

Queen's Own

The Official Mercedes Lackey Fan Club

Series 3, Vol. 23, No. 6

June-July 2021



Valdemar Crest

By

Larry Dixon

Heyla, Misty fans!

I'm going to keep this short because I'm in the middle of a move—and my copy of *Beyond* just arrived!

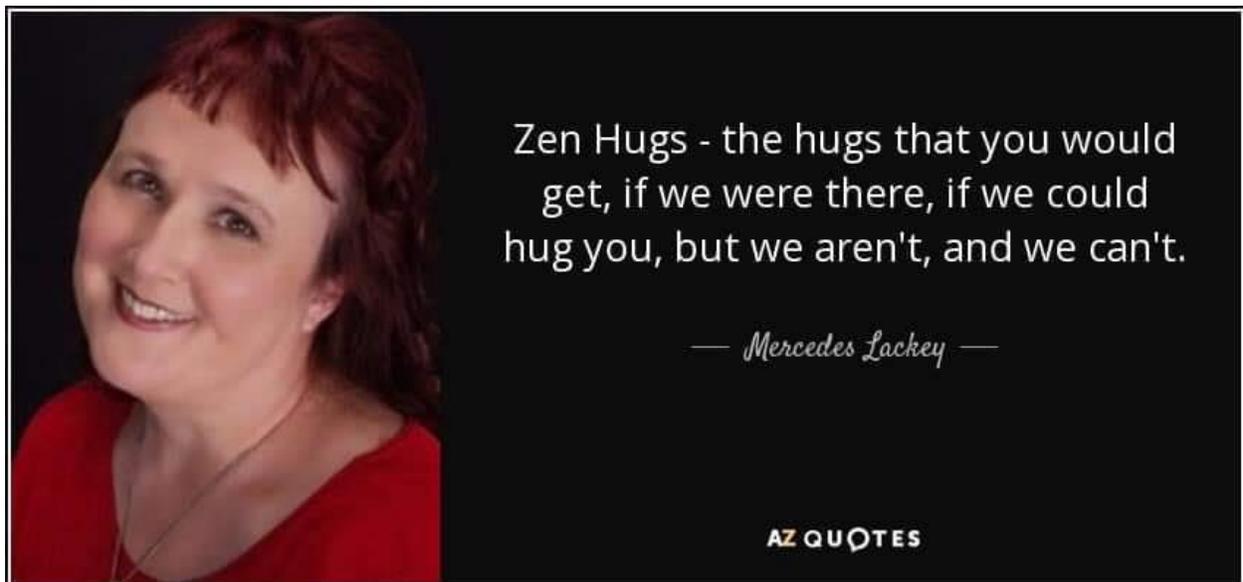
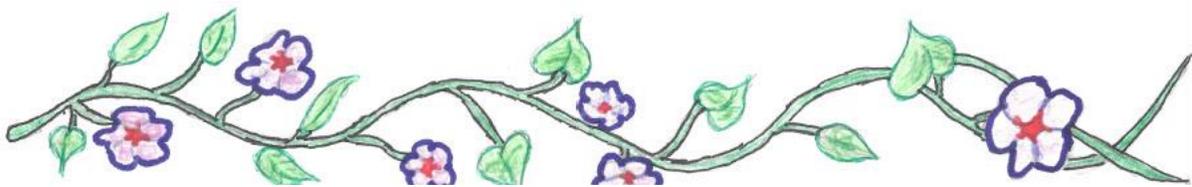
Please check out the new Montreal Chapter of Queen's Own. (You can join even if you aren't a local.)

We have newcomers to introduce to you. This time one talked the other into it. Think about that when you look at your own family and friends. The more the merrier.

Congrats to all the grads!

Zhai'helleva,

Herald-Mage Adept Danya Winterborn



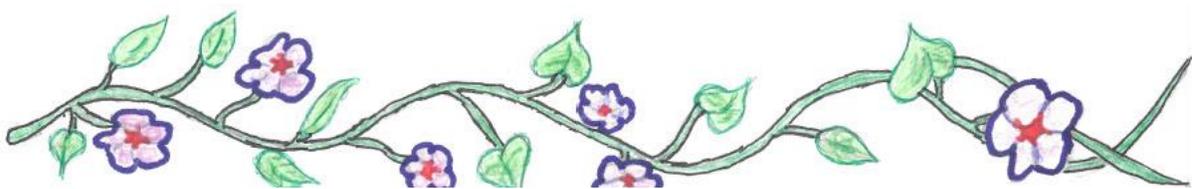
From Misty (the Dedication from Beyond)

This work is dedicated to the people we all have loved and lost due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and to the people they have left behind who must cope

with their loss. Colleagues, family, friends, you are missed so very much. There are holes left in our lives, and we grieve over who and what you were to us. We do not suffer only the sting of your absence, we feel the pain that you were removed from our futures, too.

