

The Newsletter for
Heather Hiestand,
Eilis Flynn, and Anh Leod
Featuring Eilis Flynn and
Heather Hiestand. For more
information, see
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Shorts for Halloween!

It's time for shorts, folks! No, not that kind. In the contiguous 48, it's getting chilly (and depending on where you are, windy and rainy), so definitely not those kinds of shorts! No, not only do Heather and Eilis have the prequel novella to WEAR BLACK available on Amazon, Eilis has a short story sequel to INTRODUCING SONIKA available at most online retailers!

In "Halloween for a Heroine," Sonya Penn, who's reentered her family business as a super-heroine, is on her first Halloween patrol...and finds that there's a good reason the night has a reputation. Not only does she run into a gorilla wandering down the streets of Mission Mercy holding a map—upside down—she thwarts a mugging, only to find that a bride of Frankenstein is perfectly capable of doing so herself. Eilis had a lot of fun with this one, because she not only got to write a new Sonika adventure (the first since 2001!), it's a Halloween story, and those are always fun. You can find it for only \$0.99 at <http://www.amazon.com/Halloween-for-a-Heroine-ebook/dp/B00FJOBPPG> (among other retailers)!

And in honor of Halloween, Heather and Eilis are proud to announce the prequel novella to WEAR BLACK, "Dancing in Red"! Just in case you wondered about Nellie Clifton and how she got to be the lead assassin for An Tighearn, we figured letting you into the secret of her origins would be entirely appropriate for the season. In this novella, we find out about Nellie's earlier years, the decisions that led to her traveling from Ireland to England—and how she met the enigmatic and brilliant Dr. Cian O'Connor and his wife, who both had so much to do with her transformation. It's available at Amazon for only \$0.99 at <http://www.amazon.com/Dancing-Wear-Black-novella-ebook/dp/B00FP13YIO>

In other news, Heather and Eilis are busily getting ready for their individual workshops for the Emerald City Writers'

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*
- *A Taste of Scandal (soon!)*

EILIS FLYNN

- *The Sleeper Awakes*
- *Festival of Stars*
- *Introducing Sonika*
- *Echoes of Passion*
- *The Riddle of Ryu*
- *Static Shock*
- "Halloween for a Heroine"
- "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"
- *Seven Seconds (soon!)*

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

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

Conference at the Bellevue Westin hotel in Bellevue, WA! Heather is conducting a workshop on “Regency to Victorian: Deciphering Nineteenth-Century England,” while Eilis is putting together her own workshop, on the secrets of the smirking editor. Because editors smirk, but not because of their work. Why do they smirk? Eilis will spill the beans! (Did you know Eilis is a professional copy editor with 35 years’ experience? She takes private clients, so contact us if you need assistance!)

And for those of you who can’t wait for the next Redcakes story (early December!), Heather will be on a blog tour to talk about the series starting in November 5! Specific dates will be announced soon, so stay tuned.

Here are some snippets from both stories:

Dancing in Red

Chapter 1: The Prettiest Wren

July 27, 1861 Kildare, Ireland

“It is rather ironic. He has all the money in the world. Everyone wants to meet him, yet, despite the charm, he’s the most inexperienced lad you’ll ever meet.” The next sentence out of the soldier’s mouth disappeared as he pulled his stool closer.

Look at me! Nellie Clifton wanted to shout to the subaltern. If there was a new soldier with wealth and charm, she wanted to meet him. She hadn’t come to the Curragh intending to settle in for the rest of her life. Most of the girls here lasted less than a decade. The smarter ones came just for the summer, leaving before the snows. That way, the

experience felt like more of a lark and less like work.

“I can’t imagine how Her Majesty thinks he’s going to be able to command a battalion by August. Why, I couldn’t do it,” said another subaltern, who looked a couple of years younger than the first one who’d spoken. This lad hadn’t even tried to grow a mustache. “Could you, Mills?”

“He’s the Prince of Wales, not an ordinary man,” said Mills. He lifted his arm and waved a hand at the barmaid, demanding another round.

It seemed all the action in the room slowed as Nellie heard that comment. Sure, she’d heard rumors that the prince had been at the Curragh since last month, but no one had seen him. She made her move as the barmaid arrived with a fresh pitcher, swinging her hips under her thin cotton gown. If she could land a prince as her protector, perhaps she could earn enough to keep her young sister Dulsine from this life.

Nellie, after all, had plans. She didn’t want to be a barmaid any more than she wanted to be a wren. Well, you did what you had to. “Hello, boys,” she said in her naturally low-pitched voice. She let her thick curly black hair slide down one arm, provocatively.

Halloween for a Heroine

For cops, paramedics, and super-heroes alike, Halloween was prime time for bizarre activity, especially with a clear night sky. The moon was waning—thank heavens for small favors—but the crescent moon emitted enough light for Sonika, the city of Morrissey’s latest super-heroine,

to be hyper vigilant on patrol.

Autumn had arrived kicking and screaming that year, but by the time the end of October revealed itself, the weather had turned cold but dry, perfect conditions for All Hallow’s Eve and the influx of drunken partygoers passing through the Mission Mercy district.

Sonika had to have passed more than fifty costumed partiers in her first fifteen minutes on patrol, her very first October 31st patrol as a super-hero. Growing up with her parents, the super-heroes Sounder and Velocity, she had had dreams of keeping the city safe from muggers and thugs and even super-villains in the family tradition, but right now...right now, she just had to keep it safe from drunks

While she could have gotten a good look at the neighborhood from the rooftops, she liked to keep close to the ground. Details could be lost from up too far, she knew, and also lost if she were too near. Although in this case, she would have been happy to not see too much. Halloween was turning out to be an interesting experience.

—***Both on sale NOW!***

UPCOMING RELEASES

- December 5, 2013: *A Taste of Scandal* by Heather (Redcakes #2)
- Early 2014: “Violet Falling Snow” by Eilis (a Kurit story)
- April 2014: *His Wicked Smile* (Redcakes #3) by Heather
- 2014: *Dreaming Beauty* by Eilis
- August 2014: *His Kidnapped Bride* (Redcakes 3.5) by Heather
- November 2014: “Christmas in the Rain” (a Sonika adventure) by Eilis
- November 2014: *Christmas in the Sea* (Redcakes #4) by Heather