My Stories Part Five

An Essay

By Maryanne Peters

I have received positive feedback on my essays about backgrounds to some of my material, so here is the next instalment. What I am trying to do is to describe some of the thoughts and circumstances that have brought about the stories that I hope you love to read.

1. “Searching” is also a story that has sat around for a bit, basically the concept of a father who believes that his son has become a gay prostitute and who trawls red light districts looking for him. I had intended that to be a story of parental love, but he somehow became a less positive character – or maybe I misjudge him? It is interesting that it seems that I do not create characters so much as they form when I start to tell their stories.
2. “Marrying the Cop” is a story straight from one of my short tales inspired by a captioned image. The images of a true life before and after were a further inspiration. I was urged by a favorite patron, to take this into a darker space, and as I said in the footnote, I complied.
3. In my note to “Making a Scene” I described this story as an overnight idea. I just woke up and went to my keyboard and rattled it out. I am not sure if anybody out there knew where I was going with this, but for me it describes all the complexities of a male friendship thrown into disarray when one transitions. Mac wants to be a loyal friend and help Ghiselle find happiness, but he desires her too. Ollie has decided to wait. I have said before that I think that a short story should end with a question mark.
4. As I said in my September update, “Cruelty” just came out of a simple gay-man-falls-for-straight-guy premise. I found some images to match the story only after I decided that the storyteller should be a chef. Somehow that occupation seemed to allow for all the unlikelihood of the story.
5. “Matching Maids” My friend once known as Tiffany is the fertile imagination behind all of those wonderful captioned images published as Tiffany, Julie, Mandy, Jennifer and Lisa, on a series of blog sites and also appearing on Pinterest. On top of that Lisa sent me suggestions for several stories including this one and also “Bridal Choices” covered in my last run down, and this next one …
6. “You Wear It” was the third idea from Lisa (as she was then known). I followed her directions as best I could, but made it work in its own unique way (I hope).
7. I have read some books on slavery so I was keen to build on the castrated boy slave that gave birth to “Passing for White” but then, while looking for photos of women of the time I came upon the story of Adah Isaacs Menken and I ended up fully engaged in that. History is full of weird tales of very unique people.
8. I wrote a short inspired by a captioned image also called “The Forensic Accountant” and posted it on Fictionmania, but even then I felt that it was deserving of a longer story. I ended up sticking with the tale I spun but adding more a little more detail. There are others like this to be looked for.
9. “She Wanted a Daughter 2” is another story based on a cap extension being one of those written for John. I felt that there was a larger story to be told, even if only just a little bit more.
10. I wrote the first half of “Jonni” as a stand-alone story on Fictionmania, but you might agree that the lead character was interesting enough to demand a longer story, which is just available to my patrons.
11. “The Poet”. After I wrote this, I heard that there is yet another movie out there which is based on the French story of Cyrano de Bergerac, but I am sure that it does not have the TG twist in this story.
12. Sometimes I get angry, and I know that is the testosterone in me. I can feel it boiling. It is not really me, but it is. I just wish in wasn’t. Anyway, “Butch” arose from that mood. I thanked a reviewer, but that was really about her reminding me that my stories tend deny that every one of my heroes who accept their feminine future, must be transgender, and have suppressed it. Here is a story of deliberate suppression, which is most unfeminine.
13. I know a little about OCD, which can be a crippling thing. I said in my note to “Obsession” that “Sometimes I like getting into the heads of strange people to write my stories.  I think that seeing things from an irregular perspective can be interesting.”
14. My patron Ashley seems to be full of good ideas, and she is wonderfully supportive (and gorgeous – check out her Patreon page). She outlined the story that grew into “The Right Guy” and this flowed out, with our transitioner ending up stealing the boyfriend.
15. I think that I may have written about “The Forensic Accountant” before, but I really like this premise, and also the character that has evolved. I could not resist the cost-benefit analysis when faced with her man’s proposal.
16. That last story and “House Spouse” were reworkings of captioned image inspirations. The original “Trading Places” was published on Fictionmania and generated some criticism of the characters and their behavior. But this enlarged tale is just for Patreon.
17. “A Special Kind of Revenge” is very short, and again arose out a captioned image that I will cover in a bundle with some explicit images. Patrons will note that I generally avoid forced feminization, which is a form of rape. But I suppose that I am exploring what you want to see from me next.
18. “Summer Intern” is yet another idea from Lisa. I decided to tell the story from the perspective of the boss’s niece who effects the transformation.
19. I described “Compelled” as me in a nutshell, and it helps that the image is of a woman who looks more like me than my image with my lovely flip hairdo.
20. In my footnote to “Orphans” I told how I came across the strange video, which got me wondering why a grandmother might dress a boy like that. The time period with the loss of life and general dislocation in Europe just drove some more ideas.
21. “Technology Malfunction” was a submission to a contest on just that subject, but it failed to place. I think that the judges found the relationship between the two men to be less believable than the outcome, but I enjoyed the idea of a man searching for a pure body form without feeling or emotion being turned into the very opposite of what he wanted to be.
22. I am always looking for suggestions, and I just loved Jane W’s idea for “Bond Girl”. I watched the movie again by way of research – hilarious!
23. I had an idea about two guys working together working a practical joke, and that gave rise to “Making Changes”.
24. “Muse” was inspired by all the androgynous models out there – no surprises there.
25. Again, a patron suggested the idea for “A Sicario Returns”. As I said in the note, I initially sent back a message to Wendy to the effect that I still needed a plausible explanation for why the DEA agent needed to dress as a woman, but then I got to thinking, and tis was the result.
26. I am not sure where “Laundromat” came from. I think it reads like it emerged from my head – just a flight of fancy with a bit of raunchy sex. Is that the kind of story that you like?
27. People might guess that I am keen on odd bits of history. Stories inspired by real events include “Sporus”, “La Chevaliere” and now “The Governess”. The characters are real from the early days of the City of New York.
28. “Clothes” was a story that came out of a suggestion I received a month or so ago from somebody called Dave. It looks like he is not a patron or a regular reviewer of my stuff on Fictionmania. Who are you Dave? Anyway, it is not particularly novel, but thank you for the idea.
29. I saw a movie about a health retreat in the Alps which inspired “Swiss Clinic” and I just needed a back story to place the subject in the circumstance.
30. Somebody in conversation used the phrase “gender fluid”, and the story “Gender Flow” popped into my head. It just happens sometimes.

I hope that you enjoy a little more background on how I write my stories, but please remember that the key ingredients for creativity are ideas and encouragement. I expect my patrons to give me a little of both.

Maryanne