This work is dedicated to the medical professionals and volunteers who labored through unthinkable conditions to aid those they didn't even know. Nurses, virologists, critical care units, ambulance crews, doctors, admin, Makers and everyone who offered aid—you fought so hard to do what was right, enduring true horrors in terrible conditions. 'Hero' is too small a word for what you are to us all.

And finally, this work is also dedicated in furious disgust to ridding our work of the influence of everyone complicit in using the pandemic as a tool for their own power, profits, and political maneuvering. You pushed hateful agendas while the bodies were stacked up. We all lost people dear to our hearts because of you parasitic, heartless creatures. If you had souls, you'd be damned.



Collegium News:

We have individual handouts for aspiring Heralds, Healers, Bards, Blues, Mercenaries, Tayledras, Shin'a'in, and White Winds Sorcerers/Sorceresses and instructions on how to work for Herald-Mage status if you are already a Herald or for a Kal'enedral if you are already a Shin'a'in. You can find these handouts online at <http://www.dragonlordsnet.com/qohandouts.htm>.

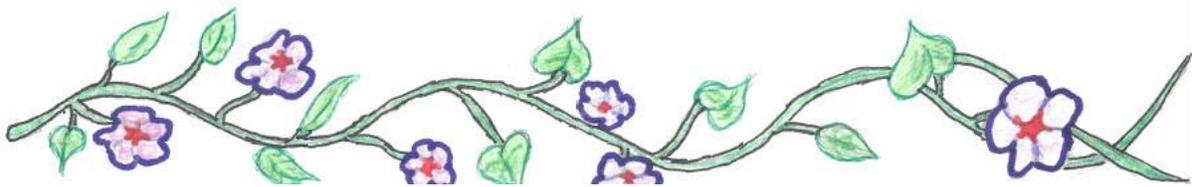
All personae materials should be submitted by e-mail to queensownnewsletter@gmail.com

- Welcome **Blue Rennik Wexan** brought to us by *T. Scarlet Jory*. She has completed a Religion and Environment Paper, as well as started the Montreal Chapter of Queens Own, The Waystation: <https://waystation-valdemar.blogspot.com/>
- Welcome **Priest Pavil Redfield** brought to us by *Alexandre Béland-Lemyre*. He is certified in First Aid and CPR and is a frequent blood donor.

We have some personae who have not been formally announced yet. Is yours one of them? Let us know!

If you are a returning member who has recently activated your membership in Queen's Own and we have forgotten to list your welcome message, contact Danya at Shashtah@gmail.com and she'll make sure you are greeted in the next newsletter.

Special Perk! If you have a Facebook account, you can join the Secret Room to RP with your persona and to attend the QO RP events. **The QO RPs are scheduled for the 4th Tuesday of each month at 5:30 PM PST.** (Please note we do NOT meet in November or December due to the holidays). You are cordially invited!



Story Prompt:

June:

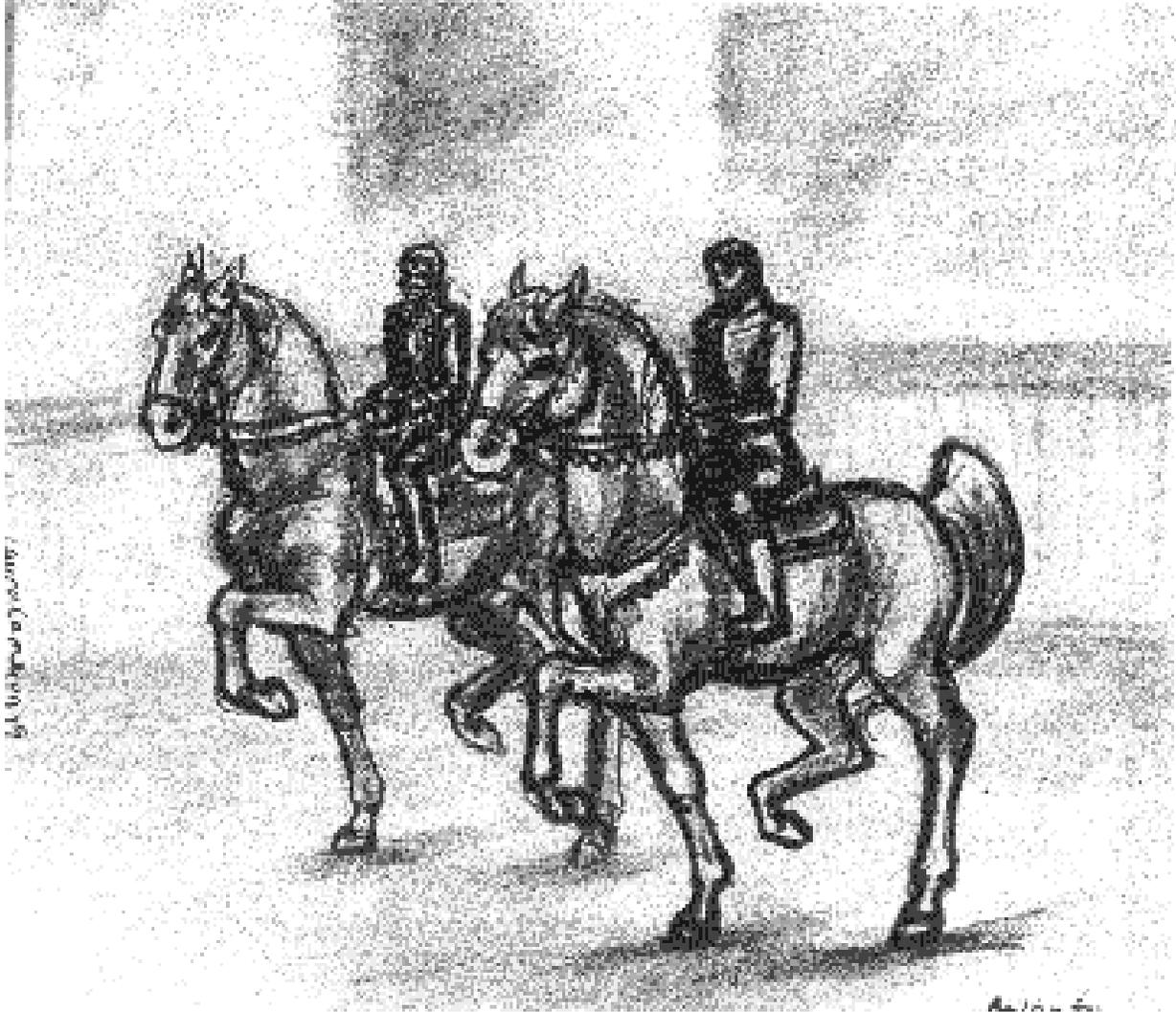
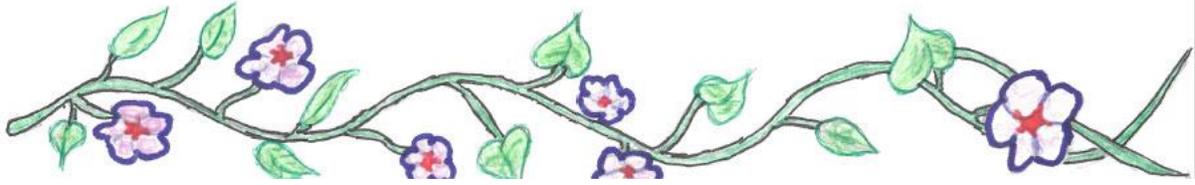
The foals, both human and Companion, were frolicking in the spring sun when from the far end of the field a loud warning cry was made by one of the adults.

July:

Write a story about someone who changes their use name.

As always, if you would like any story published you can submit it to Herald Nalei Rayskeline for Golden Grove: sn.keeper@yahoo.com with Golden Grove in the subject line.

