing. Don't rely on one source alone.

A

GENT

INTERVIEW



CPQ Magazine Agent Interview continued from previous page

Writer's Market is a great first step but doesn't have the information you need to make a truly informed decision. Many agents these days have Web sites. You should review the Web site of every agent you are submitting to before you send your work in.

Avoid any agent who charges reading fees. Even if they aren't members of AAR, all agents should abide by the canon of ethics. Avoid agents who won't name authors they have sold and to what publishers. Agents are happy to brag about success stories. And lastly, trust your instincts. Any agent is not better than no agent at all. Bad agents can damage your career or slow things down.

CPQ: About how many new authors a year do you agree to represent?

Jessica: Obviously that number shrinks each year, as my list fills and my current clients keep me busy. I would say I probably don't offer to more than 5-6 a year.

CPQ: Sensual and erotic romances, popular for years at electronic publishers, have seemed to suddenly explode at the print publishers of romance. We are seeing new lines popping up everywhere. From an agent's point of view, is this a profitable new market or does it smell like a passing fad?

Jessica: It's definitely a profitable new market. But like any new big trend, things are bound to slow down. Whenever publishers jump all over anything it isn't long before they fill they're lists, flood the market, and buying slows. This is already happening with erotic romance. It's not a bad thing. It just means that it's going to be a little tougher to sell a book in a market that just last year editors were snapping up almost anything and everything.

I think that the level of sensuality is sure to stick around for a while, but like the very popular sweet romances of ten years ago the market will make its natural shift over time, and it won't be long before something else is popular.

CPQ: If you could give authors only one piece of advice, what would it be?

Jessica: Writing is a hobby, publishing is a business. I think a lot of writers begin writing because they feel the pull to do it. It's a hobby. Something you do on the side, to relieve stress, to kill time, to fulfill your creative side. The minute you decide to find an agent and publisher though it becomes a business. Rejection letters aren't personal, they're business decisions, and those decisions are made for financial reasons. Rejections are usually made because an agent or a publisher doesn't feel there's a market for your book.

If you really want to be successful you have to always remember this and, while I never suggest anyone write to the market, I do always suggest you write marketable work. That means that it has to be more than just the writing. The story, hook, plot, characters... All have to be unique and exciting. They have to be marketable.

CPQ: Thank you so much for taking time to let us interview you. Have you any other thoughts or comments that you want to leave with readers and authors?

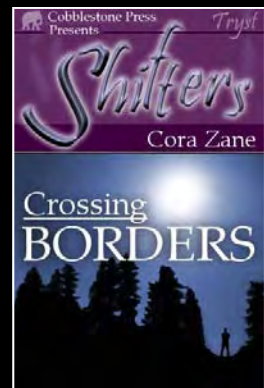
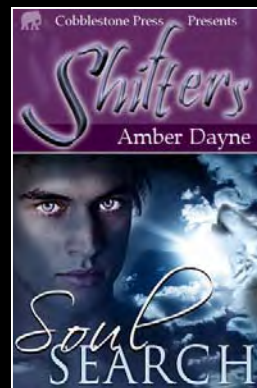
AGENT INTERVIEW



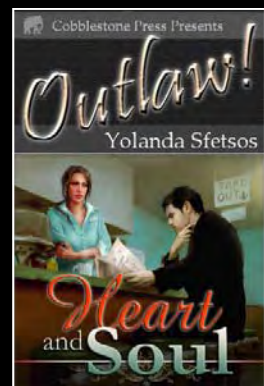
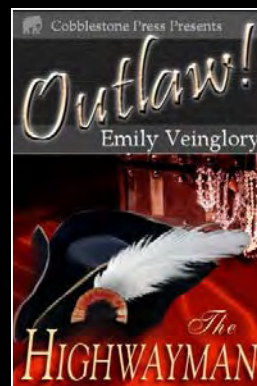
CPQ Magazine Agent Interview continued from previous page

Jessica: Thank you for asking me to do this. I have a lot of respect for anyone who has the talent to sit and write a book. I don't think it's something I could ever do. Publishing is a tough business to get into. It takes perseverance, talent, some luck, and a lot of research. Learn about the business, and learn about your writing. Don't be afraid to make mistakes, and trust your instincts.

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A

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AUTHOR INTERVIEW



Meet Romance Author, Leanne Karella/Anna Leigh Keaton

Leanne has been in love with romance for as long as she can remember. Her first novel starred her first crush, written when she was an innocent twelve years old. Many years later, multi-published and much less innocent, she is still a consummate romantic all the way to her bones, only now her romances include big-girl fantasies. She strives to gift her readers with heroes and heroines they can fall madly in love with and a storyline that brings them together under the best, and often most impossible, circumstances.

www.leannekarella.com and www.annaleighkeaton.com

INTERVIEW

CPQ: You are a busy, busy woman and have books all over the place. Can you tell us what books you have published where?

Leanne:

Writing as Leanne Karella:

Cobblestone Press: *The Beauty Within*

New Concepts Publishing: *Witch Hunt* (co-authored with Vivienne King) and *Grounded: Michaela*

Wings ePress: *Alaskan Hideaway*, *Broken Wings*, *Sanctuary* and the Double H trilogy

Writing as Anna Leigh Keaton:

All books available at Cobblestone Press:

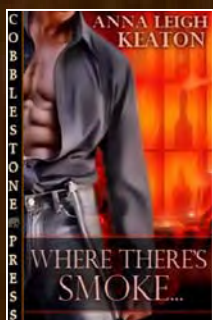
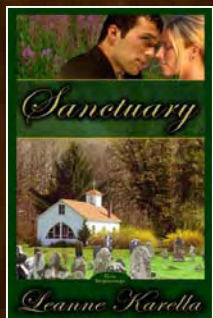
To Serve and Protect series, *Incognito* Series (co-authored with Madison Layle), *Phantom Lover*, *Return To Me* (co-authored with Madison Layle), and *Risking It All*

CPQ: Why two names?

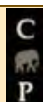
Leanne: I started out writing mainstream romance under my real name, Leanne Karella. When I decided to try my hand at writing sensual romance, I worried that someone who read a nice, sweet, mainstream Leanne-style book might have a coronary if they read a hot and steamy sensual or erotic book with my name on it, so I came up with the pseudonym of Anna Leigh Keaton.

Now, the only real difference between Leanne and Anna's styles is language. You will find very few four-letter words in Leanne's writing, and the sex scenes—while still hot, hot, hot—are more romantically written. Anna, on the other hand, tends to get down and dirty but always in a very good way. *wink*

continued on next page



VISIT AUTHOR ANNA LEIGH KEATON
[HTTP://WWW.ANNALEIGHKEATON.COM](http://www.annaleighkeaton.com)



SEDUCING OLIVIA
 Madison Layle
 Anna Leigh Keaton



A

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AUTHOR INTERVIEW



CPQ: You have several series of books published. Can you tell us more about those series and if we can expect more installments of each?

Leanne: My Double H trilogy is finished. These guys are my cowboys and will always hold a wonderful place in my heart, but alas, the trilogy is finished, and I do not plan to write anymore of them. To Serve and Protect, which is a very popular series at Cobblestone Press... I've got a few ideas in mind, and someday they'll probably wind up on paper. So, don't hold your breath, but keep an eye out. I do love my heroes!

Incognito: We have planned a number of books in this series, that will keep Incognito stories coming out throughout this year and maybe into the next. I have a very strong feeling that this series may never truly end. I'm working on one by myself, (as my wonderful co-author, Madi, did with Owing Rachel) which will no doubt be a surprise. Yes, you're just going to have to keep guessing for now. But be assured that Madi and I will continue to generate books to satisfy your darkest desires, even if the books aren't part of the original Incognito series. (This is a not-so-subtle hint that another series may be coming along in 2008 so stay tuned!)

CPQ: Creating a story with a writing partner can be difficult, but you and Madison Layle have produced several books together for the Incognito Series. How do the two of you make it work?

