

Queen's Own

The Official Mercedes Lackey Fan Club

P.O. Box 61831

Irvine, CA 92602 USA

Series 3, Vol. 3, No. 8

December 2017



Valdemar Royal Crest

By

Larry Dixon, The Gryphon King

Heyla, Misty fans!

In lieu of our traditional opening, we have a special treat! Here is a holiday message from Mercedes Lackey and Larry Dixon!

Zhai'helleva,

Danya

The 2017 Holidays Message From Misty & Larry

Well, this year has been so heavily burdened with anxiety and unpleasantness, it nearly defies measure, don't you think? It's been a spectacular struggle for everybody just to cope, by and large, with zero in the way of easy answers. It has been a year of endurance.

The thing is, one year isn't the sum of us. It is important to remember that the opposite of love is not hate, it is fear. When you fear, it suppresses love. Yet, we understand, at the most instinctual level to the highest sophistication, that love has more power.

Power is the application of leverage. People crave power because people crave effectiveness. Power is what gets things done; it isn't about shooting lasers from your eyes, having the strength to toss locomotives, or buy out entire countries. Power is ineffective if it is used poorly, though. Empowerment---an excellent word---affects nothing, and, indeed, is nothing---unless it is implemented. A great painting left in a closet pleases no one; a great manuscript left in a drawer educates no one.

Even the most sickly, weakest, and poorest of us all can feel love, and act upon it. Love is power, when used in its own spirit. Love is leverage with fine control, passion made personal and shared.

This year, so many of us tried very hard, and did not win. We were wounded, we lost, and we were beaten down. This is true. But, as a true scientist will tell you, there is no such thing as a useless experiment, since the purpose of an experiment is to gather information. Every time we get our asses whapped, we find out more about what will win. Failure is what we learn from, far more than successes. The

essence of bravery is that one even tries.

“Love” is the most powerful four-letter word, followed only by “hope,” and then by “cope.” So when you find other words like “hate” and “fear” directed towards you, remember what power is, and use it. Lovingly.



Contest Announcement:

UPDATE: Three submissions in; seven to go before the first drawing!

We are now accepting submissions for the ongoing Queen's Own Contests. We will do a drawing every time we have 10 submissions, the winner of the contest will receive one of the randomly selected items below. You can only submit one submission per contest. Each submission must be Valdemar related. Submission includes, Artwork, Stories, Poetry, Articles, Book Reviews, and Cosplays. If it is Valdemar related it will count for a submission. All submissions will be shared in future newsletters, in the case of stories they will be sent on to the zines which are needing submissions. Once we have 10 submissions, there will be a drawing, this will be determined randomly for a winner as we do not want to be in the business of trying to determine better between apples and oranges. Please send in your submissions to our PO Box, or preferably via email to myself (healermoon@gmail.com) and Danya (shashtah@gmail.com). Good Luck my friends!



December Story Prompt:

The slave camps were horrible. Mothers torn from children, husbands from wives. Brothers, sisters, families separated from each other with no regard for their feelings or needs. There was no separation made between sleeping, eating and defecation areas. The pain and crying were so thick it was an overwhelming force of its own.

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

- Herald Nalei Rayskeline

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



Publication News:

Pathways (the 11th Valdemar Anthology) is out! If you haven't read it yet, give yourself a holiday gift ☺.

The Hills Have Spies, Book One of the Family Spies series (Valdemar) is available for preorder. (Release date is June 2018). Yes, this is Mags and his family. The summary suggests that it mostly follows Mags and Amelie's son, Justyn.

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



Ren. Faires:

<http://piratefestivals.com/> [http://www.renaissancemagazine.com/fairelist.html](http://www.renfaire.com/Sites/http://www.renaissancemagazine.com/fairelist.html)
<http://www.therenlist.com/faire>
http://www.renaissancefairefestival.com/renaissance_faire_festival_information_list.htm
<http://www.festivaltrek.com/festivals-category/renaissance-heritage/>
<http://www.festivals-and-shows.com/renaissance-festivals.html>

If you are able to attend any of these (or others we don't know about), please let us know about all the fun you had!



Conventions:

<http://fancons.com/events/>

<http://www.upcomingcons.com/comic-conventions>

<http://www.popculthq.com/2016/11/09/the-2017-list-of-cosplayconventions-is-here/>

Please let us know if you find out about any other appearances Misty will be making this year.



