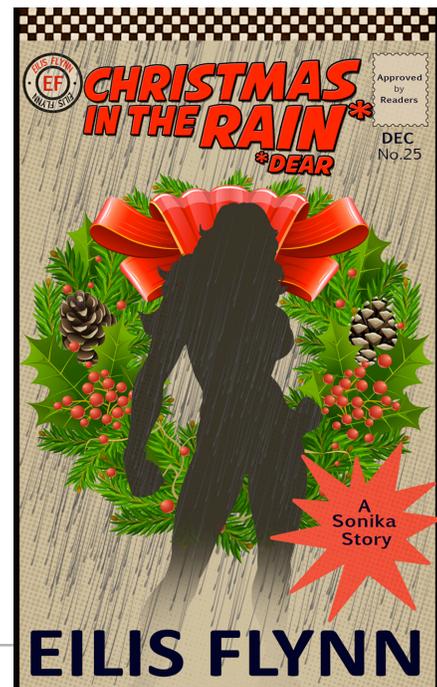
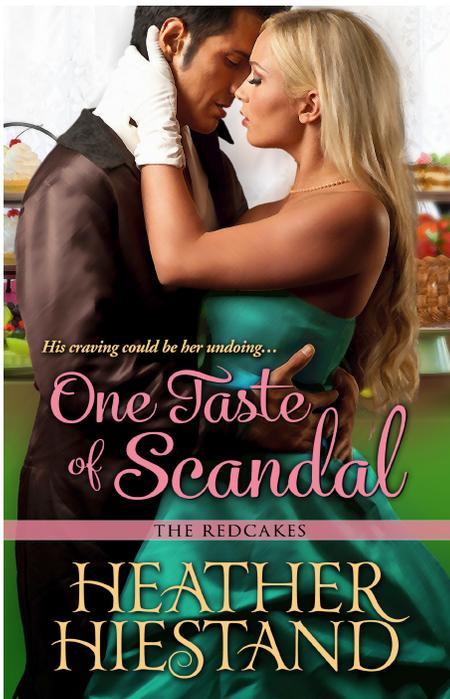


The Newsletter for Heather Hiestand, Eilis Flynn, and Anh Leod
Featuring Eilis Flynn and Heather Hiestand. For more information, see heatherhiestand.com and eilisflynn.com. Copyright 2013 by Eilis Flynn and Heather Hiestand. All rights reserved.



Ho-ho-holidays!

Christmas is coming, the goose is getting fat...Heather has this nursery rhyme stuck in my head as she races through the holiday season, which is growing pretty short this year! Even more so, because right now she has a new Redcakes release, *One Taste of Scandal*, and Eilis has a new seasonal release, "Christmas in the Rain," and Anh has a story, "Clockwork Captive," in a boxed set releasing on January 6!

In case you were wondering—'tis the season and so forth—the books in Heather's Redcakes series all revolve around Christmas to some degree. Probably because the entire Redcakes family is so obsessed with bakery treats (as well they should, owning a bakery and wheat mill and all). In fact, Kensington eventually contracted Heather to end the series with a full-on Christmas book, which will be out next autumn! So, please do go ahead and read *Marquess of Cake* and *One Taste of Scandal* this season if you need some holiday spirit, or if you would like to put your tastebuds in the right mood to enjoy those Christmas treats you're finding in front of you like magic!

While Heather's brain is buried deep in Victorian England, Eilis has returned to the world of super-heroes, and her own creation, Sonika. Her third tale in Sonika's Morrissey City-set series, "Christmas in the Rain," was just released, and yes, you bet it's a Christmas story! What might be coming next? St. Patrick's Day? Labor Day? We can't wait to see what might strike her

ON SALE NOW

HEATHER HIESTAND

- *Holiday In The Heart*
- *Cards Never Lie*
- *One Juror Down*
- *Gunshot Grange*
- *Two On The Hunt*
- *In Flight*
- *Looking Forward, Looking Back And Other Stories*
- *The Bachelor*
- "Victoriana Adventure"
- "Captain Andrew's Flying Christmas"
- "Captain Fenna's Dirigible Valentine"
- "Captain Gravenor's Airship Equinox"
- *Marquess of Cake*
- *One Taste of Scandal*

EILIS FLYNN

- *The Sleeper Awakes*
- *Festival of Stars*
- *Introducing Sonika*
- *Echoes of Passion*
- *The Riddle of Ryu*
- *Static Shock*
- "Halloween for a Heroine"
- "Christmas in the Rain"
- "30-Day Guarantee"

Nonfiction articles:

- "Snappy Comebacks"
- "Two Worlds, United By Anime" (*Japanification of Children's Popular Culture*)

ANH LEOD

- "Lucky Number Seven"
- "Aphrodite's Necklace"
- "Bijou's Bonds"
- *Recreating John Doe*
- *Claudia's Pleasure*
- *Cherokee's Playmates*
- "Ex Factor"
- "Playing Lycan Games"
- *Holly's Pledge*
- "Aphrodite's Tattoo"
- "Christmas a Go-Go"
- *Fire Wolf*
- *Clockwork Captive*

HEATHER & EILIS

- *Wear Black*
- *Dancing in Red*
- *Sonata in Blue (soon!)*

Got a question? Drop us a line at eilisflynn@aol.com or heather@heatherhiestand.com

There's more on page 2! Check it out!

fancy next! Email us at heather@heatherhiestand.com to tell us what holiday you think Eilis should tackle next, and you'll be entered in a drawing to win a copy of Eilis and Heather's novella, *Dancing in Red*, which was just released this autumn.