Leanne: We don't really have to make anything work. It just does. I'm convinced that Madi is my writing soul mate. Our partnership was formed because of Incognito, even though we'd been friends and critique partners for a few years prior. She wrote Owing Rachel, and I read it. It was the first triad/BDSM book I'd ever read. Other than going wow, and wanting to take her heroes home with me, I got my own idea for a triad/BDSM book. When I told her about it, she told me she had the perfect heroine, and the series was born. We've never really disagreed about anything and, when we brainstorm, it's truly scary how similar we think. Madi has become one of my very best friends, and we know each other well enough to know what will work as co-authored material, and what won't. We wouldn't continue on together as we have if we didn't enjoy it so much.

CPQ: What do you think is your greatest strength in your writing and why?

Leanne: Going on what others have said about my writing, I believe that the one true strength I have is to get into my characters' heads and bring them to life. To let my readers join me in their heads, know their pains and joys, hopes and fears. As one of my publishers will attest to, I strive to make my readers cry (and said publisher). If I can bring that kind of emotion to the reader of one of my books, letting them get so involved in the lives of my heroes and heroines, I've accomplished my goal.

CPQ: What is the most rewarding part of writing romance for you?

Leanne: This has to be the easiest question I've ever been asked. A woman who won the copy of my book emailed me and sent me into tears. Good tears. She told me how much my writing touched her and, although she'd been deaf for years, she could hear my characters. They touched her that much. That is when I knew I needed to keep going. That's why I write. If I can touch just one person and make them...believe...if only for a few hours, then I've done my job.

Continued on next page

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A

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AUTHOR INTERVIEW



CPQ: You have so many books, Leanne. How do you find the time to juggle writing, being an editor, and still spend time with your family?

Leanne: Family? Oh! You mean those people I live with? The ones who are always asking where dinner is? But seriously, I am definitely one of the lucky ones in that my family understands (or at least has learned to ignore) my eccentricities. I try to take most weekends off and not spend too much time on the computer those days. I also try to give them an hour or two in the evenings, but for the most part they understand if I'm hunched over my laptop with a glazed look in my eyes, such as when I'm really into a book I'm writing and the people in my head won't let me rest and relax. As for being an editor, I treat it as a part-time job. When I have assignments, I edit a few hours per day, usually after I've finished writing or doing promotion work, or whatever the goal for that particular day might be.

CPQ: Do you ever have any Leanne time and if so, how do you spend it?

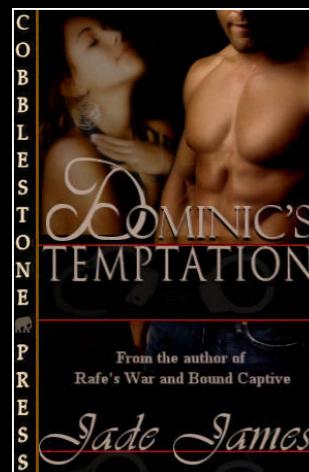
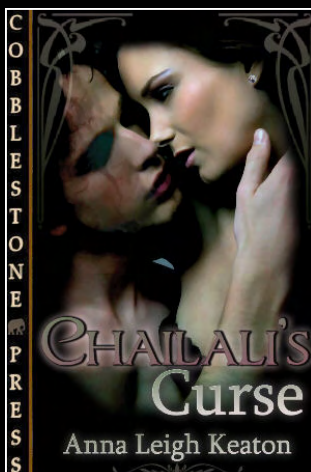
Leanne: Well, some weekends I lock myself in my bedroom with a stack of DVDs and some chocolate, cola, and potato chips. (This usually coincides with the lunar cycle, if you know what I mean.) Other times I will take a day and just be alone. When I've got a story bugging me that won't come to fruition, I go for a long drive alone. I also travel as much as possible. Alone, preferably, but that's not often a choice. So yeah, there's Leanne time, but it doesn't come real often, which makes it sweeter when it does happen.

CPQ: Is there anything else you would like to share?

Leanne: want to say thank you to Sable Grey and Deanna Lee of Cobblestone Press. I'm honored that I was your first contract, and I celebrate your accomplishments as much as I know you two celebrate mine. Thanks for being such wonderful, supportive friends to work with and for. Because of you and your belief in me and my books, a lot of great things have come my way. Thank you!

Check Out These Cobblestone Press New and Coming Soon Titles!

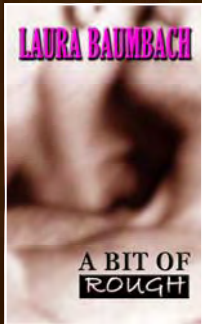
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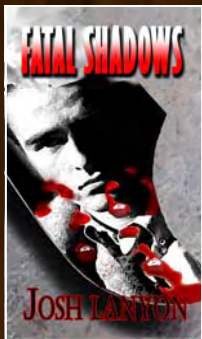
THE WRITER'S CORNER



The Importance of Research in the Modern Contemporary Romance By M. E. McCombs



I can hear your groans now, but as a reader, writer and editor of romance fiction, I can not place a greater importance upon complete and accurate research in contemporary romantic fiction. In the age of the Internet, the traditional excuse of "it's fiction, not real, so it doesn't matter" is not applicable. Even a modicum of research can enhance your setting, plot, and characters; even the one off scene will seem more real if you take the time to research your subjects. However, and this is of equal importance, you must consider the reliability of your sources as well. In this article, I will address both of these factors and give a few pointers on how to tell if a potential source is truly reliable as a writing reference.



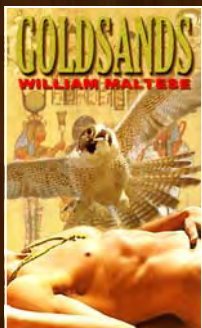
First, as I'm sure many will remember from their school days, the best source is a primary, or first level, reference. Primary references are newspaper articles, personal journals or personal interviews, even television news broadcasts. A good example, related to contemporary romances, would be arranging to speak with a local police detective about how he handles cases, his daily routine, and interactions between departments. Does he report directly to the chief, a lieutenant? Does he have a partner or work alone? Using the answers from these questions, combined with good secondary research, you can create a realistic detective or police character for your contemporary romantic suspense, increasing reader interest in your book because of the realistic feel.



Secondary sources, the bane of many a researcher's life, are everywhere. These are the most common sources, both in libraries and on the Internet, and need to be evaluated very carefully. They come in two kinds, which I personally classify as high and low secondary, consisting of memoirs and non-fiction books.

Memoirs, generally defined in the modern era to be autobiographies, can also be expanded to include well-documented biographies. These books are nearly as good as first level sources for accurate information. I say nearly because they are edited for publication, sometimes the names have been changed to protect the innocent, and sometimes fictional books are misclassified as non-fiction. You have to be careful with these.

Always check the index, footnotes and bibliography to see where the information is drawn from. Good ones will have a greater *personal letters, interviews and journals* to *book* ratio, proving that the author in question took the time to go directly to the sources—the people involved in what's written—before writing the book. Some true crime authors, for example, will sometimes fictionalize or dramatize their cases initially, and then give the facts after to increase the length of their books. Two very good sources for police procedural non-fiction books are former FBI profiler John Douglas and the very prolific true-crime author Anne Rule.



Other secondary sources include Internet publications, such as the very popular Wikipedia, magazines, and non-fiction books. As I said before, you have to evaluate your secondary sources with great care. Their value depends on the age of the publication, the research put into them by the author, and their own context. When reading secondary sources, always be aware of an author's own personal bias. This personal bias is reflected in their writing, often in the way they pick and choose their own quoted sources. I, personally, have seen this bias while doing my own research. Authors, determined to prove their position, use discredited secondary sources to support their arguments. The best known example of this bias can be seen in the explosion of non-fiction works published since the release of *The Da Vinci Code* arguing for the truth of the Mary Magdalene as

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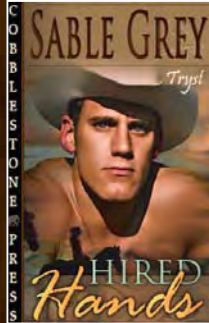
Jesus' wife theory. Many of these books quote heavily from *Holy Blood, Holy Grail*, which has been discredited by scholars as its own premise relied heavily on documents now known to be forgeries.