Gesten

By

Larry Dixon, The Gryphon King

Member News:

Editors and Chapter Presidents, please send us updated information if you have it.

Local chapters:

The Canada Chapter is starting back up! I hope to have their updated information in the next newsletter. Who else is still active and who is not?

- **Arrows OnLine:** Contact: Adept Grayfeather k'Varis (Kristi Reed). E-mail: DragonMamaK@aol.com. Arrows OnLine is the AOL chapter of QO. Chats will be held the first and third Wednesdays of each month from 8-10 PM ET. Topics will be posted prior to chat, hopefully as soon as a month in advance for book discussions. Although we have the scheduled chat, the Companion's Grove is open 24/7, and anyone can come in for informal chat. As far as instructions on how to get there . . . there are lots of hoops to jump through now. Go to the books community, find the message board link, then find the "Author AZ" message board, and find your way to the Mercedes Lackey boards from there. She's no longer a keyword, but hopefully with more traffic in the future that will change. If you don't want to jump through hoops, you can e-mail me directly, and I'll give you the links. The links to the chatroom will be on my "signature" on the boards.

- **Friends of the Pelagirls:** Contact: Morghan Savistr'i. Website: <http://www.freewebs.com/unchainedatlantic/index.htm>. E-mail: elfchilde@gmail.com. Under new care! Friends of the Pelagirls, the Mid Atlantic Chapter of Queens Own, is looking for new members, co-moderators for Lists and Subgroups, as well as those who would like to attend Writers groups in their area! Please e-mail Morghan Savistr'i at elfchilde@gmail.com or visit our new site <http://www.freewebs.com/unchainedatlantic/index.htm> for more information! We look forward to growing with you!



- **Heartland Arrows:** Contact: Earthshower k'Valdemar. Website: <http://www.angelfire.com/falcon2/heartlandarrows>. E-mail: thewrathofyourmom@hotmail.com.

CALLING ALL VALDEMAR FANS! CALLING ALL VALDEMAR FANS!

Heartland Arrows IS BACK!!!! If you live in or around Minnesota, Iowa, Wisconsin, or Illinois and want to be a part of this great chapter of Queen's Own, please contact Earthshower k'Valdemar at thewrathofyourmom@hotmail.com.

- **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 your at it!)
- **Sapphire and White:** Contact: Ronald Glaser. E-mail: luckystar@abe.midco.net. We accept members from all over the United States, but we technically cover the Great Lakes region, including South Dakota, North Dakota, Minnesota, Nebraska and Iowa. Heyla there, everyone! Sapphire and White is looking for people who are interested in Mercedes Lackey and her works such as the Valdemar series and the many other books that she has written. We accept both members and non-members of QO. You can contact me for more info at luckystar@abe.midco.net. I hope to have a chat list and maybe a fanzine going soon, but I am looking for submissions for that when it gets up and running.
- **Valdemar Estate Waystation:** Contact: Herald Lily. Website: <http://valdemarwaystation.iwarp.com/index.html>. E-mail: kalendral_tarma@hotmail.com. Valdemar Estate Waystation has expanded. Due to low numbers of anything in Perth, it is also now the largest cosplay club in perth We have cosdays every month and Ramen Nite is the first Thursday of the month. We now cover 3 sections. Valdemar, Horses, Costuming/anime. Online forum is open to all! (come on, we even have a member from Golden Grove...:hugs to you;) Find us at <http://vewaystation.proboards100.com/index.cgi>. There are recent picts of Misty and Larry and some dodgey fun so don't be shy . . . your mothers weren't, and pay us a visit!
- **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.

Zines and Newsletters:

Here are the QO fanzines and newsletters that we know about. Is anyone else still publishing?

- ***Children of Velgarth:*** Editor: Kendra Hosseini, aka Healer Adept Moonstar; E-mail: healermoon@gmail.com. Yes, this zine still exists. Yes, several volumes are finished. Yes, more will be coming out. 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 by e-mail 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** The October 2017 issue is out! Golden Grove is now a digital publication and is sent out via e-mail. Contact me if you'd like a copy. For new submissions and subscriptions to Golden Grove please e-mail sn.keeper@yahoo.com. To submit stories, you have written from the story prompt given above, send them to Golden Grove sn.keeper@yahoo.com with Golden Grove in the subject line.