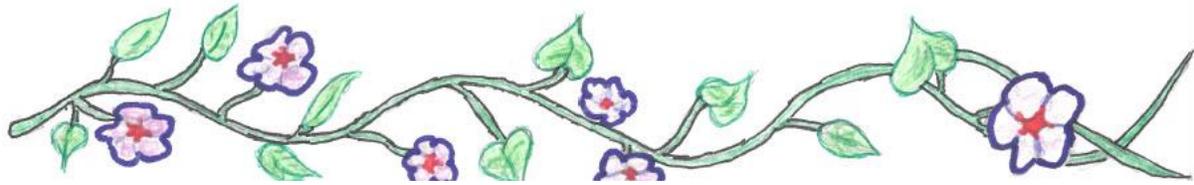
[If any other fanzine editors would like to send us story prompts, we'd be happy to publish them!]



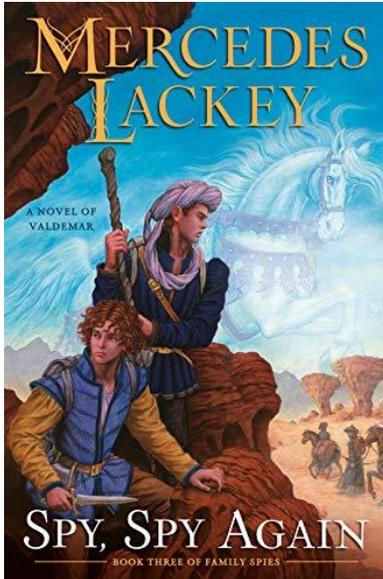
Elderwoods

By

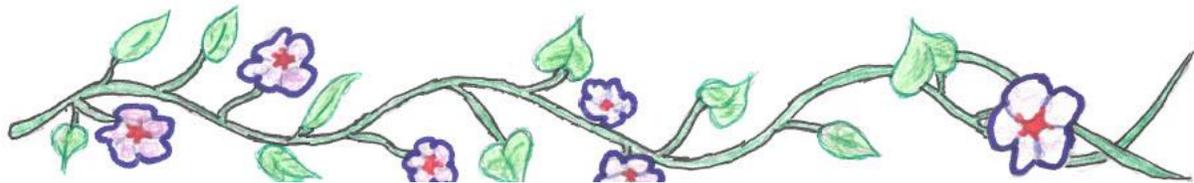
Laura Cameron



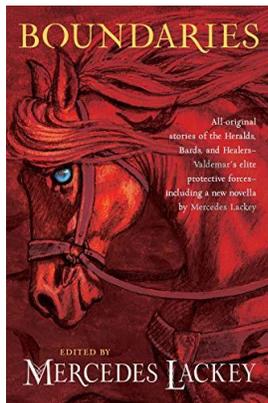
Contest Announcements



Book Review Contest: Please send along book reviews for any of the Valdemar books, old or new. Please keep the reviews spoiler free. All entrants will be featured within our new book review section of the newsletter, unless requested otherwise. The winner will be announced once we have received at least 3 entries and prize which is a Hard Cover book copy of *Spy, Spy Again* (Family Spies Book 3). This contest has been extended because we have not had any submissions. Please send in your submissions via email (queensownnewsletter@gmail.com).



Publication News:



Boundaries, is available for pre-release orders at this link <https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B091KF866S>

The paperback and Kindle versions will be available on December 7th.

Note from Amazon: This fifteenth anthology of short stories set in the beloved Valdemar universe features tales by debut and established authors and a brand-new story from Lackey herself.

Please send us reviews of any of Misty's works, old or new. We love to hear from you!

We have found a link to buy used copies of Misty's books for reasonable costs:

<https://www.thriftbooks.com/>

We have found a link for purchasing Misty's books:

https://www.bookbub.com/authors/mercedes-lackey?list=author_books

This link can buy all Misty's books in any format you would like. When I selected one of her books, I was given the link to several online shops: Amazon, Barnes & Noble, Google, Apple and Kobo. I like that I have the option regardless of my personal preference of tablet, paperback, hardback, new, used, audiobook. Check it out and let us know what you get, we are always looking for more reviews!



The Gryphon King, Larry Dixon (· 15h ...