My method—and this is only one method—of determining the value of a secondary source is to first check the cited bibliography to see how many primary sources are used and if the author used a number of sources that I know are discredited or controversial. If a book or other source does use a disproportionate number of these types of sources, I read the work with care, noting any preexisting bias of the author, and move on to other sources, comparing them before settling on a viewpoint or position.



Finally, let me directly address the highly popular Wikipedia. While many online encyclopedias are a good starting point for research, pointing the researcher in directions not previously thought of, Wikipedia is not one. Its very business model is one rife for abuse, bias, and personal opinion. Many articles there are not documented, poorly documented or are created out of thin air. Yes, there is some good information there, but it is not a source I would use on a regular basis or as my sole source of information.

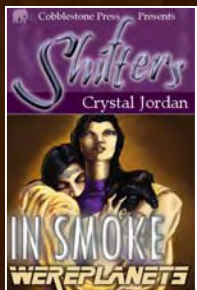
In closing, let me state that sometimes the best sources are fellow authors. Network, talk, and seek out information from your fellows. Cobblestone Press has a library on their message board, full of links to information and resources, that other authors have used themselves. The information you need to create a realistic, if fictional, story is out there just waiting to be found.



VISIT AUTHOR SAMMIE WARD AT
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S

SHORT STORY
ROMANCE

Wereplanets: In the Flames By Crystal Jordan

He was a forbidden pleasure, and she craved him. Devani's breath caught as his cock slid into her, stretching her to the very limit. She threaded her fingers through his auburn and black tiger-striped hair and held on for the hard, fast ride. Just the way she loved it. Oh, gods, how she loved it. Everything about him was irresistible.

"*Taymullah.*" She threw her head back, arching to press her breasts against his broad chest. The white marble statue of naked lovers entwined in an embrace that matched her and Taymullah's loomed over her. She closed her eyes to focus on the hot sensations rushing through her. She wanted more, *needed* more. "Please."

He dipped to suck her nipple into his mouth, scraped his teeth over the sensitive crest, and bit lightly. Her fingers clenched in his thick hair, tugging on the short strands. His hands cupped her hips, working her up and down his long cock as she straddled his lap. The pebbles on the garden path they lay on pricked into her knees, but she was beyond caring about anything except the feel of his skin sliding against hers, the rich, masculine scent of him teasing her nose.

Yes, Devani. Tell me what you want, and it shall be yours. His deep amber eyes crinkled at the corners as he sent the telepathic thought to her. He rotated his hips and ground into her at a different angle. She burned as the words brushed against her mind, and her sex fisted tight on his thrusting cock. Her mind went blank. Nothing mattered but the drive toward orgasm. Not Taymullah's social position or her own, not her father, not the weretiger pride politics. Nothing. She loved that his touch could drive her to madness.

Loving him was madness, but she couldn't stop the feeling. Her heart squeezed with the intensity of emotion he pulled from her. Gods, she loved him. And it could never be anything more than sex between them. A sob caught in her throat, grief threatening to consume her. She pushed the thoughts away, focusing on his big body moving with hers.

"I love you," she whispered. This was the last time she would feel this kind of passion, the last time she could trace her fingers over the tiger stripes that crossed his skin, the last time she could *love* him.

His big hands brushed down her back. He bit her shoulder, flicking his tongue over her skin. *I love you, too, Devani.*

Flames licked at her veins. He loved her. She knew it and hugged that knowledge to herself. And, yet, there was no hope for them. Not with him as Prince Regent of their planet and her as a contentious pride lord's daughter. Tears welled in her eyes. Anguish and pleasure mingled inside her, the emotions squeezing her chest.

Sweat beaded on her forehead and between her breasts to slip down her skin. A warm breeze caressed her limbs, cooling the sweat. She shivered at the contrast in sensations.

The muscles in her thighs flexed as she lifted and lowered herself on his cock. Every stroke pushed her closer to the edge of orgasm. Passion ran wild through her. Her fangs slid out as she spun out of control. A low moan ripped from her throat.

Continued on next page

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ROMANCE

His fingers clenched on her thighs, pulling her wide as he slammed inside her. Faster and faster, harder and harder. Her heart pounded, heat bubbling deep within her. Her hips twisted, seeking, desperate for all he could give her. She would wring every moment of pleasure from this last time with him. Yes. Oh, yes.

"Taymullah...I'm going to...I can't..." A tiger shriek erupted from her throat. Her pussy contracted around him as the orgasm rolled over her in a wave.

His hips arched, his arms banded around her to seal their bodies together, and he shoved his cock into her. His body shuddered beneath her, inside her, as he came. He roared out his own orgasm as his seed filled her. Her pussy clenched again, an after-shock tightening her muscles.

Their breath bellowed out, and they clung to each other as they came down from the rush. She shivered as another gust of wind hit her skin. The scent of Taymullah, the hot deserts of Vesperi, and the salty expanse of the Dead Sea teased her nostrils.

Why did she have to love him? *Why?* The bitter pain of it twisted through her. She shook herself. *Stop it, Devani.* There were so many reasons she couldn't have him, and she'd known the first time he'd touched her that it could never be anything but a short-lived affair.

As the Prince Regent, Taymullah was not a good match for her—he was the most powerful tiger on Vesperi while his brother, *Amir* Varad, and his sister-in-law, *Amira* Mahlia, were away on the annual trade route to the three other planets colonized by humans. A tight smile pulled at her lips. Well, what was left of the human race. Each planet was populated by a different kind of wereanimal: bears, tigers, dragons, and merpeople. She would never see those other worlds, never know anything but the quiet life her father had planned for her. This time in Taymullah's arms, feeling the sweetness of his love, was the greatest adventure she would ever have. And now it was over.

Taymullah kissed her shoulder, licking the stripes on her skin. She closed her eyes, hoping to hide the tears that welled there. Love and agony rolled through her in waves. Please, gods, let this be over soon. Please, gods, let it never end.

"This won't happen again. I can't....be with you anymore." Devani's soft words reached his ears. He tensed, his belly cramping with a churning mixture of pain and sudden rage.

"Why?" His question gritted past clenched teeth. He knew *why*, but he wanted to hear her say it. Why she didn't want him, why he couldn't have her.

"My mating heat comes soon."

Lust tightened his gut at just the thought of possessing her, claiming her in a way none could deny. Fire burned in him, and his cock rose thick between his thighs again. He watched her stand, the deep tan tiger stripes arched across her smooth pale gold skin. She turned her back to him to pull her gown over her head. The pale green saltwater silk of her dress clung to her ample curves and accented her dark red and brunette striped curls. He paused for a moment to admire the sweet globes of her ass. He wanted them filling his palms as he thrust his cock into her. Again. Always. He wanted her. *Loved* her.

Continued on next page

S

SHORT STORY
ROMANCE

Gods, he loved her. How could he lose her? Pain fisted in his chest. He'd made a point to interact with her as often as possible since she'd come to the weretiger court four months before. She was shy, unassuming. Lovely and unexpected. He wanted to know her, be near her. Obsession had sunk its fierce claws into him the moment he had seen her.

"When?"

She started, glancing over her shoulder at him. "What?"

"Your mating heat...when is it?"

"Any time now. I can feel it building. My father...wants me to mate with Lord Gyan. The negotiations have already taken place." A harsh laugh erupted from her, and he flinched at the pain he heard in it. "But you know this already, don't you? You're the Prince Regent. You probably know everything about me, my life, and my family."

A growl vibrated in his throat at the thought of some minor pride lord mating with Devani. How dare anyone touch the woman *he* wanted? His jaw clenched as blinding rage rolled through him. He knew it wasn't rational, but the need to possess her, to feel the heat of her fist around his swollen cock was more than he could bear.

"I do know. I made it my business to know."

"Why?"

"I love you." His statement was bald, direct, undeniable. He needed to say the words.