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.

- ***Herald's Companion:*** Editor: Karen Bertke, 5694 Scarborough Dr., Cincinnati, OH 45238. If anyone has friends stationed overseas for the war, let us know and we'll send them a feezil mascot (to make anything feezilable). E-mail: submission instructions:
 - 1) Subject line must read "For Karen." (Anything else will be erased as a potential virus hazard.)

- 2) Do not use strange fonts, which my computer will not recognize.
 - 3) E-mail:it to gbertke@fuse.net. (This is my father's e-mail address. Use it for submissions for Herald's Companion only.)
- **Sapphire and White:** Editor: Ronald Glaser, 1202 S. 2nd St., Aberdeen, SD, 57401. E-mail: luckystar@abe.midco.net. Sapphire and White's fanzine is accepting submissions at luckystar@abe.midco.net. All forms of material can be submitted; format-wise if you use Word Perfect please use Notepad. Fan fiction, book reviews and movie reviews are greatly appreciated.



OMG GRYPHLET SO KYOOT!!!! (will shred everything not nailed down. If it can be pried up by 160-pound-predator claws and beak, it is not sufficiently nailed down.)

Gryphlets are live birth. No eggs. They're unspeakably ugly at birth, but turn poofy-fluffy weeks later. Gryphlets have a slightly dazed, confused, hit-on-the-back-of-the-head-with-a-board look for about their first year. After that, they gain focus and motor control, and things REALLY turn dangerous. After two years, their higher intelligence kicks in and they learn EVERYTHING from EVERYWHERE. They continue to break things for the next four years.

Maybe more.

Gryphonlet

By

Larry Dixon, The Gryphon King

Other Fandoms:

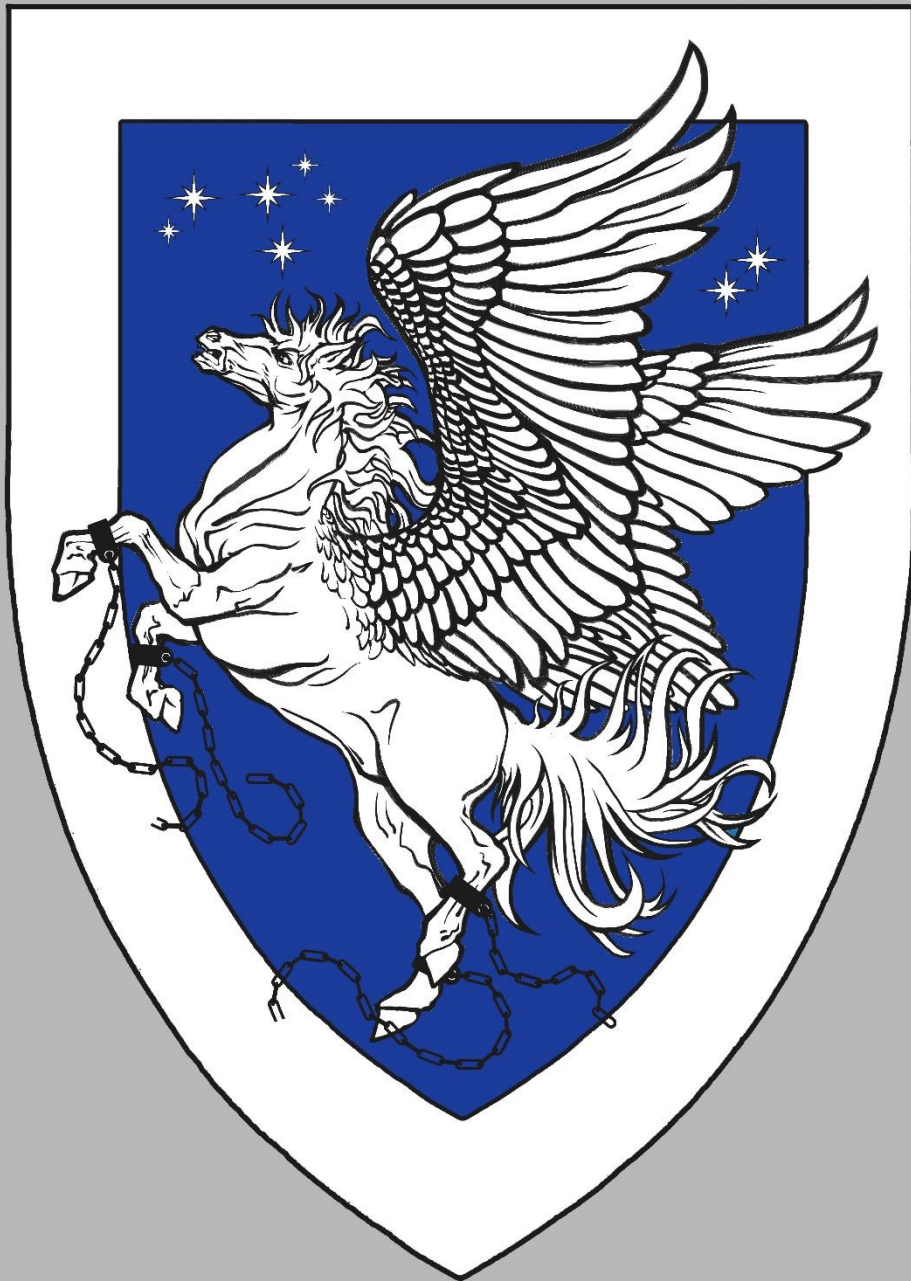
Please let me know if this information needs to be updated:

- Lois Bujold: Lois Bujold can be reached at lois@dendarii.com. "The Bujold Nexus" is at <http://www.dendarii.com>. You can receive information about their newsletter, the *Dendarii Dispatch* by contacting Lyn Belzer, Editor, 25-16 18th St., #2 Long Island City, NY 11102.
- Tanya Huff: **Nine Above!** is a list for fans of author Tanya Huff. This list provides announcements about Tanya's latest work, publication dates, and personal appearances. NA! also provides a forum for Tanya's fans to communicate with each other, and will have discussion as well as announcements. Lurking is fine, but participation is encouraged. When you join, we'd love for you to send a "hello" to the group at large, telling us who you are! To start sending messages to members of this group, simply send e-mail to nineabove@egroups.com.
- L.A. Malcor: **Dragonlords of Dumnonia:** L.A. Malcor, <http://www.dragonlordsnet.com>, Shashtah@gmail.com. Book 1 of the series, *Dragon Heart* is out! You can purchase it through Amazon.com, Barnes & Noble's website, and other online merchants. It is available in both Kindle and paperback formats. Illustrations by our very own Laura Cameron! The second novel in the series, *Dragon Sun*, will be out soon. Check out the Dragonlords Facebook page for sneak peaks of some of Laura's new illustrations! <http://www.facebook.com/malcor.dragonlords/>
- Adrian Paul of Highlander: <http://www.adrianpaul.net>.
- Michael Praed: *Michael Praed Network Newsletter*, <http://fanfare.michael-praed.com>.
- Melanie Rawn: **Pandemonium** - The official Melanie Rawn club invites you to join their ranks. SASE for more information: Irena Pereira, P.O. Box 18A146 , Los Angeles, CA 90018.
- **N3F** is one of the oldest general interest SF/F clubs, started in 1941. Members meet by snail mail and E-mail:to discuss SF, Fantasy, and Horror genres. (Some gather at cons, too.) We have plenty to offer the

hungry SF/F/H fan! Members receive *Tightbeam*, the club's quarterly zine, and *The National Fantasy Fan*, our bi-monthly zine. For inquiries, please snail mail me at N3F Secretary, Dennis Davis, 25549 Byron Street, San Bernadino, CA, 92404-6403. Check out our website at <http://www.simegen.com/fandom/n3f>.

- Doctor Who and other Media: **The Prydonians of Prynceton**, P.O. Box 3194, Princeton, NJ 08543-3194.





Valdemar Crest

By

Larry Dixon, The Gryphon King

Collegium News:

We hope to have some new personae to announce soon! Watch this space for welcome notices.

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>.

Here is the old information: You need a release form (online at <http://www.dragonlordsnet.com/qomlrel2.htm>) if you write a story set in Misty's worlds or using any of her characters. You do not need a release for a character sketch, poem or filk. All Misty wants to do is protect her characters and her worlds.

