

Why I shut down my Patreon fundraiser

written by Holly

April 4, 2019

By Holly Lisle

I'd intended to send a *Questions & Answers* email to my *How to Write a Novel* launch list, but that's going to have to wait. Instead, I did THIS.

Closed my "Move out of Florida while writing fiction" fundraiser.

Here's why – it's this clause in the Patreon Legal Agreement

<https://www.patreon.com/legal>

By posting content to Patreon you grant us a royalty-free, perpetual, irrevocable, non-exclusive, sublicensable, worldwide license to use, reproduce, distribute, perform, publicly display or prepare derivative works of your content.

Understand that I read that clause and all the rest of them before signing up.

BUT... I'm not a lawyer, and I understood that clause to mean that Patreon was claiming the right to use my Patreon-created content (in other words, my POSTS) to promote the site.

I DID NOT think that they were claiming the right to use and abuse the content I was giving my patrons. In this case, three monthly chapters of the raw first draft of one of my current novels in progress, *Dead Man's Party*.

A friend emailed me with a link to this post, however:

<https://www.thepassivevoice.com/the-beginning-of-the-end-for-patreon/>

Turns out, I was wrong. Patreon is claiming rights to my novel.

So I'm out. I sent the first copy of this email to my patrons using a private Patreon post, and then I shut down my Patreon fundraiser, and am now trying to figure out how to actually close my account.

I'm not letting this kill my dream of moving us out of Florida...

...(hopefully before the next hurricane, if not the start of the hurricane season).

How you can help, if you want to –

IF YOU'RE HERE AS A WRITER:

I have created original classes ranging from under ten dollars to way over a hundred. If one of the classes I offer could help you, then you buying it would help me.

MY COMPREHENSIVE CAREER-LEVEL CLASSES (in recommended order)

***** How to Write a Novel *****

<http://hollyswritingclasses.com/class/how-to-write-a-novel.html>

(IN LAUNCH: On sale ONLY through Tuesday APRIL 8 – Final Discount Launch)

How to Revise Your Novel:

<https://hollyswritingclasses.com/go/how-to-revise-your-novel.html>

How to Write a Series:

<https://hollyswritingclasses.com/go/how-to-write-a-series.html>

How to Think Sideways: Career Survival School for Writers:

<https://hollyswritingclasses.com/go/how-to-think-sideways.html>

WRITING CRAFT SERIES (Each class is under \$10)

Create a Character Clinic:

<https://hollyswritingclasses.com/go/characterclinic.html>

Create A Plot Clinic:

<https://hollyswritingclasses.com/go/plotclinic.html>

How to Write Page-Turning Scenes:

<https://hollyswritingclasses.com/go/pageturningscenes.html>

WORLDBUILDING SERIES (Each class is under \$10)

Create A Language Clinic:

<https://hollyswritingclasses.com/go/languageclinic.html>

Create a Culture Clinic:

<https://hollyswritingclasses.com/go/cultureclinic.html>

Create a World Clinic:

<https://hollyswritingclasses.com/go/worldclinic.html>

WORKSHOPS & MID-SIZED CLASSES (PRICES

VARY)

How to Write Short Stories:

<http://hollyswritingclasses.com/go/how-to-write-short-stories-class.html>

How to Write Villains:

<http://hollyswritingclasses.com/go/how-to-write-villains.html>

How to Write Dialogue with Subtext:

<https://hollyswritingclasses.com/go/dialogue-subtext.html>

Title Cover Copy Marketing Basics:

<https://hollyswritingclasses.com/go/titlecovercopy.html>

How to Find Your Writing Discipline:

<https://hollyswritingclasses.com/go/writingdiscipline.html>

How to Find Your Writing Voice:

<https://hollyswritingclasses.com/go/writing-voice.html>

How to Motivate Yourself:

<http://hollyswritingclasses.com/go/motivate-yourself.html>

Beat Writer's Block:

<https://hollyswritingclasses.com/go/beatwritersblock.html>

FREE, INCLUDED WITH (also Free) SITE MEMBERSHIP

How to Write Flash Fiction That Doesn't Suck

<https://hollyswritingclasses.com/go/free-flash-fiction-class.html>

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IF YOU'RE HERE AS A READER:

You can help out by buying some of my indie-published fiction.

