

COFFEE ON SUNDAYS



The Newsletter for Heather Hiestand, Eilis Flynn, and Anh Leod

FEBRUARY 2009

February's Fine!

Happy New(ish) Year! Heather/Anh and Eilis are working their little fingers to the bone(s), writing their hearts out. At least once in a while, they see something for all their troubles: Their work comes out! This time it's "Ex Factor" by Anh Leod, a spicy novella about how some memories are hard to shake.

And Anh's alter ego, Heather Hiestand, had her first print novel, *Cards Never Lie*, become available on Amazon.com. Go take a look. For all

those people who claimed that books weren't real if they weren't available in print, guess what? It's real! (Go buy it!)

As for Eilis, she had a pleasant surprise at the end of the year. In late December 2008 she got word that an essay she wrote, "Two Worlds, United by Anime," back in 2004, had been published in a compilation titled *Japanification of Children's Popular Culture*, edited by Mark I. West. This work is made up of contributors, both academic and non-, examining how Japanese popular culture has made inroads in children's entertainment in the US and elsewhere with the rising popularity of *manga* (Japanese comic books) and *anime* (Japanese cartoons) and more (Godzilla!). Eilis was particularly honored when Mark, who is professor of children's literature at the University of North Carolina and spouse of Eilis's longtime friend Nancy Northcott, asked her to contribute. And of course, everything Eilis has written or even drawn since she was a kid has been influenced by *manga* and *anime* (and Godzilla!), so it was very appropriate.

Eilis also had an article published in the November 2008 issue of *Romance Writers Report* titled "Snappy Comebacks," about the responses various romance writers have made when someone made a derogatory remark about what they write. This article came about when, during a conversation on the same subject, Eilis was reminded about her own retorts when an old friend made a remark she didn't particularly care for about her choice of writing, and a comment that a comic book writer made to her about romance novels. And when an old high school classmate

ON SALE NOW

HEATHER HIESTAND

Cerridwen Press:

- *Cards Never Lie* (print and ebook)
- *One Juror Down*
- *Gunshot Grange*
- *Two On The Hunt*
- *In Flight*

Romance at Heart:

- *Looking Forward, Looking Back And Other Stories*

EILIS FLYNN

Cerridwen Press (novels):

- *The Sleeper Awakes*
- *Festival of Stars*
- *Introducing Sonika*

Graphic novella:

- "30-Day Guarantee" (myromancestory.com)

Nonfiction articles:

- "Snappy Comebacks" (*RWR* 11/08)
- "Two Worlds, United By Anime" (*Japanification of Children's Popular Culture*, Scarecrow Press)

ANH LEOD

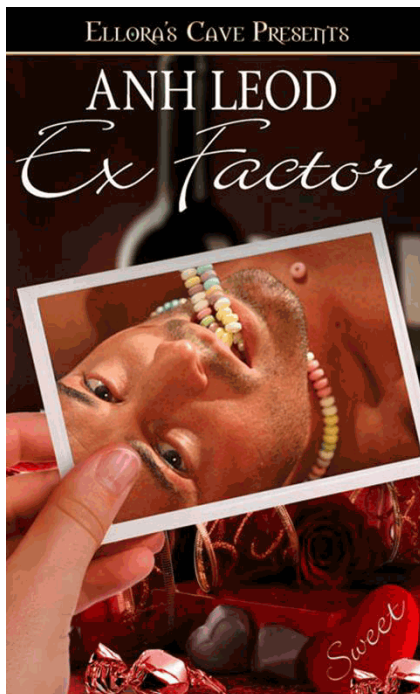
Ellora's Cave:

- "Lucky Number Seven"
- "Aphrodite's Necklace"
- "Bijou's Bonds"
- *Recreating John Doe*
- *Claudia's Pleasure*
- *Cherokee's Playmates*
- *Ex-Factor*



UPCOMING RELEASES

- Late 2009: *Echoes Of Passion* by Eilis Flynn (tentative)
- Late 2009: *Romancing The Dragon* anthology, "Someone to Believe in," novella by Eilis Flynn (tentative)
- Late 2009: "Trading Terms" by Eilis Flynn (tentative)
- 2009: *Aromatherapy To Go* by Heather Hiestand (Lotus Circle)
- Early 2010: "Dragon's Lantern," short story by Eilis Flynn (tentative)



Line: Aeon

Length: Novella

ISBN: 9781419919251

Price: \$4.45 (digital)

Availability: Electronic format.