Here are some snippets from both stories:

One Taste of Scandal

A cup of sugar...a dash of cream...and a craving for a cake decorator that won't be denied...

When Captain Judah Shield learns he is more bastard than noble born, he goes in search of his true lineage. Determined not to lean on his family's wealth, he accepts a job managing Redcake's Tea Shop. Despite the flurry of excitement a single soldier creates among the staff, Judah clearly has no time for a wife. Though what man doesn't have time for a delectable beauty like lovely Magdalene Cross?...

He has the bearing of an English gentleman and the fiery touch of a true rake. Which is precisely why Magdalene must avoid Judah if she hopes to escape her family's reputation for scandal. Surely no good can come from a man whose kiss leaves her hungry for more. Certainly not the kind of marriage that could restore her social status. Still, Magdalene cannot help imagining what an incredible wedding night it would be—and when fate steps in, she may not have to imagine after all...

Excerpt: *"Lord Judah?"*

Magdalene Cross faltered, as his unusual amber eyes focused in her direction.

"Captain Judah Shield." He bowed slightly. "I should have introduced myself earlier."

"Did you know who I was? A Cross, I mean?"

"No, no." He shook his head. "My mind was on other things."

"It sounds like there is a tale here," the marchioness said.

"We reached for a paper at the same time and ended up walking here together," Captain Shield said. "Nothing more exciting than that."

The marchioness nodded and introduced herself to Magdalene with an informality that reminded her of her brothers.

When Magdalene was seated, Captain Shield said, "You inquired about Lieutenant Cross?"

"Yes. Of course there was all that business last winter about your deaths, and then being disciplined for being in Lahore. Then you both resigned your commissions?"

Captain Shield frowned. "He had not resigned when I left."

"No?"

He shook his head. "I am afraid you know more than I do if that is the case."

"But you were close friends, were you not?"

"I have not received a letter from him since I arrived." He turned to his brother. "Nothing came to the Farm or Hatbrook House?"

"Not that I'm aware of."

"I will send letters to a couple of places that might reach him," he offered. "And send you word of the results."

Magdalene tried to smile. "My family would appreciate that. You can contact my brother George directly if you prefer." She pulled a second piece of paper from her reticule, on which she'd written the address.

He accepted the paper and smiled, a dashing tilt of the lips that exposed a wry sensibility and even, white teeth. "I much prefer to communicate directly with beautiful ladies. Forgive me if my years in India have taken the polish from my manners."

Christmas in the Rain

It's A Wet, Wet Christmas

It's wet! It's snowing... Wait, no, it's not. It's just rain, rain, and more rain. Patrol on the night of Christmas Eve should be relatively quiet for rookie super-heroine Sonika. But what's that she hears?

Excerpt:

There was a shadow on the rooftop right above her. No, it couldn't be.

"Of course it is," an unfamiliar

voice said, though she hadn't uttered a single word aloud.

An equally unfamiliar face popped out over the edge of the building, a big grin nearly obscuring the fluffy white beard. "Merry Christmas, Sonika."

She frowned. "Do I know you, sir?" And more precisely, was he a confederate of Jasper's whom she wasn't aware of?

"Nope, I don't know Jasper," the fellow said, again as though she had said something aloud. "Didn't know his dad, either. But I know you. And I knew your parents, Sounder and Velocity."

What? "Who are you?"

"A member of Affinity," the man said, referring to the local league of super-heroes. "That's where I met them. Hold on, let me come down."

In a twinkle and a flash, the man disappeared from the rooftop and appeared in front of her.

She stared at him. Whoever this guy was, he wasn't exactly tall; he was barely half her size, and his beard and silver hair almost, but not quite, hid the pointed ears. And whoever he was, he had the merriest eyes she'd ever seen. "Who are you?"

He grinned again, his reddened cheeks practically glowing in the dim light. "I go by a lot of names. So does the devil, come to think of it, but none of his are mine. And I'm not an active member of Affinity, because my powers are strongest only one day a year, so I'm only listed as a backup."

"I like the red suit," she said. "It's pretty festive."

"And appropriate for this time of year," he added. "I mostly wear aloha shirts, so it's a nice change of pace."

There was that clapping sound up on the rooftop again. "My assistants," the red-suited fellow explained.

"They're getting restless. We have some errands to run. We can't stay long."—**Both on sale NOW!**

UPCOMING RELEASES

- May 1, 2014: *His Wicked Smile* (Redcakes #3) by Heather
- August 2014: *His Kidnapped Bride* (Redcakes 3.5) by Heather
- September 2014: *Dreaming Beauty* by Eilis
- November 2014: *Christmas in the Sea* (Redcakes #4) by Heather