

Rachel Haimowitz Counterpoint

As prince of a war-torn human province, Freyrik could ill afford to fall for an enemy. And Ayden, an elven warrior with three hundred years of bitterness in his heart, wanted no part of love. Yet they came together despite themselves and the wills of their peoples, joining hearts and minds to fight.

Magnus Bane may or may not be dating Alec Lightwood, but he definitely needs to find him the perfect birthday present. One of ten adventures in The Bane Chronicles. Set in the time between City of Ashes and City of Glass, warlock Magnus Bane is determined to find the best birthday present possible for Alec Lightwood, the Shadowhunter he may or may not be dating. And he's also got to deal with the demon he's conjured up for a very irritating client... This standalone e-only short story illuminates the life of the enigmatic Magnus Bane, whose alluring personality populates the pages of the #1 New York Times bestselling series The Mortal Instruments and The Infernal Devices. This story in The Bane Chronicles, What to Buy the Shadowhunter Who Has Everything (And Who You're Not Officially Dating Anyway), is written by Cassandra Clare and Sarah Rees Brennan.

Acclaimed author Lynn Flewelling brings her beloved Nightrunners series to a close—at least for now—with a thrilling novel of murder, mystery, and magic. The governor of the sacred island of Korous and his mistress have been killed inside a locked and guarded room. The sole witnesses to the crime—guards who broke down the doors, hearing the screams from within—have gone mad with terror, babbling about ghosts . . . and things worse than ghosts. Dispatched to Korous by the queen, master spies Alec and Seregil find all the excitement and danger they could want—and more. For an ancient evil has been awakened there, a great power that will not rest until it has escaped its otherworldly prison and taken revenge on all that lives. And only those like Alec—who have died and returned to life—can step between the worlds and confront the killer . . . even if it means a second and all too permanent death. Praise for Lynn Flewelling's Casket of Souls "Full of intrigue and plots upon plots."—RT Book Reviews

A spin-off of Mastering Toby Seth Hollis lives his passions online under the pseudonym "Lotus" and attracts ex-Navy SEAL Sahara Blue, who avidly follows the erotic tales of passionate submission Seth posts. While they forge a powerful connection, it's increasingly frustrating, because both men yearn for something real. Seth's writings have also attracted an unwanted and dangerous admirer, and when the glass window of Seth's shop is shattered one night, fate sends Sahara Blue to his rescue. Unaware he has actually met Lotus, Sahara takes Seth under his wing, and that same mysterious and deep attraction flares to life. But Seth's deranged stalker won't let up, and Seth and Sahara will have to give up their secrets and learn to trust if they're going to keep each other safe.

Aozora Kaede, a lady of autumn, is on the run. Estranged from her parents and forced to flee from home after a violent disagreement with her aunt and cousin, she is a wanderer with a spirit wolf as her only companion. Homura Imari, a lady of a different court, lives in the lap of luxury. As the daughter of a daimyo, her duties are clear: stay home and learn how to rule the province she will inherit. But when fate brings the two of them together, Imari notices Kaede's connection to the spirits and decides to ask for a favor. She needs someone to guide her to Hongshan, a faraway mountain where a magical blacksmith is rumored to live—a blacksmith who can hopefully replace her missing left hand. Together, they must travel across the treacherous Jade Sea, protect themselves from Kaede's vengeful family, and perhaps even save the Empire from destruction.

Ayden's life has long been guided by two emotions: love for his sister, and hatred of all things human. When he's captured in battle, he must, for his sister's sake, swallow his pride and endure slavery in the service of a human prince, Freyrik Farr. Between prejudice, politics, pride, and survival, Ayden and Freyrik must carve a new path, no matter how daunting. For nothing less than the fate of both their peoples rests on the power of their perseverance and their love.

This first complete history of a century of striptease is filled with rare photographs and period illustrations.