The address that appeared at this point in previous newsletters no longer works. Message me at shashtah@gmail.com when you get to the point of submitting a release form, and I'll see what I can find out in the way of new instructions. (I think Misty now has her fanfiction licensed under Creative Commons. Can someone check that out?)

All personae materials should be sent to the QO address or submitted by e-mail to Shashtah@gmail.com and healermoon@gmail.com.

We have some personae who have not been formally announced yet. Is yours is 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.



Lost . . .

One of the challenges running an online club is that people don't always leave a forwarding address when they move <g>. If you are activated on the Persona List and still listed as "missing" below, let me know. I just forgot to delete the "missing" reference in the newsletter. We are missing current e-mail addresses for just about everyone at this point. If you need your email address updated somewhere on the QO site or for the mailing list, let me know. (Legend@malcor.com still works, but I am switching to Shashtah@gmail.com.)

(We will start generating this list again as I see e-mails start bouncing.)



From Healer Adept Moonstar k'Vala:

Hello my friends!

How the year has flown by! I had the great honor in April to meet Misty and Larry at WonderCon. I loved hearing your stories about the various cons you were able to run into them as well. How wonderful that they were out traveling so much this year! How lucky are we as fans to have the chance to meet a couple of our heroes?

My son has gone off to college in August and, now with the holidays literally upon us, the house feels empty. However, as Larry pointed out (He is wonderful about answering emails.) I must have done it right since Xander is able to take care of himself as an adult now. I am always excited to hear from my kiddo as I only get to speak with him once a week. When I do talk to him he says, "Mom when are you going to start writing again?" So in 2018, look forward to more stories and poems from yours truly. I am going to attempt to write something every day, at least a page. How many of you out there are budding writers? I would love to see your work. We have a great contest we are running for beautiful artwork and stories from our favorite Queen's Own pals.

In other news, I am facing another major surgery in 2018. I will be out of work for 6-8 weeks, and it may interrupt our January and February newsletters. I will see what we can do about getting one out before January 16th when I go in for my surgery. I am to have a hysterectomy as they suspect uterine cancer. I am hoping it is just weird fibroid, but I am happy they are removing it all to be safe. I also have tumors in my cervix (Those biopsies came back benign.), but the doc wants to remove it as well to be

sure it doesn't become cancer either. To this end what I can say is that your yearly exam may save your life, so make sure it is done!

I am spending my holiday cleaning and organizing, which is my idea of relaxing. I love to declutter! My husband, who is a bit of a packrat, isn't as interested in this process and would like to keep everything. Yesterday I went through our closets in our bedroom and found 3 large bags of trash to throw out and a lot of little things I am listing on letting go.

For 2018, I have several goals, which I am going to journal about every day. I have the same lose weight goal as we all start with in the new year. I also plan to lower debt, and thus our big vacation plans have been scrubbed to put the money toward the debt. I may also pick up a dog training client or two, health allowing, to put more money toward that debt. I plan on writing down at least one thing a day I am alive, which makes me feel grateful. I also plan to write as previously mentioned. Perhaps my grateful thoughts will lead to my writing, or perhaps it will be something else altogether.

I look forward to hearing from all of you this year!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!

~**Moonstar**



Personals:

- 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 Sun* 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. (Some Barnes and Noble brick-and-mortar stores are also carrying it.) 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 couple 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:
P.O. Box 61831 Irvine, CA 92602 USA.

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)

Healer Adept Moonstar, co-President (Kendra Hosseini,
healermoon@gmail.com)

The featured artist for the online version of the newsletter is The Gryphon King, Larry Dixon. All images are copyrighted by him. Please do not reuse them without his permission. If you would like your art to be featured in the online version of the QO newsletter, send .jpps to Shashtah@gmail.com or hardcopy to Queen's Own, P.O. Box 61831, Irvine, CA 92602.

Fanmail Note: If you send fanmail to Misty at this address, please include stamps for forwarding. We no longer charge dues, so we do not have the funds to pay for your postage.

The online version of this newsletter will be available with artwork at <http://www.dragonlordsnet.com/qonews.htm> within a few days.

Zhai'helleva,

Herald-Mage Adept Danya Winterborn