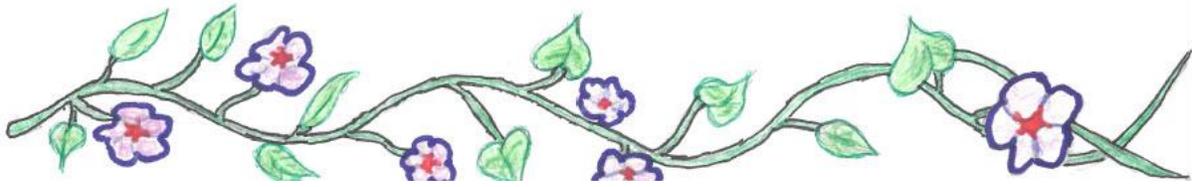
Replying to @blueraccoon @kithrup and 2 others

Aw *hugs for y'all*

We have an Event in mid-June to celebrate BEYOND, Book 1 of the Founding of Valdemar, & there will be so much awesome merch. We're all super happy about it, & 25% goes to @worldbuilders! It felt like if we were asking for help, others should be helped too.



Herald Nalei Rayskeline found this tweet recently and we have been unable to find any additional information, how about the rest of you?



Twitter Letter from the Gryphon Lord

Hello, friends. If you don't mind, I'd like to comment on a few things. Mental health is important. I have many ailments from many misadventures; that's no secret. I've had a knuckle-smashing, adventurous life, fighting crime & going in where others would wisely flee. Thing about that is, while there are good deeds to feel satisfied with, there is always a LOT of trauma involved. Nightmarish, haunting, horrifying stuff. Guilt. Regret. Action means repercussions and being in the ring of life means you're gonna be blindsided fairly often.

As you take on these situations, you become better at handling the direct damage and the blindsides, but, all the while, you're still getting hit by the trauma. It's gonna change you. Some may argue that, after a while, the entirety of what you are as a functioning person is just the accumulated results of how you dealt with those traumas. And traumas can be BIG from "little" things. Who I am is certainly a case like that. People are mainly REactive, and who we become is made up of how we ride it all out. A lot of times, we can't ride it out.

We're made up of a lot of patches, a lot of gaps, and a load of raw, unorganized impulses left over from traumas we haven't processed yet. We're all messed up. That's modern life. We're specks amidst a tortuous maelstrom. I come across as confident, most of the time, because I have enough experience weathering the shitstorms that I can see what's coming and know, yeah, I can handle this. The takeaway on that, I hope, is that one can be damaged as hell but still be confident. When I say I believe in someone, what I'm saying is that I have enough evidence based upon someone's past that I am sure they can come through adversity. It's based upon facts and logic. That's also how I fight my own anxieties and fears. I have had a LOT of losses, and I've had the crap beaten outta me before. And here I am.

I am aware of my flaws and vulnerabilities, and that makes me stronger and more capable. Denying them would be like pasting cardboard over a waterline hole--it's a weak solution and the dread of its failure will just stay there, looming. If I know where I'm weak and where I'm hurt, then I can work around it, and properly patch that hole.

Sometimes, there are places we can't get to on our own. We don't have the skill set to address an issue, or we are too close to it for perspective. A smart person doesn't envy another's success--a smart person finds out how they succeeded.

A smart person knows when they aren't smart enough and when they're unable to travel alone to where they need to be. So, I thought, I could keep everything to myself & just project an infallible funny-guy image. Thing is, it doesn't HELP. It doesn't help anyone, because we're all lost and vulnerable and trying to handle WAY more than ever before. What helps people is when they know they aren't alone in the maelstrom. When someone in pain can see someone stand up & say, "We can deal w/this," that gives hope. And applied hope is direction. It's purpose. It's searching for perspective, analyzing the speed and angle of the shitstorm, and getting through by getting better. If you can see an example of somebody dealing with trauma and ailments, you know that it can be done.

We wind up with mental paralysis sometimes--not knowing what to do or what CAN be done, so we stay still for fear of doing wrong. Let me tell you, that doesn't just burn off your joy, it burns off your years. Who you are is made up of reactions--and action. Unstick yourself.

One thing that unsticks me is the thought, "If that was what you really wanted, you'd have done it by now." A major flaw of mine is overworking, while hobby supplies stack up. Do I need to work? Yes. Would I be better off as a person if I pursued those hobbies? Well... yes. So, I find myself in conflict with habits of overworking, and that is one example of taking mental health seriously. You don't HAVE to have earth-shattering terrors as traumas to mess things up; sometimes, it can just be a matter of addressing something you miss.