The fledgling New Republic confronts its ultimate challenge as mistrust and treachery threaten to destroy it from within, rogue elements rebel against Luke Skywalker's leadership, and alien invaders called the Yuuzhan Vong strike without warning. Original.

Longtime couple David and Arthur find turning fantasy into reality is the best way to remain in each other's hearts.

A uniquely witty novel exploring sex, freedom, and the process of growing up Sydney Skate considers himself shockproof. For as long as he can remember, he's known that his fashionable Manhattan mother is secretly a lesbian, although he's never let on that he knows. He spends his summer days caring for snakes at the local pet shop before leaving for college at Cornell, shrugging off his father's demands that he skip college and join the exciting world of swimming pool sales for suburbanites. Far from throwing himself into work, Sydney can't seem to keep his thoughts from wandering to women. He has memorized the sex scenes of every book he's ever read in order to better seduce the opposite gender. When he's called to help remove a snake from a bathtub that belongs to the gorgeous and sophisticated Alison Gray, everything changes. But nothing could prepare him for his glamorous mother sweeping the girl of his dreams off her feet. This hypnotizing coming-of-age story captures the timeless ecstasies and struggles of adolescence, and has been a classic of lesbian literature since it was first published in 1973. Hailed as the Catcher in the Rye of the seventies, Shockproof Sydney Skate exposes the confusion of its time and remains keenly relevant to the sexual absurdities of today. This ebook features an illustrated personal history of Marijane Meaker including rare images from the author's collection.

"A new star is rising in the fantasy firmament...teems with magic and spine-chilling amounts of skullduggery."—Dave Duncan, author of The Great Game When young Alec of Kerry is taken prisoner for a crime he didn't commit, he is certain that his life is at an end. But one thing he never expected was his cellmate. Spy, rogue, thief, and noble, Seregil of Rhiminee is many things—none of them predictable. And when he offers to take on Alec as his apprentice, things may never be the same for either of them. Soon Alec is traveling roads he never knew existed, toward a war he never suspected was brewing. Before long he and Seregil are embroiled in a sinister plot that runs deeper than either can imagine, and that may cost them far more than their lives if they fail. But fortune is as unpredictable as Alec's new mentor, and this time there just might be...Luck in the Shadows.

At twenty-seven, Tamelik has been a slave more than half his life, having witnessed his family being murdered in front of him when he was just a child. Naturally submissive, although with a petulant streak, he can't help but fall in love with the master who treats him kindly. Tam's dreams come true when his mistress walks out, leaving her husband behind. For six glorious months, he and his master get to be together. Then Tam is ordered to purchase another slave. He wants to hate Kai for being unruly and ungrateful. For being of the same race as the men who murdered his family. For being his eventual replacement in their master's bed. But it's hard to hate a man who cries himself to sleep, flinches at the slightest touch, and blushes beautifully when he's kissed. Seducing Kai has suddenly become more challenge than chore, and with his master's encouragement, Tam finds himself falling for his new companion. Except... nobody

can be in love with two people at once, can they?

Brandon has come to accept being gay, but he can't deny the shame and confusion he feels at other urges. The deeply repressed desire to submit. When a sizzling back-alley encounter cues Jonathan in to Brandon's deep-seated submissive side, he makes the man an offer: Give me six months of your life, and I'll open your eyes to a whole new world.

Broadway darling Nicky Avery gives commanding performances on stage, but when he comes home at night, it's Devon Turner who commands him. Devon — that's "Sir" to Nicky, of course — owns Nicky heart and soul, and neither of them could possibly be happier with that. This collection of vignettes explores the gifts of submission and domination — Nicky and Devon's ultimate expression of love and trust. The ten short stories range from sweet and sensual to hot and hardcore, from cross-dressing to knife play, and so much more. Dom or sub, curious beginner or 24/7 lifestyler, the stories in *Sublime* will tease and tantalize, arouse and thrill. And don't mind Devon and Nicky...they like to be watched anyway.