Her breathing hitched, and her fists clenched at her sides. She swung around to look at him. "Yes. And I love you, but my father would never allow our mating. Your brother wouldn't want you to mate while he's away, would he? And when he returns...it will be too late. I will be bound to Gyan."

"No." He roared loud, the tiger within him tearing loose. His fangs bared as he leaped to his feet to face her. A small corner of his mind knew she was right, but he didn't want to acknowledge it. As a member of the royal family, he was vastly more powerful than her father's pride. The petty man should not be able to rob him of the one woman he desired.

After he'd been appointed Prince Regent, he'd avoided bestowing any woman with his undivided attention. It would encourage the already rabid politics between the tiger prides to a feeding frenzy. He was the most eligible bachelor on the planet, every Vesperi pride lord who allied to Varad hoped to foist their daughter onto Taymullah. Devani's father did not lead one of those prides, damn him. Taymullah had had no intention of mating while his brother was away. He'd been a bachelor, and happily so, for years.

But Devani? Her, he couldn't resist. He'd thought his brother mad when he'd made a minor pride lord's daughter the *Amira* of Vesperi. When Varad married her, Mahlia had been woefully unprepared for the political games she'd have to play as a ruler of tigers.

Taymullah had been unable to fathom what had made his brother choose Mahlia over one of the many tigresses groomed to mate with an *Amir*. Until Devani, he never knew a man could feel such a bone deep pull toward a woman. Within moments of meeting her, folding her soft hand into his, he'd known she was his future.

Continued on next page

S

SHORT STORY
ROMANCE

Madness. He'd been right. To want a woman this much was madness. Only a fool would want it. He needed to cool his temper, clear his mind of the lustful thoughts that had him in their grip. His brother was counting on him to rule well in his stead. Taymullah would not let him down. Not ever.

His jaw clenched. Advisable or not, Devani would be his before his brother returned. "I am willing to risk your father's wrath...and my brother's. I know he would understand."

Her breath caught and hope shone in her eyes, but it quickly died out. She shook her head. "My father will not. I can't...I can't defy him, Taymullah. He would disown me. What political gain would there be for your family if I had none to claim me? Be reasonable, my love."

A pain so great he thought it might crush him sat upon his chest. It was the agony of a man whose love wasn't returned. Not enough. She didn't love him enough to let go of her fears and risk everything to be with him. A harsh laugh jerked from him. "You think this is *reasonable*? That love could ever be reasoned with? Do you truly believe that I would have *chosen* you to love out of all the courtiers on Vesperi? *Do you?*"

The blood leached from her face, and she stared at him. "No."

"No. It would have been simple, easy, to love a woman born into a pride that wanted to build close allegiances with the royal family. You don't think I know this? But, no. Love is not simple, Devani. Not reasonable. I had to have you the moment I touched you. And no one will ever know you as I do, want you just as you are like I do. You long for adventure, don't you? That's what led you to my bed in the first place. Wasn't it?"

"Taymullah, please. Don't—"

"Wasn't it?" he demanded.

Her golden eyes filled with tears. "Yes."

He pushed on, determined to fight for what he wanted, *who* he wanted. He had to convince her. "I can give you that adventure. Not just in my bed, but in everything. When Varad and Mahlia return they'll remain here to rule for the rest of their lives. I will be assuming command of the trade runs. I can show you all the known worlds. Tell me you don't want that. Tell me you don't want *me*."

She swallowed. "I can't. I do want you, more than you'll ever know because this cannot be. *We* cannot be. I didn't think I would love you. I can't control the way I feel about you, but I can control what I *do* about that love."

"And the action you take will be to leave me in favor of Lord Gyan."

"That isn't the way of it."

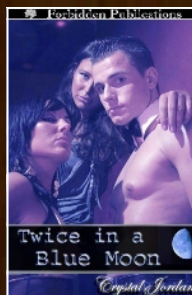
"Isn't it? Go then...leave. Take the coward's way out."

Her lips twisted, and a single tear slipped down the smooth curve of her cheek. She nodded, turned on her heel, and fled. He watched her wind through the statues of the Nude Garden. Soft glowlights shone on the long curving paths. It would be hours before the sun rose and natural light flooded in through the tiny skyholes above the garden. Just as she disappeared from his sight, her soft telepathy brushed against his mind.

I'm sorry, Taymullah. I do love you.

Continued on next page

S HORT STORY ROMANCE



He closed his eyes against the pain of it. She loved him. But not enough to fight for him. And that was the one thing he couldn't coerce, coax, or force to his will. Her father, his brother, the prides of Vesperi, yes. Her heart? No.

* * * * *

A tiger shriek of agony ripped from her as she ran as fast as her legs would carry her. Through marble hallways, passed rich tapestries, down curving staircases. She didn't know where to run to escape herself and the pain that tore through her. There was no escape. The muscles in her calves and thighs burned as she went. The wildness within her rose until she couldn't contain it any longer. Jerking her gown over her head, she discarded it with little care as to where it fell. She folded in half as she ran, and her body shuddered as the sucking pops that signaled the reforming of her bones into a more feline shape broke the tranquility of the night. She dropped onto all fours and watched the striped skin on her arms fill in with a thick tiger's pelt. She flexed her claws against the marble tiles, stretching into a fluid sprint as her body remembered how to move in this form.

Time slowed down, became elastic and meaningless. What was a few moments if Taymullah wasn't in them? Her breath sobbed out as she streaked through the main palace doors and down the steps that led to the moonlight market. She didn't pause to answer the people who called out to her. This scene would reach her father's ears soon, and the rest of the court would be gossiping about it by morning. She couldn't dredge up the will to care just now. The salty scent of the Dead Sea reached her nose. Yes. She could find peace in the waves rolling up onto the shore there. Threading through the marketplace, she doubled back toward the water.

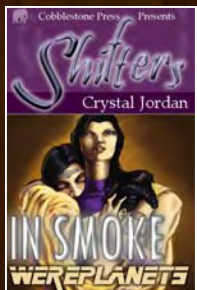
The sand crunched under her paws as she walked to the edge, letting the waves swirl around her ankles. She collapsed on the soft beach. Her heart pounded from her run, her blood rushing through her veins. They were nothing compared to the thoughts ricocheting through her mind—the pain eating at her soul.

The first rays of sunlight began to brighten the underground ocean. Thousands of tiny skyholes let in the sunshine. Her breathing shuddered out. If she couldn't go a few hours knowing she'd never touch him again, how was she going to survive days, weeks...the rest of her life? But she'd been taught since birth that her duty to her family, her pride, came before everything else. Before her needs, her wants, her heart. An ache filled her chest. Could Taymullah truly withstand his brother's anger if she brought no political allegiances with her? Unlike Mahlia's pride, Devani's father was *not* a supporter of the royal family. He would not see an advantage to her mating with a prince. Everything on Vesperi was a game of politics. Felines loved the challenge of it, the competition of it.

Devani was exhausted by it. Gods help her. Would the writhing agony twisting through her ever abate? She doubted it. She closed her eyes and moaned. Sudden anger whipped through her. Damn them all. Why did she have to mate for what it could gain for her family? Why couldn't she just *love*? Wasn't that a rare enough prize to win? None of her siblings could claim to love their mates and changed them with each tigress' heat cycle. That wasn't what she wanted. She wanted what the *Amir* and *Amira* had—a lifelong mating. She wanted Taymullah.

Continued on next page

S

SHORT STORY
ROMANCE

Was she willing to fight for him? To give up everything she knew for him? If she didn't, was she the coward Taymullah claimed she was? Her heart throbbed at the hurt of his accusation. He was right. Only a coward would throw away love. Is this how she wanted to live the rest of her life? Regretting what might have been with a man who matched her perfectly? The questions wouldn't stop, wouldn't let her rest, wouldn't allow her forget. Wouldn't let her give up on Taymullah. Or let her watch him mate with another tigress.

She jerked to her feet. She couldn't do it. Taymullah was *hers*, and no woman would mate with him except her. Steely determination whipped through her. Her father would disown her, of that she had no doubts. She would lose her friends and her family. Her pride. And she was willing to give it all up for the love of a good man, and the life of adventure he promised her.