So, here I am. After my adventures, I'm a sack of blood and bone chips, but I'm sure as hell not done yet. I have longings and anxieties and losses that I must cope with, because I want to be more than a spectator for my own life. I want to be a participant. Relentlessly.

I know that a lot of you are in shock. You don't have frames of reference or education in how to handle your problems. Things seem beyond reach or hope. I'm here to say, the changes you make don't have to be huge. Coming through adversity is gonna be hard sometimes. When you don't have the skillset to figure something out, research it. Ask people who know about trauma and mental health when you can. Getcha some therapy. If you have debilitating feelings, well, think of them like a physical injury. If this was a busted wrist or ankle, you'd go to the ER, right? If you can look at yourself and think, "Whew, yeah, this has me messed up. I gotta figure this out," you've taken action. Now, follow through. Being kind isn't weakness, and being wounded isn't either. What you could be? Well, it's gonna be awesome.

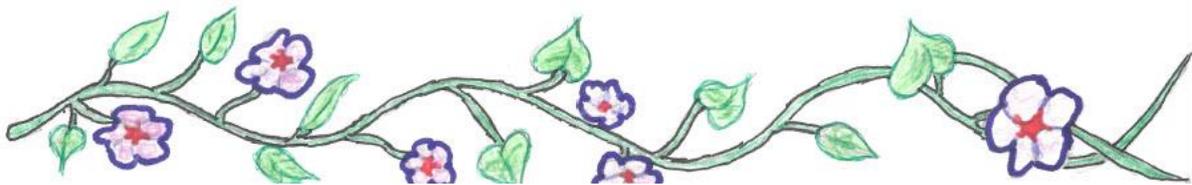
Book Review

Would someone like to send us a review of *Jolene*? I haven't had a chance to read it yet.

Also looking for a non-spoiler review of *Beyond*!

Zhai'helleva,

Danya



From Herald-Mage Adept Danya Winterborn:

My plate is full! But keep sending us stuff anyway 😊.

On July 3rd I'll be moving to a new apartment. Don't know if that means I'll be taking a rest at my family's Fourth of July party or crashing at my new digs. Will wait to see how I feel.

Sorry if I've failed to get back to any of you. Just send me a reminder if I did. I've had three nasty falls and a first/almost second-degree burn on my right wrist (Don't hit racks in 450F ovens when removing trays of roasted vegetables.).

My King Arthur, nonfiction, book has sold! Watching the mail for the contract. Of course, this happens when I'm having a change of address. Here is the GoFundMe link if you'd like to help my coauthor and me afford the museum-quality prints the text deserves: <https://gofund.me/fc41cff7> We truly appreciate all contributions.

My Dragonlords series has found a screenwriter and is in development. We hope to be pitching to Netflix shortly.

The Scythia-Artorius museum exhibit, based on my work, has taken a major leap forward. We've found a serious backer. I hope to have more detailed news by next month.

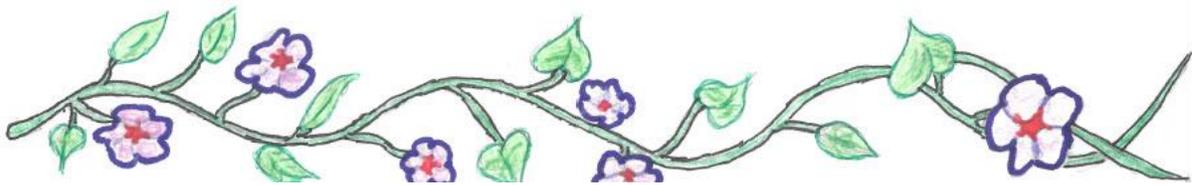
Somewhere in here I'm supposed to be finishing a nonfiction book about the Sword in the Stone and the fifth novel in the Dragonlords series. Oh, and then there's the book about the World Tree that I've been contracted to write.

I think I'm learning how Misty must feel with her writing schedule. (Wish she could secure one of those Netflix slots for a series about Vanyel.)

Happy reading!

Zhai'helleva,

Danya



E-Resources:

Misty's official page: <http://www.mercedeslackey.com/>

The Queen's Own website is at <http://www.dragonlordsnet.com/qo.htm> (I do need to update it, but a lot of good information is available there and some is actually current!)