DECADES HAVE PASSED since the bitter war of independence between Ptolem and Osiron. Both planets have settled into a peaceful coexistence, thanks in great part to the efforts of the Ptolemii Triumvirii Pyke and his longtime spouse, Ambassador Prince Vin-Chay. The men and their family have survived incredible personal trials, including a vicious and unexpected attack from long-dead enemies who had set in motion familial and social changes for generations to come. Pyke and Vin-Chay have been linchpins in building a stable, progressive new government for Ptolem, and are living in tranquility and prosperity amongst their large family. They now find their lives and the very future of their worlds on the precipice of total destruction from an enemy who has risen from the ashes of failure and redefines any imaginable concept of evil. Their last and most desperate battle against the satanic force that relentlessly seeks the obliteration of the Chay family surpasses any horror they have ever endured. They are brought to the edge of madness in a conflagration of bloodthirsty hate, vengeance and passion, an ultimate showdown between good and evil.

With a wedge at last driven between Mat and Dougie Carmichael, courtesy of Nikolai Petrovic's expert manipulations, the brothers must each accept their new path forward: Dougie, a perfect slave, sweet and obedient and loving. Mat, a tightly reined dog, snarling and snapping but never allowed to bite. Unfortunately, no transformation, however well planned, is without its growing pains. Mat's leash is so tight it's choking him. Dougie is tormented by a little voice inside his head—a fragment of his former self—that he cannot silence. And Nikolai's most difficult tests for the brothers are still to come. The critical question isn't whether they can pass those tests, but whether they even want to. Without each other to lean on and live for, a bleak future has become bleaker still. But Nikolai's too good to let his slaves slip through his fingers—by death or by despair.

In the far-distant future, a long and brutal war of independence between Ptolem and its colonial planet, Osiron, has ended. Their civilizations are building a new future and are a still-fragile alliance. Two former enemy warriors, the Ptolemii High Commander Pyke and the Osiron Prince Vin-Chay, whose unexpected passion and sacrifice were the cornerstones to the final peace, live in serenity with their families. Integral to both civilizations, the men have spent years helping to socially and politically redefine their worlds. They are unaware that hidden enemies—fueled by personal hatred and secret agendas with a longtime thirst for power and revenge—have targeted them for destruction. Their enemies conceived a devious, deadly plan that has both personal and societal ramifications that will destroy the fragile alliance and any hope for the future. The evil that stalks these men and their loved ones has no concept of the true strength and determination of these warriors who will let nothing stand in the way of reclaiming their families and ending the pernicious threat. The final showdown between good and evil explodes in a fiery confrontation that will seal their fates for millennia to come.

Long ago, the great Snow Queen died of a broken heart, sending her magical world of dancing snow flakes and glittering icicles into a deep depression. Fearful of the same fate, her subjects sealed their hearts into an icy crystal for safekeeping, hoping to protect themselves and their future. For centuries, the communal Snowheart keeps the snow spirits of the north safe from their emotions, until a mischievous luck spirit steals the mystical crystal, intending to melt it down and extract its magical power at the cost of the snow spirits' lives.

Damen is a warrior hero to his people, and the rightful heir to the throne of Akielos. But when his half-brother seizes power, Damien is captured, stripped of his identity and sent to serve the prince of an enemy nation as a pleasure slave. For Damen, there is just one rule: never, ever reveal his true identity. Because the one man Damen needs is the one man who has more reason to hate him than anyone else. Bound to thrill long term online fans of the *Captive Prince* trilogy, this volume contains the original story in full alongside exclusive bonus short stories.

The popular novel series has become a manga!