Yes. She pulled in a deep breath, peace wrapping around her as the decision settled. Urgency slammed into her. She had to find Taymullah and tell him everything. Pivoting on her haunches, she raced back the way she had come. She burst through the palace doors and went straight for his chambers.

Rounding a corner, she skidded to a stop as she came nose to knees with her father. A disapproving frown marred the feline beauty of his face when she looked up at him. "What's this I have heard about you making a spectacle of—"

She cut him off with her telepathy for the very first time in her life, and shock flashed across his features. *I'm mating with Prince Taymullah, father. I will never let Gyan or any other man touch me.*

His golden eyes widened, the slitted pupils expanding. His face flushed with quiet rage. "You understand what this means?"

I do. She nodded for emphasis.

"Then I no longer have a daughter." His eyes went flat, hard. He stepped back, turned his back on her, and walked away without a backward glance.

She waited for the pain to flood her, and it did, but it was nothing to what losing Taymullah would be. She'd spent the last hours coming to terms with that fact. A sigh pulled from her, relief that it was done. It was hard, it was painful, but her father didn't love her enough to get past her choice of a mate. There was nothing she could do about that. She could only affect her own actions, make her own choices. And she chose love, unconditional, unquenchable love. Now to tell Taymullah that. A curl of excitement unfurled in her belly.

Taymullah!

Not bothering to pause and formally announce herself, she burst through Taymullah's door. And skidded to a stop at the sight of two naked tigresses lounging across his saltwater silk coverlets. They raised their eyebrows at her, and she returned the stare.

Disbelief rocked her to her very core, numb shock spreading through her limbs. A few hours and he'd replaced her. Was this the measure of his love? She snorted, brushing that foolishness aside. He wouldn't give up so quickly. Not Taymullah. And if he had...well, he'd just have to become accustomed to monogamy. Starting immediately.

Now to deal with these interlopers. Her eyes narrowed on the two of them lying in a bed *she* had shared with Taymullah.

Continued on next page

S

SHORT STORY
ROMANCE

A furious hiss erupted from her throat. Her tail lashed behind her. Standing on her hind paws, she shifted back into human form, her claws and fangs retracting so she wouldn't rip their throats out. Her fingers balled into fists at her sides, and she gritted past clenched teeth, "Get. Out."

One of the women paled and reached for a robe to cover herself.

The other tigress, a lady of a powerful pride, rose gracefully. Her tone was dismissive. "You cannot order us about, Lady Devani."

"But I can. My lady has just command you to leave. Obey her. Now." Taymullah's rich voice sounded from behind Devani. She snapped around, only then realizing that he hadn't been in the chamber with the women. His scent in the room was almost a full day old. Good. She'd be right about him, right to trust him with her future.

He lounged in the open doorway, arms and legs crossed casually. They waited in silence as the two tigresses flounced out of his chambers. He stepped forward and kicked the door closed behind them. He stalked her, backing her towards the bed. Moisture pooled between her thighs. Gods, he made her wet just by looking at her. She wanted him, wanted the wildness he pulled from her.

Hurt and anger flashed in his amber gaze, and he didn't bother to hide it from her. His voice mocked her. "Does your father know you're here, Devani?"

The back of her legs hit the bed frame, and she lifted her palms to press against his chest. He stilled beneath her touch, and she reveled in it. Not long ago, she'd imagined a life without ever stroking her fingers over his warm flesh. Thank the gods. She closed her eyes for a moment before meeting his gaze squarely. "I hope you meant what you said about risking the wrath of everyone we know. My father has disowned me for wanting to mate with you."

His breathing hitched, and his hands closed over her bare shoulders. "You fought for me, for us. With the tigresses. With your father."

"Yes. I want to be by your side for the rest of my days. If you'll have me. I'm—I'm sorry I doubted, sorry I hurt you, sorry I ran from you. Can you forgive me?" Her voice shook as she spoke, and she prayed her actions hadn't ruined his faith in her. Dread coiled in her belly, cramping her muscles as she tensed.

"Forgive you?" His voice went flat, blank. Like her father's had before he turned on her. Her breath caught, agony slicing through her.

"I'm so very sorry, Taymullah. I love you." She whispered the words, hoping they weren't the last time she would get to say them to him.

His arms closed around her, crushing her to his chest. He leaned his forehead against hers. "I thought I lost you, my love."

"Never. I'm yours for as long as you'll have me." Giddy relief sang through her.

"Oh, I'll have you. Now. An hour from now. A week from now. A decade from now. It will be an adventure, don't you agree?" His thigh pressed between hers, riding the hard muscles against her clit.

She shivered at his words and his actions, heat pulsing through her body. Her nipples tightened to points, rubbing against his broad chest. This is exactly what she wanted. With him. Right here. Right now. Forever. "Yes."

The End

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AUTHOR INTERVIEW



Anisa Damien writes African-American and multicultural erotic romance. She's been immersed in the wonderful world of romantic fiction and creating characters known for their diversity for years or since grade school (where she sneaked romance books up to her bedroom and skipped to the "good" parts! But who's telling?) Also, she blames her obsession with heroes on Rhett Butler! Anisa resides just outside of Chicago with her family where she can be found jotting notes for her character sketches, people watching, or catching up on CSI.

CPQ: Anisa, please tell us what titles you have currently available and where they are published.

Anisa: Currently, my booklist is comprised of:

Jingle My Bell Anthology (*Upon a Midnight Clear*), available at Liquid Silver Books

Midnight Whispers and *Pulse*, both available at Cobblestone Press

Baby, it's Witchcraft and *Scarlet Ties: Taste*, both available at Changeling Press

As well as *Herrera's Temptation* and *Wild Impulses*, which are currently being revised with new scenes and will be back on the market soon!

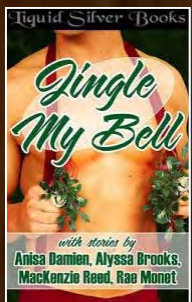
CPQ: You write erotic multicultural and African American romances. How important is the portrayal of multicultural and African American relationships in your writing in a market that for so long offered only two dimensional stereotypes?

Anisa: I think it is very important to portray the love and sensuality that African Americans and multicultural couples share. At the same time, it is also equally important not to concentrate solely on the race of these relationships. African Americans and multicultural people love the same as other races, so that is the key ingredient: not to get lost in color.

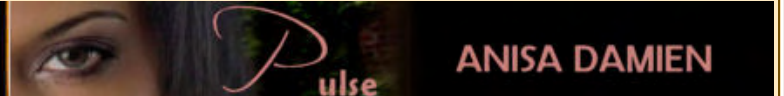
CPQ: Aside from your writing, you play a huge role in the multicultural and African American romance community. Can you tell us a little about Strictly Seductive?

Anisa: Strictly Seductive is my yahoo writing group, which is filled with gifted authors and supportive, intelligent readers. It's where we share ideas, have contests, and talk about sex and books. I love the community of my group and strongly encourage other authors to advertise their own books as well. I have always felt that supporting other authors is the best gift of all; it allows you to learn.

CPQ: Do you have a role model? Who do you draw strength and inspiration from?



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AUTHOR INTERVIEW



Anisa: I have a lot of role models. Primarily, most of them are authors who do their own thing, have their own style, and make their own way! I draw a lot of strength from my son, who reminds me to “keep going” and my spirituality. I don’t believe I could do anything without the Man above!

CPQ: You are always working on new books. What titles can we expect from you in the future?

Anisa:

Scarlet Ties: Tempted (Book 2), coming March 30th to Changeling Press

Flirting with Danger, coming soon to Loose Id

Bayou Heat, coming soon to New Concepts

Sweet Spot, a spicy novella, and I have a new series titled *Bad Girls Bite Back*, which is a vampire series.

CPQ: Is there anything else you would like to share?

Anisa: Thank you for the opportunity to do this interview!