SHORT STUFF, CURRENTLY AMAZON ONLY:

Light Through Fog:

<https://www.amazon.com/Light-Through-Holly-Lisle-Singles-ebook/dp/B0096F4HY0/>

Rewind:

<https://www.amazon.com/Rewind-Holly-Lisle-Singles-Book-ebook/dp/B00AY10HAE/>

Strange Arrivals:

<https://www.amazon.com/Strange-Arrivals-Twisty-Fantasy-Tales-ebook/dp/B00E0WMYRW/>

FANTASY – ARHEL TRILOGY

Fire in the Mist:

<https://books2read.com/FireInTheMist>

Bones of the Past:

<https://books2read.com/BonesOfThePast>

Mind of the Magic:

<https://books2read.com/MindOfTheMagic>

DARK SCIENCE FICTION-ISH

SETTLED SPACE

Both of the Cadence Drake novels – *Hunting the Corrigan's Blood* and *Warpaint*, are off sale while I come up with new titles and new cover art for them, and new key words,

descriptions, and other marketing that allows me to correctly put them in front of the audience that likes a few vampires and a bit of horror with its spaceships.

The Longview Chronicles (complete Series) is in the same universe – still dark, but without the vampires:

<https://books2read.com/longview-chronicles>

Or you can get the individual stories:

Born from Fire:

<https://books2read.com/born-from-fire>

Suzee Delight:

<https://books2read.com/the-selling-of-suzee-delight>

Philosopher Gambit:

<https://books2read.com/the-philosopher-gambit>

Gunslinger Moon:

<https://books2read.com/gunslinger-moon>

Vipers' Nest:

<https://books2read.com/vipers-nest>

The Owner's Tale:

<https://books2read.com/the-owners-tale>

STANDALONE URBAN FANTASY

Minerva Wakes:

<https://books2read.com/minerva-wakes>

PARANORMAL SUSPENSE

Author Page:

<https://books2read.com/ap/xbzgyx/Kate-Aeon>

Midnight Rain:

<https://books2read.com/midnight-rain>

Last Girl Dancing:

<https://books2read.com/last-girl-dancing>

I See You:

<https://books2read.com/i-see-you>

I have much more fiction that's commercially published, or which is out of print and has reverted to me, but which I have not yet republished.

I'm not linking to ANY of that fiction, because your purchase of used books or books where publishers haven't paid royalties in years will not help me.

So there we are.

I want to thank all my patrons again, and I am so sorry that I had to do this, but there is no way I can permit this:

Excerpted from Patreon Legal Terms

You keep full ownership of all content that you post on Patreon, but to operate we need licenses from you.

By posting content to Patreon you grant us a royalty-free, perpetual, irrevocable, non-exclusive, sublicensable, worldwide license to use, reproduce, distribute, perform, publicly display or prepare derivative works of your content.

No. Just NO. Holly

P.S. I have had one of my Patreon patrons already ask me how she could continue to support me on a monthly basis.

Here's the answer I gave her:

"I'll look into what's available. Right now, I'm crushed to discover the rights Patreon actually claimed, and worried about getting involved with any other site. So I'm in limbo. You'll find my blog at HollyLisle.com. I'll be keeping my folks there up to date on how I deal with this. It sucks.

Hugs, and thank you for asking."

Why is EVERYBODY on my blog, my mailing list, and in my forums getting this?

Because if you know me, you're probably either a reader or a writer. If you're a writer, you may be considering using Patreon, and you need to know. If you're a reader considering funding someone on Patreon, THEY need to know.

And this is the ugliest, broadest rights-grab I have personally ever seen. Or sadly, been caught up in.

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The New Paranormal Suspense

Covers

written by Holly

April 4, 2019

By Holly Lisle

I finished the following covers for my upcoming novels today:

Midnight Rain

I See You

Last Girl Dancing

Night Echoes

Because of a bit of a financial bump, I'm pushing hard to get all the backlist up in the next couple of months. To my amazement (because I thought exactly the opposite), I think the suspense novels are going to take the longest. I'm having to go through them and edit to bring the late-draft manuscript versions I have up to the published versions.

The scans don't have to be rewritten. They just have to be edited, and my guys (and in two cases, my co-authors) are working on that.

So my release schedule is going to change completely, and will probably start with either the Arhel trilogy or the Devil's Point trilogy.

But there will be books soon. ☐

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A Book Giveaway (sort of)

written by Holly

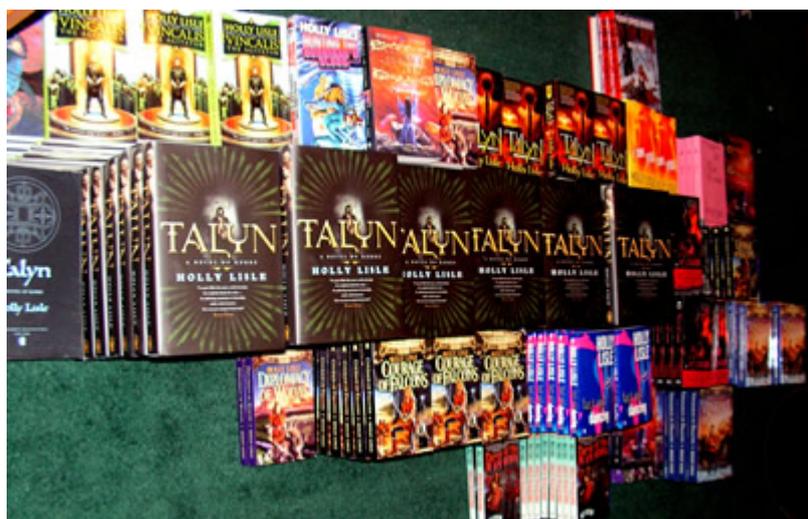
April 4, 2019

By Holly Lisle

Lots of my novels for free if you'll pay the postage.