The Queen's Own Facebook page is here:

<https://www.facebook.com/queensownfanclub/>

The Queen's Own Facebook group is here:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1607409292715707/>

Misty's Facebook page is here: <https://www.facebook.com/MercedesLackey/>

The Mercedes Lackey Fanclub group on Facebook is here:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2205058863/>

The Queen's Own (Valdemar Fan Club) Facebook group is here:

<https://www.facebook.com/queensownfanclub/>

Mercedes Lackey Discord Server (over 5k followers)

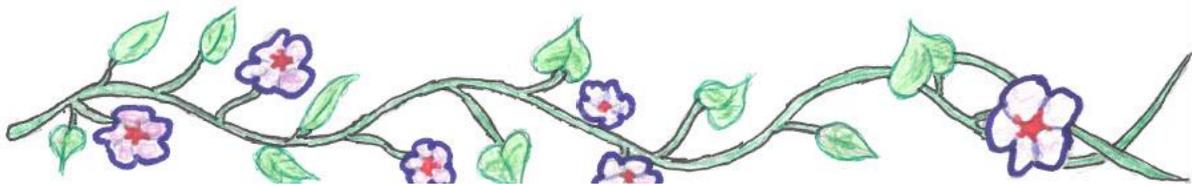
<https://discord.gg/bookclub>

Amazon has a Mercedes Lackey page: http://www.amazon.com/Mercedes-Lackey/e/B000APZNR0/ref=sr_tc_2_0?qid=1459664793&sr=8-2-ent

Barnes and Noble has a page for Misty here:

https://www.barnesandnoble.com/b/contributor/mercedes-lackey/_/N-2khg

If you know of any other e-resources, please let us know!



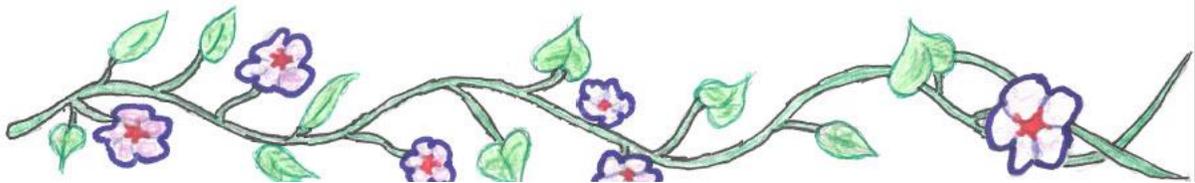
Chapters & Zines:

Fanfiction can now be published long as you designate that you are doing so under a Creative Commons license. You may not make any money off your fiction and you may NOT write a Valdemar novel.

- ***Children of Velgarth:*** Editor: Kendra Hosseini, aka Healer Adept Moonstar; E-mail: Queensownnewsletter@gmail.com. I publish new and old personae, even previously published persona if asked by members in this new, official QO zine. I will only accept what was sent in for your persona to Queen's Own to be recognized. Any fan fiction written later should be sent to one of the other zines who need it to keep their zines going. This fanzine will be published periodically when it reaches 80 pages or so. Zines will be available online only, and completely free. The zines will be in PDF format, which use adobe

reader available for free from the Adobe website. We have the first 6 vols. available!

- **Golden Grove** is now being published on a quarterly basis. For new subscriptions and to submit stories, poetry, personae requirements or other works-based Misty's stories please e-mail them to sn.keeper@yahoo.com with Golden Grove in the subject line. I am more than happy to help with any editing or beta reading. If anyone has old issues of Golden Grove and can get them to me, you can contact me at the email above. If you can scan them and get me digital copies that would be great, if not and you are willing to part with your copies, I'm willing to pay postage.
- **Queen's Own (Valdemar Fan Club):** Here's the Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2202088363/> (This is one of our more active chapters at the moment. Let us know if you see any posts from Misty. "Like" Misty's Facebook page while you're at it!)
- **The Vanyel Fan Club:** Contact: Herald Bastian. Website: <http://www.dragonlordsnet.com/vfcindex.htm>. E-mail: Herald_Bastian@hotmail.com. The *Vanyel Fan Club* is a chapter of QO that started out as an independent fan organization. The chapter is devoted to fans of Herald-Mage Vanyel Ashkevron from *The Last Herald-Mage Trilogy* by Mercedes Lackey.