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digital publishing

Anisa Damien
Cobblestone Press Author

Midnight Whispers

www.cobblestone-press.com



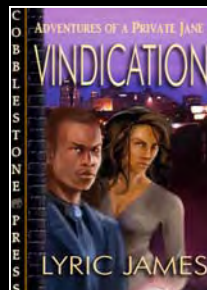
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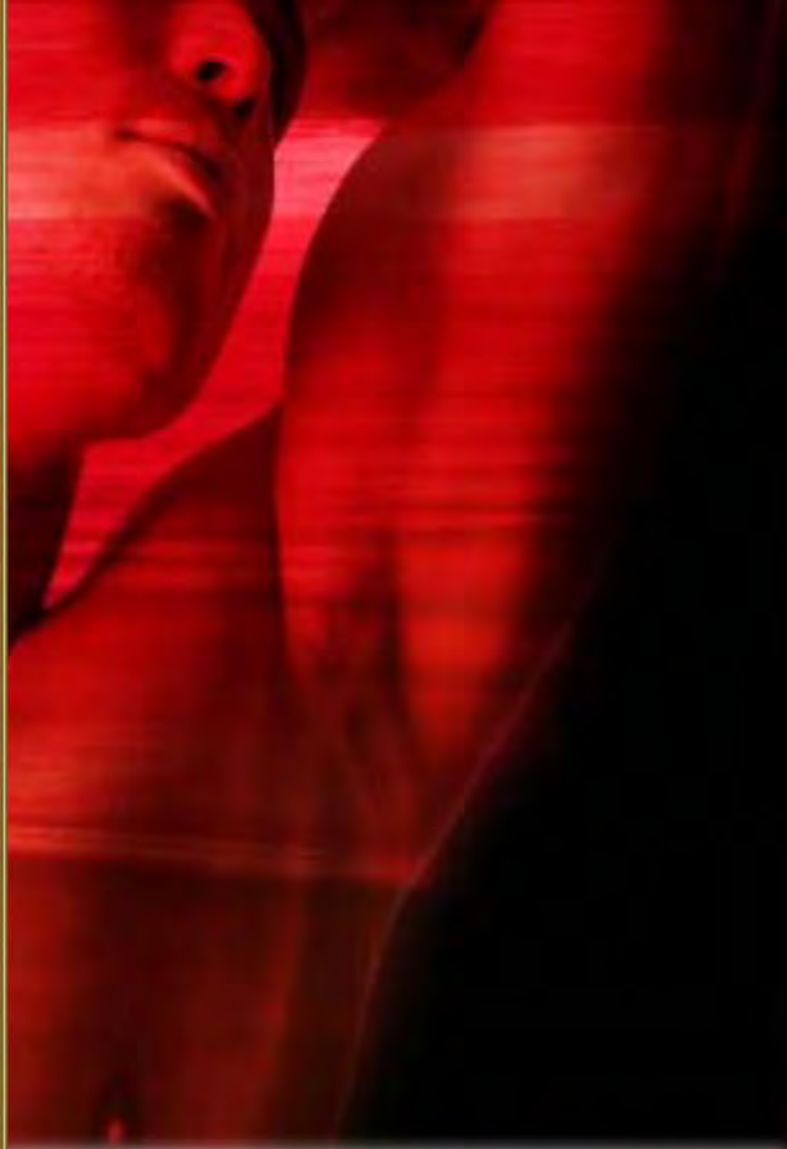
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THE WRITER'S CORNER



E-publishing: The Alternate Starting Line By Shelli Stevens

At some point in their lives, most people will say they want to write a book. For the majority, it is just a sentence, "I'm going to write a book someday," said over drinks at a bar or such, and that's as far as it goes. To that small percentage of us who have actually written the book, nothing can be more annoying. We didn't just say the words; we did them.

I wrote my first book when I was in my early twenties. I was convinced it was the best thing on earth, and I would be the next Nora Roberts within six months. Stop. I can hear you laughing.

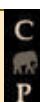
Well, I didn't get to enjoy my visit to fantasyland for very long. Reality set in—and by reality, I mean my dad's cousin who wrote regencies finally telling me it's just not that easy—and I joined the RWA. After I did, I learned everything that I'd been doing wrong. I learned POV was more than just three letters put next to each other. I learned bi-polar, sex-crazed heroines are not an easy sell. And I learned you shouldn't tell the agent you're pitching to that no, you don't believe in the kind of love that occurs in the romance novels you write. (Hey, I was young and going through an *I hate all men besides the ones in romance novels* period in my life.)

With my thirtieth birthday on the horizon, I'd completed three 70-100k plus manuscripts, each one significantly better than the last. I'd learned how to pitch with confidence and without sounding like a complete idiot. I knew this was a competitive industry, and it was tough to break in, but I was also starting to feel self-conscious that so much time had passed and I hadn't had my first sale. I was idling at the starting line, ready to go, but no one was shooting the gun for me. I had to do something. So I found a different starting line.

Last year I joined a group called Romance Divas, a free writing forum online. It was in there I learned even more about the publishing industry, and a thing called e-publishing. The place was loaded with people who were involved with it. My first thoughts were...e-publishing? What the heck is that? Do people even read e-books? And then I realized, yes, quite a few do. And some of the authors that write for e-pubs are making pretty good money—and even better, getting discovered by New York.

So I made the leap. I submitted a short story and I sold. Over a year and ten sales later, I'm so glad that I did. Let me tell you what some of the obvious benefits of an e-publisher are.

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THE WRITER'S CORNER



1. On a digital book, you get a bigger cut of the profit, averaging from 30-45% of your book sale.
2. You receive quarterly or even monthly payments.
3. You're spreading yourself out to a different audience.
4. Generally there's a faster turn around from sale to release date.
5. You don't have to waste paper, deal with packaging, or pay for mailing.
6. They release more books in a month than NY publishers.

If you haven't yet sold a book, but want to start building a name for yourself, then an e-publisher or a small press can be a fantastic option. After my first sale, I built a Web site and started a blog—even though my book didn't come out for five months. By the time my first book was released, I'd already established a big enough online presence that I was the #1 Best Seller at Cobblestone Press in their Grand Opening.

Another reason to work with an e-publisher is that there is more freedom in what you write. You're not pigeonholed into a genre. Regarding all the books that I have written, they've ranged across the board: paranormal, chick lit, shifters, interracial, suspense, sweet romance...just about anything. I've had a chance to try my hand at any genre I want and not have to worry about the current market trend. I know what my strengths are in writing and what challenges me.

While I was publishing many short stories and novellas, they were also getting reviewed by some of the same sites where New York print books get reviewed. And I was doing quite well receiving fours and fives and even Recommended Reads. When it came time to send out another query to a big New York publisher, my experience being e-published came into effect. I now have a lot more to add to my query letter besides just mentioning I'm a member of the RWA. I have a Web site they can visit, publishing credentials, and great reviews I can reference. From speaking to editors and agents, I've heard quite a few New York authors are getting discovered in e-pubs. In fact, Deanna Lee, the publisher right here at Cobblestone Press, was discovered by an agent after getting a great review from RT while writing for an e-pub.

If you decide to submit to an e-publisher or small press, do your homework. Research ones that interest you. Talk to authors that already write for them. I not only encourage unpublished writers to submit, I also encourage published writers to consider it. If you look around, you may be surprised to find out there are many print authors who also write for e-pubs to bring in some extra income and find a wider audience.

I still dream about the day I'll sell to a big New York publisher or find an agent who loves my work enough to sign me on. Until then I'm making a name for myself, getting a little extra income, and drinking cappuccinos at my alternate starting line. One that has groomed me to be ripe and ready for the day I make that transition.

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FEATURED SITE

Critique Circle: Featured Site.

CritiqueCircle.com was developed in the summer of 2003 and officially opened on October 21 in 2003. Since then, this site devoted to writers has won the Preditors & Editors poll for best Writer's workshop for 2004 and 2005 and was included in Writer's Digest 101 Best Websites 2006. Sigrún Erna Geirsdóttir has volunteered to give us a walk through tour of Critique Circle.

There are so many features at Critique Circle for writers that upon signing in to the site, an author could wander around for hours. But let's start with the heart of Critique Circle, the Story Queue. Here there are public story queues and private user queues as well.