SUNDAY ADDITION:

I underestimated the extent of my problem. And I do have a few copies of some of the later Baen books. And I found the missing **Vengeance of Dragons** copies. Lots of them.



Any more volunteers?

Also, much to my amazement, I have no remaining copies of the historical thing. Many apologies. Holly

P.S. The scary thing is, I suspect there are still more books hiding in corners. I'm afraid.

SATURDAY: The Original Post

I have a bunch of copies of my own work I need to get rid of.

- I'd have one massive contest and winners galore, but I can't afford the shipping for that many books.
- I can't sell them—that's in the contracts.
- I don't want to dump them at libraries; I'd rather give them to individual folks.
- I considered doing a **Books of the Wild** thing, where I'd send boxes of books to people who agreed to send all but one of the books out into the world to meet new people, who could then log into a **Wild Books Tracking Station** to note where they got their book, and where they passed it on when they were done with it, with rules taped into the inside front covers to let the readers know how to find and log into the tracking station, (I thought this would be particularly cool) but as previously noted, I don't have the money for all that shipping, and I can't ask folks to pay shipping and then only keep one book.

So...

I have at least a few of most of my more recent books (most of my post-Baen work) and a lot of a few of them. And I have some flat rate shipping boxes that ship to anywhere in the US for \$8.95. In order to cover PayPal fees and packing up the box,

add an extra dollar—total US shipping will be \$9.95. Each box will comfortably fit 6 paperbacks, and as long as they last, one hardcover or galley. When I run out of hardcovers and galleys, I'll throw in three extra paperbacks. (These are likely to be duplicates. If I have to send duplicates and you didn't indicate that you wanted them, I'll let you know before you pay for the shipping.)

If you're willing to pay the postage, I'll ship you a box of mixed books. If you don't mind duplicates (to give to friends, for example), please note this in your entry. I have quite a few paperback **Talyns**, for example.

I'll autograph one book in each box—I hurt my wrists, the right one especially, from too much knitting, which I've been using to deal with stress, and typing is painful and handwriting pure agony. (Forget knitting. At the moment, I can barely hold yarn.) So give me your wish-list of three books you'd like to own in autographed form in order of your preference, and if I have it, I'll sign and include one of those three books in the box. If I don't, I'll pick what I think is the best book in the box and autograph that one. These books won't be personalized, just dated and signed. I apologize for this, because I usually personalize unless requested not to, but ... pain. We're not going to mention how exciting it is to type this.

I also have a couple of surprises (still my books, but special or odd in some way or another). No comment on those, but they'll ship in the first boxes to go out.

All books are new, unread, but some do have dings on corners or other flaws—the boxes seem to pass through punishment testing en route to me from time to time.

If you enjoy ancient historical fiction, note this and I'll throw in an unrelated book of which I happen to have a whole bunch of copies. If you *really* like it, I'll send a few extra

(I have lots and lots of copies). Just ask.

Here are the rules:

- 1. You have to have some way of using PayPal**, whether through your own PayPal account, a debit card, credit card, or checking account, to do this.
- 2. Don't send any money until I've packed your box and contacted you** (and we've agreed on the shipping price if you're outside the US).
- 3. Special requests are first come, first served.**
- 4. All book boxes are ALSO first come, first served.**
- 5. If you have any books you already have and don't want to accidentally get another of (even to pass on), please list these.**
- 6. The times on replies will serve as the final arbiter of who asked first.** I will religiously check the spam and rescue requests while this offer is ongoing. If you have fallen afoul of the spam-catcher, let me know right away at **holly AT hollylisle DOT com.**
- 7. This offer is only good until I run out of books.**

The average value of a box of 6 paperback books with one hardcover will be about \$67. I can't guess the value of the galleys, but to collectors, I'm sure they're fairly valuable. Average value of a box of nine paperbacks without a hardcover or galley will be about \$63. If you're outside the US, keep this number in mind when figuring shipping. You don't want to pay more than the value of the books, and you'd probably want to stop at about half the value. For orders outside the US, we'll figure on a case-by-case basis. You're never obligated

to buy—if shipping is too much for your budget, I can pack up just one or two books for you in a sturdy envelope or little box, or you can pass your box on to the next person on the list.

Make sure your e-mail address in your account on this weblog is correct, because that's how I'll contact each of you.