Purchase and download your copies at <http://www.jasminejade.com/p-6861-ex-factor.aspx>.

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February's Fine!, CONTINUED

made a similar comment when they bumped into each other on the street. And when...anyway, there have been many rude comments over the years. She had fun writing the article, and marveled at how creative the responses were. And of course, how rude people can be!

And now, here's something from *Ex Factor*...

Can you go home again? Columbo Balbane still misses his ex, even though he's far away from her, transporting cargo around the solar system. He's still in love...and in lust.

Teasy Rose never told Columbo she's a witch. In the 10 months since their relationship ended, she's decided to stop living without magic. She's sold her candy shop and founded Ex Factor, a facility where people simulate last meetings with old lovers. Spells help her impersonate other people's exes and now Columbo has set up an appointment with her, without knowing it's the real Teasy.

Is she ready for closure? If not, can he live with the consequences of her lifestyle change, particularly in a time when witches are outlaws?

Excerpt from *Ex Factor* Chapter One

March, 2310. Terminal 132, Earth

The protesters were out again, the dirty, blue-haired witches demanding equal rights in the free markets. They didn't realize "free" had no meaning in relation to them. Columbo Balbane ignored the noise from their shouts, his muscles straining, sweat dampening his shirt despite the late winter cold enhanced by the icy air coming off the river where the public dock was located.

The mega-ship where he was enlisted as First Shipper hovered above the river, its only touch point a gangway leaning at a thirty degree angle to link it to the cargo hold. Smoke still hung in the air from the warehouses in the shipping compound that the witches had burnt using fire spells. He pulled his overloaded hand truck backward, its heavy cargo too rare and expensive to trust to the automated system moving most of the edible cargo bound for the Jupiter system. Everything was jury-rigged thanks to the witches destroying their usual docking point.

A creaking noise in his elbow told Columbo he

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Featuring Eilis Flynn and Heather Hiestand

For more information, see

www.heatherhiestand.com

www.eilisflynn.com

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needed to take a short break. He leaned the hand truck back against his belly and caught his breath, his arms wrapped protectively around the topmost box, the one containing fresh cherries for the European governor. The other boxes held parts needed for refurbishing oxygen generators.

He spotted a Shipper Assistant at the top of the gangway, his mouth hanging open with shock at the sight of the witch protestors below. Witches were a common sight on this planet but Gort hailed from Mars.

"Take this for me!" Columbo called.

The younger man trotted down the gangway, his eyes wide on his freckled face. "You're the only one allowed to touch those."

Columbo glanced at the signs hovering above the blue heads. There must be twenty or more of the cursed mutants, wasting their time demanding rights Earth wouldn't give them. The protester's signs shimmered with magic, giving them the effect of neon.

Free trade, one of them begged in bright orange sparkles. *Sell not smuggle, we'll pay the taxes!* announced a sign with meter-high script above an elder's head. Columbo was amused to see witch hair went white with time, just like that of humans without the witch defect. It had come out of a genetic mutation in the United States a good three hundred years before. Some said the mutants were a military experiment gone wrong but with the country long since imploded into five or six smaller countries, who could say? The records were long lost on some outdated storage device if they had survived the second and third Civil Wars at all.

"Are you blind? Who knows what these witches will do next," Columbo snarled. "Get this into the hold. I have to see what's left on the dock."

Available at EllorasCave.com!



APPEARANCES (TENTATIVE)

Eilis Flynn:

- "Writing for the Long Haul," January 20, 2009, <http://terryodell.blogspot.com>
- "Watching," Jenyfer Matthews' blog, February 20, 2009, <http://jenyfermatthews.blogspot.com>
- Celebrate Romance! convention, February 28–March 1, 2009, Portland, OR
- "Because It Makes Me Happy," PASIC blog, March 17, 2009
- Rose City Romance Writers Readers' Luncheon, April 18, 2009, Portland, OR
- Romance Writers of America National Conference, July 15–19, 2009, Washington, DC
- Emerald City Writers Conference, October 9–11, 2009, Bellevue, WA

Heather Hiestand/Anh Leod:

- Check back soon!

Got a question? Drop us a line at eilisflynn@aol.com or heather@heatherhiestand.com. Maybe we'll have an answer! What we don't know we'll gladly make up. ☕ Next month we will be telling you what we have in store for the coming months.