Sigrún, can you tell us a little about this area of Critique Circle?

Sigrún: Like you said, this is the heart of CC. This is where people can submit their stories for weekly feedback from other writers at the Critique Circle. Their work is safe from the internet-at-large and is only viewable to other members. At the moment, there are six public queues: The Newbie queue where new members post their first few stories, the General queue, which is our oldest queue and which holds all general fiction, the Sci-fi/Fantasy/Horror queue, the Women's lit/romance queue, the Children/Young Adult queue and finally the Suspense/Thriller/Crime queue. At any time, you will find a wealth of stories in all categories to choose from, written by all levels of writers, from the novice to the multi-published author.

And how does someone get their own story queue?

Sigrún: Premium Members can have their own private queues. It can be a great advantage to have complete control over who sees your story and owners can extend the time their work is up for review. These member queues can be set up for the owner's work only, or allow for all members of the private queue to submit work. Everything that has to do with the queue is up to the owner.

Sigrún, please give us a description of all the tools and how they benefit the Critique Circle members?

Sigrún: At Critique Circle, writers are provided the most intuitive, professional, and useful tools available on the web. In the Toolchest section of Critique Circle, there are a number of wonderful tools provided to aid writers. I'll run through a quick snap shot of these.

The Toolchest

At Critique Circle we strive to bring you the most intuitive, professional and useful tools available to writers on the Web. Here we maintain an archive of tools developed by Critique Circle to aid you in your writing.
To start, please select a tool below.



Exercises

It's healthy to exercise! This tool provides you with exercises which you can complete just for yourself or enter our ongoing two-week contests (sorry, no prizes ☹).



Manuscript Progress

The Manuscript Progress tool can be a great motivational tool, as you will see a visual progression of your manuscript. You simply fill in the word count as you go along, and it'll give you a progress chart. You can also add a goal (X many words by a certain date) so you can see how far you have to go.



Reminders

The reminders can be a useful tool to help you organize your time. You can set any reminders you want. This is useful for all sorts of things — everything from deadlines (self-imposed or real) to dental appointments and your mother's birthday!



Outlining Workshop

With the Outlining Workshop you can create wonderful outlines which will aid you in creating a clear image of your characters, plot, places, etc. in your head. You can save each entry in your on-site portfolio so you can always have them handy as well as print them out.



Name Generator

With the name generator you can create English names randomly by using data from the U.S. Census Bureau. You can decide how common you want the resulting names to be and you can even save them for future use.



Submission Tracker

The Submission tracker allows you to keep track of your manuscript submissions to various magazines, publishing houses, etc. You can track each manuscript individually as well as maintain a tracking history for each one.



Paragraph-A-Day

Paragraph-A-Day is a great way to write short stories! CC tells you to update your story every day and you work on it, a paragraph at a time, right here on CC. You can even share the story with others, write cooperative stories and automatically graph your progress.



Hangman

The Ultimate Procrastination Tool!

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FEATURED SITE



Critique Circle TOUR continued from previous page

Our Manuscript Progress tool allows our users to keep track of writing progression and enables them to set goals for their WIP. Our Reminders tool is very useful in keeping track of CC related and personal appointments, and can be set up to notify us of anything from a doctor's appointment or the list of critiques we wish to complete during the week.

In the Outlining Workshop, CCer's can create templates for their characters, world building, and find assistance in novel outlining. The Name Generator helps with finding names for characters with options on how obscure you want the names to be. Very helpful, it's not always easy coming up with names!

One of the most popular and useful tools is our Submission Tracker. This keeps records of, you guessed it, your submissions to publishers and agents. We also feature weekly Exercises, meant to aid you in flexing your writing muscle by providing various challenges, and each week our own members grade and select a winner.

The Paragraph-A-Day tool is meant to help you develop your writing skills by encouraging you to write something every day—even if it is just one paragraph. Writers can also use this tool to team up with other members to write collaborative stories. And what Toolchest would be complete without at least one procrastination tool? Our version of Hangman is available for when writer's block kicks in or you need a break from writing. It has proven to be extremely popular!

Sigrún, what is the purpose of the forums section and why are users allowed their own forums?

Sigrún: Critique Circle also has a very active forums section where writers can chat and get to know one another. This is a great place to discuss writing and publishing, and to share knowledge. We have public forums for all the members to use, and Premium members have private forums that are available through invitation only.

Queue				
Up for review · Upcoming · Older · Everything · Classifieds				
Arrange Queues				
Public Queues Close				
The Newbie Queue - CC's new members! Up for review 11. Apr - 17. Apr				
Title	Author	Words	Genre	Crits
Sunday - a Rewrite	Tpebookho	4438	Literary	3
Lovers	Goombasa	4902	Romance	3
My Lady Knight - revised	Skyebrght	2994	Historical	3
The Jealous Young Goddess	Cmsutt	3874	Fantasy	3
Why Women Need Men	Jaward	567	Memoir	4
Prologue and Chapter One	Alessesa	2164	Fantasy	4
William's Boatcar	Tchikin	462	Children's	4
Life. It's Intense.	Lezbianthe	3572	Memoir	4
Cooking Up Trouble	Tinajoyce	2800	Romance	4
Oz	Katiebeck	1446	Young adult	4
Everyday Heroes	Brandonk	1972	Inspirational	4
Valkyrie Commander	Amorris08	2815	Fantasy	5
If I Should Die	Read=learn	971	-	5
View details · Unsubscribe · Submit a story				
General Up for review 11. Apr - 17. Apr				
Title	Author	Words	Genre	Crits
#31 Tokyo Smoke & Mirrors	Nw_grrl	3842	Mainstream	0
Sleep	Bluemtn	3119	Literary	0
The Fall of Acre (4 of 4)	Histfict	2120	Historical	1
Then and Now - Ch 7	Dlsmith411	1959	Drama	1

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Hired Hands

Sable Grey

FEATURED SITE



Because the topics covered in our forums are so vast, we have divided them into manageable categories. A few of these are Genres, Research, Publishing and the Teen Writer forum, which is the second most popular forum after General Discussion. As I said, Premium members also have their own forums; a place where they can talk freely to selected members and discuss the material they're working on in their private queues or other private topics. They do have the same forum conduct rules though.

Sigrún, can you tell us the different benefits of each membership level?

Sigrún: There are three types of membership at Critique Circle, created to fit the different needs of writers. There is a free membership, a premium membership, and a premium gold membership.

Free membership grants you access to the public queues and forums and all tools. For most members, that's quite sufficient. The main advantage to being a Premium member is the private queues. A recent but extremely well received addition is the novel system, which helps join chapters of novel submissions for easier viewing. There's also the private forums, the buddy system which keeps track of friends' activities on CC, expanded tools, etc.

Forums			
Forums · Hot discussions · Search			
General discussion	Threads	Posts	Last post
General discussion (Morpheus1) Anything goes! Good place to spend your coffee-break. :)	532	16487	Today at 15:28 Fiona
Other people's books (Sigrún) Here we can review and discuss published books.	63	1457	Today at 12:08 Tigray
Publishing (Becca) Publishers, editors, submissions, rejections, sales...	299	3224	Today at 15:28 Mammamia
Research (Becca) What color is an FBI badge? Can elephants have triplets? Ask and answer!	331	4622	Today at 14:14 Ntn
Genres	Threads	Posts	Last post
Genres (Momilla) Science fiction, fantasy, romance etc. All genre-specific discussion welcome.	114	2168	Today at 13:41 Katan
Poetry (Momilla) Let's discuss poetry...	211	1077	Today at 05:44 Bhamis
Writing	Threads	Posts	Last post
Teen writers (Gutbugs) Forum for our younger writers	62	3874	Today at 15:14 Spookyfish
Queries, Synopses and Outlines (Momilla) Here you can post queries, synopses and chapter outlines to get help from other members.	215	2027	Today at 14:23 Becca
The Childrens/YA Writer Forum (Gutbugs) Here we can discuss everything that has to do with children and young adults genres.	163	2500	11. Apr at 20:03 Quillgirl
On writing (Becca) Any topic related to writing	396	7664	Today at 14:53 Fiona
Contests (Sigrún) Entering contests? Got contest news to share?	88	565	27. Mar at 16:55 Hilary
Critique Circle	Threads	Posts	Last post
About the Critique Circle (Nonni) Suggestions, questions about CC functions and discussion about the site.	218	3756	Today at 12:44 Ntn
Story discussions (Gutbugs) Here we can discuss stories that have been submitted for review in the public Queues.	657	2603	Today at 14:55 Ntn
Short texts (Gutbugs) Here we can present and discuss text or paragraphs too short to receive critiques	163	988	Yesterday at 22:22 Vgikingsan
Announcements (Nonni) Announcements from the administrators	21	453	11. Apr at 02:00 Administrator
Published Material by CC Members (Becca) In here you will find information on material published by CC Members as well as ...	74	920	Today at 14:48 Marva

Gold membership adds a few extras to the Premium membership, such as unlimited message box, unlimited number of people in your forums, bigger private queues and a showcase for your published books, open to the general public.