That's it. If you're interested, let me know here. The giveaway starts now.

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Bulgarian Rights

written by Holly
April 4, 2019
By Holly Lisle

Got the neatest news today. I sold (or, rather, Penguin Putnam sold) Bulgarian translation rights to MIDNIGHT RAIN; the book should be available in Bulgaria and wherever else the purchasing publisher distributes sometime this month.

Bulgarian rights. So cool.

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Onyx Synopsis Out the Door

written by Holly

April 4, 2019

By Holly Lisle

While I'm damned wary about hoping too much, considering the way these things have gone the past eleven times ... well, I'm an optimist. And I really like this project. It brings in Brig from MIDNIGHT RAIN as the hero, and an EMT-Paramedic named Dia as the heroine, and a gift-leaving stalker, and alligators in a canal in dicy, grim circumstances. And what might or might not be a ghost. And it features EMTs and rescue in Ft. Lauderdale – real adrenaline-junkie stuff. (As an ex-ER RN, I am an adrenaline-junkie – I know my own).

God, I hope I get to write this book.

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Okay – NOW It's Going Well

written by Holly

April 4, 2019

By Holly Lisle

Hot damn – a couple of the weird little pictures from yesterday's brainstorming session just clicked in a very big way, and words are flying.

I'm finding Dia's stalker fascinating – he's a product of his times, his education, and his passions, and he has some weird damned quirks ... but they aren't weird for him. For him, they

make perfect sense.

Brig I already loved. When he walked into **Midnight Rain**, I knew I wanted to see more of him. He's from Montana, one of my all-time favorite states ... and I didn't know that before. He's developed a little quirk of his own since the last book he was in.

And Dia. She's modeled on an EMT-turned-RN I worked with in Cheraw, SC, back when I was house supervisor – she's not a straight steal, but she's got all the characteristics about Jola that I admired most.

Back to work, then – this is going strange places, and I must follow if I can.

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“Reports of My Death Have Been Greatly Exaggerated”

written by Holly

April 4, 2019

By Holly Lisle

Quote from Twain. Some numbers from **Midnight Rain**. ‘Cause you know I was to the point of reinventing myself because of my fear of the numbers on **Midnight Rain**, and the fact that I'd heard it hadn't done as well as everyone hoped.

How well did it do?

In its first reporting period, it earned out its own \$25,000 advance plus all but about \$2000 of **Last Girl Dancing's**

advance.

In its first reporting period, it sold over 50,000 more copies than any title of mine has ever sold before in a first period, and about that many more than most of my titles have sold lifetime.

It had an acceptable sell-through. Not earth-shattering. I was hoping for the 80%-97% sell-through that most of my other books have averaged, but the fact that this was essentially a first novel, that it was shelved where most of the people who have been my readership for the last fourteen years will never have found it, and that a LOT of copies were printed make that kind of sell-through nearly impossible. It's almost certain to have sold almost entirely to readers for whom this was the first introduction to my work.

So **Midnight Rain** didn't do as well as everyone hoped? No, it didn't. When you're hoping for break-out bestsellerdom, it didn't do that.

It did, however, do well for a first novel. If I can find any sort of repeat readership from the folks who liked it, and who I hope went out and bought **Last Girl Dancing** because they liked it, I might have something solid to build on.

No gimmes here. I'm not out of the woods – you're only as good as your last book, and **Last Girl Dancing** is, in suspense, my book of the moment.

Still, the Twain quote in the title seemed apt. I'm still alive as a suspense writer. Still kicking. And almost ready to send the outline for the third book off.

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Amazon/ WalMart

written by Holly

April 4, 2019

By Holly Lisle

Fascinating discussion here about the difference between Amazon numbers and WalMart numbers.

Link via Alison Kent

As someone who, for the first time in my career, has (with my debut into suspense) landed a couple of titles on WalMart shelves, I'm more than a bit interested in what effect this will really have on my sales. Won't see even first inklings until around this December, but if I can get any meaningful numbers, I'll share.

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MIDNIGHT RAIN Bookclub Rights Sold

written by Holly

April 4, 2019

By Holly Lisle

Heard from Claire that Rhapsody Book Club picked up book club rights for MIDNIGHT RAIN. This is a big deal for me because I've never had any of my books picked up by a book club

before. Tentative pub date, Nov. 2005.

Firsts matter.

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Nominee: Romantic Times Reviewers' Choice Award

written by Holly

April 4, 2019

By Holly Lisle

MIDNIGHT RAIN has been nominated for the **Romantic Times Reviewers' Choice Award** for Best Romantic Intrigue. I'm delighted and honored to have been nominated – I'm in very good company.

For more information, go to Romantic Times, scroll down to the "RT Awards" link, click that link, then choose Reviewers' Choice 2004 Nominees. (Not Lifetime Achievement, which I accidentally clicked first.)

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