After breaking his arm on set, Wolf's Landing stuntman Ginsberg Sloan finds himself temporarily out of work. Luckily, Bluewater Bay's worst B&B has cheap long-term rates, and Ginsberg's not too proud to take advantage of them. Derrick Richards, a grizzled laid-off logger, inherited the B&B after his parents' untimely deaths. Making beds and cooking sunny-side-up eggs is hardly Derrick's idea of a man's way to make a living, but just as he's decided to shut the place down, Ginsberg shows up on his doorstep, pitiful and soaking wet, and Derrick can hardly send him packing. Not outright, at least. The plan? Carry on the B&B's tradition of terrible customer service and even worse food until the pampered city boy leaves voluntarily. What Derrick doesn't count on, though, is that the lousier he gets at hosting, the more he convinces bored, busybody Ginsberg to try to get the B&B back on track. And he definitely doesn't count on the growing attraction between them, or how much more he learns from Ginsberg than how to put out kitchen fires.

"Sublime service, made to order." The *Flesh Cartel*: an international, multi-billion-dollar black market that trades in lost souls. Or more specifically, their bodies. Highly organized and frighteningly efficient, the *Flesh Cartel* could teach even the KGB a thing or two about breaking a human mind. Fortunately for their ultra-rich clients, they're just as skilled at putting people back together again—as perfect pets, well-trained and eager to please. No matter what your secret tastes or dark desires, the *Flesh Cartel*—for the right price, of course—will hand-design the plaything of your dreams.

Faewolves, like werewolves, can walk among men. What happens when Kiya White Cloud, a young gay college student in Santa Cruz, wants one of these men enough to risk his heart—and his life? A gay paranormal erotic romance from Clasp Editions, the romance imprint of Circler Press, Inc. D.M. Atkins is an author of both non-fiction and fiction. An anthropologist, Atkins has edited several anthologies on LGBT topics, including *Looking Queer*, *Lesbian Sex Scandals*, and *Bisexual Women in the 21st Century* and is the former editor of both *Locus* and *Shadows Of...* magazines. Visit DMAtkins.net. Chris Taylor has been writing for years but *FAEWOLF* is Taylor's first original fiction novel. Taylor is a New Yorker, attending college.

A modern classic for this generation is being relaunched with an all-new, beautifully illustrated edition that follows Heather as she goes to playgroup and feels badly at first because she has two mothers and no father, but then she learns that there are lots of different kinds of families and the most important thing is that all the people love each other.

Broadway darling Nicky Avery is a shooting star by night, but by day he bounces from one heartless one-night stand to the next. A quick flogging, a rough lay, a new whip-hand to

manipulate--yet still he yearns for something he cannot even name. He finds his first true hint of satisfaction in Devon Turner, a self-possessed film star and expert Dom. Devon knows what he wants the moment he sees it, and what he wants is Nicky Avery. Nicky's never learned to trust and has a nasty habit of topping from the bottom, but he learns fast that in the bedroom, Devon won't tolerate his actor's masks. Nicky's a broken boy, but Devon knows exactly how to put his new sub back together. With patience, care, and all the punishments his little pain slut can handle, Devon breaks Nicky down one scene at a time, revealing a mind that yearns to trust and a heart that hungers for the ecstasy of true submission at last.

There are some mistakes we make that we will regret for the rest of our lives. For Christian Davison, it was the day he betrayed Elizabeth Ayers. For five years, Christian has regretted the day he walked away from his family and will do anything to win them back. Can Elizabeth forgive someone who has committed the unforgiveable? Or are there some wounds that go so deep they can never heal?

Kiram fought his family and Cadeleonian bigots to remain in the Sagrada Academy to prove himself as a mechanist and to dispel the deadly shadow curse that threatens to destroy his upperclassman, Javier Tornesal. But when his efforts provoke retaliation, Kiram's family and home are endangered. Both Kiram and Javier risk everything in a desperate gambit to combat the curse. But they never imagined their battle with come so soon, or that it would be lead by the one person they trust most of all.