Thank you for the tour, Sigrún. Is there anything else you want to tell authors about Critique Circle?

Sigrún: CC strives to be one of the best online writing sites and we are in constant development. We wouldn't be much without our members, which has allowed us to grow into a friendly and helpful community.

Critique Circle Interview

CPQ: Hi there, Sigrún. What is your position at Critique Circle? How did you become involved with Critique Circle?

Sigrún: In 2002 we discovered Critters, the online workshop. As I don't write in English, I really wanted to have a similar on-

line workshop for Icelandic writers. So I sat down with my fiancé Nonni and we created Rithringur.is, CC's sister writing site. It opened in Feb 2003 and is still running. Later that year, we had the idea to go further with the idea and lo and behold, Critique Circle was opened on Oct 21, 2003.

VISIT AUTHOR L. SHANNON AT
[HTTP://WWW.LSHANNON.NET](http://www.lshannon.net)



FEATURED SITE



CPQ: There are so many features at Critique Circle. What would you say is the best part of Critique Circle, in your opinion?

Sigrún: Hard to say! I don't think that there IS one best feature, different things suit different people. I'm very fond of the new novel feature at the moment, I think Nonni really outdid himself with that one.

CPQ: We know that Critique Circle is very popular. How many members does Critique Circle currently have?

Sigrún: At the moment there are 3100 active members.

CPQ: If a writer is looking for a writing group online, why should they choose Critique Circle over all the others?

Sigrún: I think we've developed a good system. It's no small feat finding the right balance between crits and reviews and the credit system really does work—it rests on the basic foundation of every person having to critique at least three stories for every story he submits himself. Also, many other writing sites limit themselves to certain genres. I think our members really benefit from the all-genres-welcome policy as this encourages feedback and communication between writers working on different types of material. Add to this all the features we offer and I think we win hands down.

CPQ: Aside from the very affordable membership rates, Critique Circle receives donations from its members as well. Can anyone donate or only members? And what are those donations used for?

Sigrún: Yes, anyone can donate. We use the money to pay for hosting, and very occasionally, advertising. With such a big site, we have certain requirements that not every provider can offer and these things don't come cheaply. So, the money is well spent on reliable hosting, ensuring stable uptime.

Our ultimate dream would be for CC to become financially self-sufficient—that is, for the income from donations to be sufficient to pay for upkeep as well as hosting. As it is, all the technical aspects of CC are completely dependent on the volunteer work of one person.

CPQ: Thank you so much, Sigrún, for your time, the tour, and the interview. CPQ has found you most helpful and informative. Is there anything else you want to share or leave for writers interested in joining Critique Circle?

Sigrún: Even if you don't think that an online writing group is anything for you, take a peek. You might be pleasantly surprised!

Visit Critique Circle at <http://www.critiquecircle.com>

VISIT AUTHOR BRANDI BROUGHTON AT
[HTTP://WWW.BRANDIBROUGHTON.COM](http://www.brandibroughton.com)



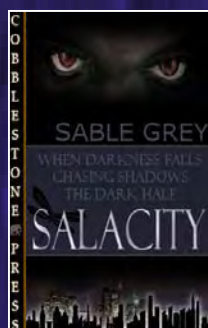
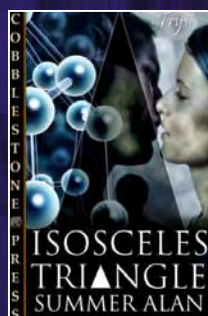
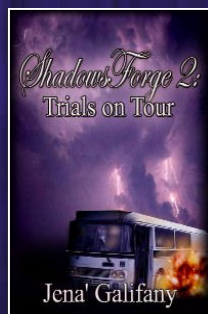
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CPQ Approved Directory of Resources for Readers and Writers



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Writers Digest Book Club
www.writersdigestbookclub.com

Romance Writers of America
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The Romance Studio
www.theromancestudio.com

Road To Romance
www.roadtoromance.ca

EuroReviews
www.euroreviews.eu.funpic.de

PNR ParaNormal Romance
www.paranormalromance.org

Science Fiction Writers of America
www.sfw.org

Writer's Write
www.writerswrite.com

Writer's Studio
www.writerstudio.com

RWA Online
www.rwaonlinechapter.org

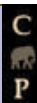
Erotica Readers and Writers Association
www.erotica-readers.com

Passionate Ink
www.passionateink.org

Romance Central
www.romance-central.com

*These sites are approved resources by
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CPQ Magazine Information Page for Advertisement and Submissions

Advertising in CPQ Magazine

Advertising Rates

Clickable Cover Display Ads	\$5.00 a cover
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* Video Book Trailers designed by CPQ are designed for the authors and can be used in other promotional advertisements and on author and publisher websites after the publication date of the magazine issue for which it is designed.

Submissions for Cover Art

Only contracted artists may submit artwork to be considered for the CPQ Magazine cover at this time.

Any other questions or comments can be sent to Sable Grey and Deanna Lee at admin@cobblestone-press.com

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CPQ MAGAZINE INFORMATION



CPQ Magazine Information Page for Advertisement and Submissions

Submissions to CPQ Magazine

Fiction

1,000 word - 5,000 word Romance
Mainstream to Erotic Heat Levels

CPQ pays authors \$50 upon acceptance for exclusive one year rights from time of publication, and indefinite publishing, world publishing, and archive rights for as long as the magazine is available from Cobblestone Press, LLC

Single Spaced, Times New Roman, 1 inch margins. While the submission will be edited, please submit a final version. CPQ will edit as fit for publication.

Articles/Essays

500 word -1,000 word articles/essays
Must be geared towards readers and/or writers

CPQ pays \$25 upon acceptance and retains one year exclusive rights from time of publication, and indefinite archive and publishing rights for as long as the magazine is available from Cobblestone Press, LLC

Single Spaced, Times New Roman, 1 inch margins. While the submission will be edited, please submit a final version. CPQ will edit as fit for publication.

Quarterly Columns

500-1000 words per issue

CPQ pays columnists \$50 per article for column upon acceptance of the first 10 articles for exclusive one year rights from time of publication per article, and indefinite publishing, world publishing, and archive rights for as long as the magazine is available from Cobblestone Press, LLC

Visit CPQ Magazine website for more details about submitting: <http://www.cobblestone-quarterly.com>

Comic Strip

6.125w x 7.438h inches - space provided per page, 72-300 dpi

CPQ pays artist \$50 upon acceptance for exclusive one year rights from time of publication, and indefinite publishing, world publishing, and archive rights for as long as the magazine is available from Cobblestone Press, LLC

Submit in JPG format only in dimensions given above. Each frame of the comic strip must be readable and clear in the dimensions above. If submission is not submitted in requested format and dimensions it will not be considered for the CPQ Magazine.

Submit all articles, column material, and fiction to Sable Grey at submissions@cobblestone-quarterly.com

Any other questions or comments can be sent to Sable Grey and Deanna Lee at admin@cobblestone-press.com

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