Personals:

- **Cookbook Project!** Danya is helping to organize a cookbook project, first portion of this project is to sign up with Danya to which books you would like to look through, since this will help minimize duplication of effort. The information requested after you have signed up for a book is (book name, page #, name of food and description of scene). This project is open to all whom would like to join in, and we are hoping to add more details for this project in our next newsletter. Please send inquiries to Herald Mage Danya (shashtah@gmail.com).

- **Waystation Network announcement!** Traveling abroad and looking for a bunk to sleep on without having to fumigate your waystation first...? I have a fold-out couch on offer as well as floor space with extra (air) mattresses, available for wandering bards, heralds on circuit or hawkbrothers in search of an *ekele* (6th floor apartment 😊). So, if you're in the neighborhood (Leeuwarden area, The Netherlands, ± 2 hours north of Amsterdam by train – less by car) just contact me. Hanna B. Email: hannab@online.nl, Phone: +31(0)58 2665915 / +31 (0)6 25422809. And wouldn't it be nice to have a whole network of Waystations? If more of you are willing to offer spare beds and couches, I'm willing to set up a list to be available through QO.
- **Ellen Million Graphics** is releasing a new collection of fantasy coloring books for (so-called) grown-ups: Mermaids, dragons, angels, and fantasy horses, oh my! Find these and more at <http://www.ellenmilliongraphics.com/coloringbooks.php>
- **Northwest Visions Studio**--Art by Laura Cameron. Mixed Media Paintings & Drawings, Fine Art Prints, Commissions, Illustration. Visit her website at: <http://www.lauracameron.net/>
- **Dragon Visions** by Linda A. Malcor is out in paperback and eBook! Art by Laura Cameron. You can find it on Amazon and Barnes and Noble as well as at other online outlets. Get updates on the series at <https://www.facebook.com/malcor.dragonlords/>
- **From Angela K. Scott/** Herald Alora Vadel (Angela Rip Scott-Cox-as formatted on Facebook): I continue to sell off everything I own & make, many misc. items (including Misty related) on eBay, as I am in crisis & this is my only source of any inadequate income & truly in desperate need!
http://www.ebay.com/usr/affliktedangel?_trksid=p2047675.12559
Things under my business name "AKS Creations" -card packs, stationery, bookmarks, art prints, jewelry & etc.! Also, I'm still available for commission work. You can contact me at UnicornAlora@gmail.com.
- **From Marianne D-B:** My sister, who died a few years ago, was a huge Mercedes Lackey fan. I used to read the books with her, and we loved discussing them. She has a number of prints of Larry Dixon's that I imagine some fan would like to have. I'm happy to sell them

reasonably. They are all framed prints, each about 9 1/4" x 12" (framed size). Here's what I have:

- Darkwind & Vree, 1991
- Firesong, 1991
- Darkwind & Elspeth, 1991
- Starblade & Hyllar, 1991
- Tre'valen & Dawnfire, 1991
- Silverfox & The Returned Tribe, 1991
- Elspeth & Gwena, 1991
- Iceshadow, 1991

You can contact me at duddyburkem@aol.com.



Queen's Own is the official Mercedes Lackey Appreciation Society. Our purpose is to share our enjoyment of Misty's worlds. We are a fan-run not-for-profit organization, not a business. Our address of publication is no longer physical. We are online at <http://www.dragonlordsnet.com/go.htm>. We also have a Facebook page and Group chat list.

This newsletter is published solely to inform and entertain the club's membership; no infringement of anyone's copyrights is intended.

Newsletters are published on (or near) the first of each month.

Editor/co-President: Herald-Mage Adept Danya Winterborn (L.A. Malcor Shashtah@gmail.com) Author of **Dragonlords of Dumnonia**: <http://www.dragonlordsnet.com>

Co-President: Healer Adept Moonstar k'Vala k'Sheyne, (Kendra Hosseini, healermoon@gmail.com)

The featured artists for this newsletter are Larry Dixon, Kendra Hosseini & Laura Cameron and cannot be used or downloaded without their permission. If you would like your art to be featured in the the QO newsletter, send .jpgs to queensownnewsletter@gmail.com.

The newsletter will be available online after approximately one week at: <http://www.dragonlordsnet.com/qonews.htm>