Roman, a slave to Wulfgar, is less than pleased when the thane acquires a new pet: the beautiful and prideful Aron. Aron has never been with a man and has no wish to be now, but when he is claimed as a thrall to pay his father's debt, his choice in the matter is lost. Captured from Roman-held Londinium four years prior, Roman has learned that life as Wulfgar's bedslave can still be sweet. He is intrigued, threatened, and ultimately frightened by Aron and his feelings for the young man as they are thrown together by both cunning plan and charmed circumstance. Roman and Aron will form a bond greater than any other claim upon them and determine that whatever the cost, they will find a way to be happy even if that means risking their lives to find freedom together. Read more about Wulfgar in the spin-off novel Lotus in the Wild.

An exceptional text for undergraduate and graduate music students, *Modal Counterpoint, Renaissance Style* uses a wide variety of carefully graded exercises to present guidelines for writing and analyzing 16th-century music. The only species counterpoint text that draws directly on Renaissance treatises, it provides a conceptual framework to guide students through composition and analysis as it teaches them general structural principles. With stylistically diverse examples including not only motets and mass movements but also French chansons, German chorale settings, English canzonets, Italian madrigals, and Spanish organ hymns, villancicos, and ricercars, the book gives students a real-life feel for the subject. It distinguishes between technical requirements (hard rules) and stylistic guidelines (soft rules), and includes coordinated exercises that allow students to develop their skills systematically. The concluding chapters provide the formal and conceptual building blocks for longer pieces and encourage students to understand analysis and composition as complementary activities. By the end of the book, students are writing real compositions, not just drill exercises. The text also features progressively graded exercises, historical asides that explain important topics and issues of the period, and some notes in the preface on using the book in the classroom. Combining the historical accuracy of style-oriented texts with the more systematic species counterpoint approach, this book offers a unique alternative to other methods. Now in its second edition, *Modal Counterpoint, Renaissance Style* integrates improvisation activities and new repertoire examples into many chapters; revises the chapter on three-part writing (Chapter 14) so that it pays more attention to rules and strategies; reworks the chapters on cadences (Chapter 10) and on writing two parts in mixed values (Chapter 11) to make them more accessible to students; incorporates clarified instructions throughout; and includes a summary of rules.

With the help of the FBI, Mat Carmichael has let himself be re-taken by the Flesh Cartel. Objective? Rescue his brother, exact revenge, and destroy the entire organization from the inside.

Dr. Wyatt Case is never happier than when he's walking the halls of his history museum. Playing wingman for his best friend at Gravedigger's Tavern throws him way out of his comfort zone, but not as much as the eccentric man behind the bar, Ash Lucroix. Within hours, Wyatt and Ash are hooked. But strange things are afoot at Gravedigger's, and after a knock to the head, Ash starts seeing things that can't be explained by old appliances or faulty wiring.

A halfbreed's search for a mysterious slave woman leads her to a lawless land of dark dunmagic and an evil that poses a threat to all the Isles of Glory.

Brandon McKinney is a man reborn. Newly awakened to the notion of consensual power exchange and the submissive urges inside him, he begs for a second chance from the man who opened his eyes to this world: Silicon Valley superstar Jonathan Watkins. But no birth is absent pain, and Brandon's is no exception. He fears he's not strong enough to see it through. Jonathan knows better. He's seen the iron core inside his new submissive, and the wounded heart inside him too. He means to teach Brandon to heal the one with the other. They have five months left on their contract, after all, and Jonathan has done more with less before. It's tough to stay objective, though, when you're falling in love.

Shame Brandon doesn't feel the same. He's only there for the three-million-dollar payout at contract's end--a fact that Jonathan, nursing his own wounded heart, reminds himself of each day. For even as Brandon's barriers break and his mind expands, even as he grows to love his place at Jonathan's feet, he'll never love life with a sadist--especially one who cannot escape the public eye. "This title is #2 of the Power Play series." "Reader discretion advised. This title contains the following sensitive themes: heavy kink."

Matthew Callahan has spent seven years struggling against the insatiable hunger for blood consuming him. Unable to stop the vampire inside from preying on humans, he keeps himself confined to a lonely existence. Everything changes the night he is lured into a trap and taken prisoner by High Lord General Tarrick--a seductive incubus who feeds off

sexual energy. Forced into the middle of a war between vampires and incubi, Matthew is used as a weapon against his own kind. Although he's desperate for freedom, he is unable to deny the burning desire drawing him to the incubus general he now calls Master.

Dissolute nobles, master spies, and the unlikeliest of heroes, Alec and Seregil have survived exile, treachery, and black magic. But the road that lies ahead is the most hazardous they've ever traveled. For with enemies on all sides, they must walk a narrow path between good and evil where one misstep might be their last. Having escaped death and slavery in Plenimar, Alec and Seregil want nothing more than to go back to their nightrunning life in Rhíminee. Instead they find themselves saddled with Sebrahn, a strange, alchemically created creature—the prophesied “child of no woman.” Its moon-white skin and frightening powers make Sebrahn a danger to all whom Alec and Seregil come into contact with, leaving them no choice but to learn more about Sebrahn's true nature. With the help of trusted friends and Seregil's clan, the duo set out to discover the truth about this living homunculus—a journey that can lead only to danger or death. For Seregil's old nemesis Ulan í Sathil of Virèsse and Alec's own long-lost kin are after them, intent on possessing both Alec and Sebrahn. On the run and hunted, Alec and his comrades must fight against time to accomplish their most personal mission ever.

Network news anchor Daniel Halstrom is at the top of his field, but at the bottom of the social ladder--as a slave. NewWorld Media, the company who's owned him since childhood, decides to lease him on evenings and weekends to boost their flagging profits, and he finds himself in the home of talk show host Carl Whitman. Can Carl become the anchor in Daniel's turbulent life, or will Carl end up the weight that sinks his slave for good?

"Once upon a time, in an alleyway in the slums of the City Of Lockes, a young and somewhat lonely boy named Sam Haversford turns a group of teenage douchebags into stone completely by accident. Of course, this catches the attention of a higher power, and Sam's pulled from the only world he knows to become an apprentice to the King's Wizard, Morgan of Shadows. When Sam's fourteen, he enters the Dark Woods and returns with Gary, the hornless gay unicorn, and a half-giant named Tiggy, earning the moniker Sam of Wilds. At fifteen, Sam learns what love truly is when a new knight arrives at the castle-- Knight Ryan Foxheart, the dreamiest dream to have ever been dreamed. Naturally, it all goes to hell when Ryan dates the reprehensible Prince Justin, Sam can't control his magic, a sexually aggressive dragon kidnaps the Prince, and the King sends them on an epic quest to save Ryan's boyfriend, all while Sam falls more in love with someone he can never have. Or so he thinks" -- page 4 of cover.

It is the twilight of mankind. Depleted by generations of war with a race of dark beasts, humanity stands on the brink of extinction. The outlands are soaked with the blood of the fallen. The midlands are rotting with decadence and despair. Elfkind, estranged by past crimes, watches and waits for nature to run its course. And then the two collide. Ayden's life has long been guided by two emotions: love for his sister, and hatred of all things human. When he's captured in battle, he is enslaved in the service of a human prince, Freyrik Farr. Freyrik's always known elves to be beautiful and dangerous, but never has one affected him as deeply as Ayden. Teetering on a dagger's edge between duty and high treason, Freyrik discovers that some choices can change a life, and some an entire world. Between prejudice, politics, pride, and survival, Ayden and Freyrik must carve a new path, no matter how daunting. For nothing less than the fate of both their peoples rests on the power of their perseverance — and their love.

Counterpoint

Five years have passed since Matthias Blaise left Earl Harrison. Earl's life changed drastically without him. He found a new job, a new lover, and a new life. But what will happen when Matthias suddenly comes back to claim him. Will Earl fall in love again with the same man who broke his heart five years ago?

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