

## Writing Sample – Romantic Fantasy

### The Healer's Assistant and Her Informant

Lacy sat in the hole, scared for her life as the behemoth outside stomped around. He looked inside the hole and made a large smile.

“There you are my little precious.” Jason said.

Lacy scrambled out of the hole and clasped her hands around Jason’s gigantic arm, “I thought another claychon had come.”

Jason patted her on the back, “Nope, it was just me.”

Jason gingerly picked her up and brought her close for a kiss. She gave him a small peck on the mouth, giggling as she smiled into his large eyes.

“So what news Jason?” Lacy asked.

“The claychon are moving towards the Clark Empire. I’d say with a force of around five hundred and they’re all travelling by foot.” Jason said, “They’re entirely skipping your father’s kingdom.”

Lacy squealed with joy, “Okay, then I have some news for you.”

Jason raised an eyebrow, “New for me?”

Lacy smiled, “Yes, I have some news for you my love.”

Jason waited until he began to hear rustling within the trees. Soldiers came out and shot out harpoons as Jason began to back up. He roared as the harpoons lined with metal wires wrapped around his body.

“What is the meaning of this?!” Jason bellowed.

Lacy walked up to the behemoth as he writhed beneath the new restraints. She smiled gently as she carefully placed a hand on his arm.

“My love, you have been accepted into the kingdom.” She said softly.

Jason glared down at her, “You call this acceptance?”

Lacy laughed nervously, “How else are we supposed to get you through the front door without panic?”

Jason calmed down as he thought about what she said. As much as he disliked the situation, he knew that Lacy was right. If he had entered into the kingdom in any other fashion there would have been panic among the people who had no idea of his existence.

Jason relaxed his arms and let them load him on to the cart. He knew that this was either an execution or a welcome into the kingdom. Either way, there was nothing he could do about it now.

“You *are* okay, right?” Lacy asked.

Jason stayed silent as the cart began moving out of the forest. The kingdom was just a few miles from here and he didn’t feel like talking to the woman who had just willingly chained up to a cart bed. A long silence held over them for the first mile before Lacy climbed up on the cart to look at Jason in the eyes. It wasn’t long before he tried to avoid her gaze but she simply followed his eyes.

Jason couldn’t help but smile as she consistently followed his gaze, “Look here.”

Lacy poked a finger into his chest, “No. You wanted into the kingdom and I knew you wouldn’t have any other way in except this. I know I didn’t tell you and I hope you’ll forgive me.”

Suddenly, the sound of metal clashing could be heard as they moved their way towards the kingdom. Jason struggled to see what had happened but by the look on Lacy’s face, the information he had for her may have been false as the color left her rosy cheeks completely.

Lacy began to fiddle with the metallic ropes, frantically trying to free him before the guards changed their minds about what their intentions would be before they got to the kingdom but she was two late as two of the men yanked her off of Jason.

“Let go of me! He can get rid of them!” Lacy screamed.

The captain was next to his ear when he began talking, “That may be the case but he fed us false information. Until we can judge him, he must be imprisoned.”

Just as the captain finished talking, a claychon came into Jason’s view. Its tentacles lashing out as the nine heads began to bury themselves into the ground. The screams of the men being sucked underneath sent a chill down Jason’s spine and among the screams he heard Lacy cry out in pain as something snapped. Jason bulged his muscles and the metallic ropes snapped like string as he yanked himself off of the cart.

His hand instinctively caught a head as it came out of the ground towards Lacy and he ripped the claychon out of the ground. Its plant like body writhed as it was forcibly pulled to the surface.

Jason lowered his head and used his horns to impale the claychon, which fell to the ground in a sickening thump. He lowered his hand down for Lacy to get on but she was stuck as her leg was twisted in the opposite way from falling. Jason’s heart cringed as he watched the blood slowly leave her body and he picked her up from the ground gently, placing her between his hands as he bolted towards the kingdom doors.

“Hold on. We’re almost there.” Jason said as he took the hand that was covering her to yank a claychon off of the bridge door.

The men there screamed but some of them were so frightened that they could hardly move, which made Jason glad as he lowered Lacy towards them.

“Take her to the healer. She was protecting the caravan that left earlier. She doesn’t have much time.”

The men seemed to come to their senses and grabbed Lacy as she came into arms reach. One of the men looked out at the battlefield but Jason shook his head.

“Just take her to the healer and I will worry about the claychon.” Jason said as he turned around to the field which was littered with the savage plant creatures.

The men rushed behind the gate as the doors came to a close and helped Lacy on to a gurney. The pain that was writhing through her body was something she could no longer feel but the pain of watching Jason leave as the gate closed made her heart sear with agony.

The men hurried along the city streets as the frontline healer was stationed near the entrance for wounded soldiers. The world seemed to spin around Lacy and all of her thoughts were dedicated towards worrying about Jason, even though she knew she was inches away from death.

“What happened to her?” The healer asked, “Why has the Grand Healer’s assistant sustained such damage?”

“The behemoth carried her to the front gates. Apparently she had left in secret with the caravan that left into the forest just before the battle. She’s the sole survivor.” One of the men said.

Just then, an explosion of fire came from overhead as a roar that made everyone stumble blasted through the kingdom. A dragon had landed on the wall and was now looking down at a defenseless city as the claychon fought the military’s forces just outside.

“We need to move people.” The healer said, “Fall back to the second city.”

Lacy heard gunfire from the security detail surrounding the healing unit but the dragon seemed to ignore them, heading straight for the wounded people. Just then Jason jumped over the wall as the dragon was only a few feet away overhead, grabbing the dragon’s throat and yanking it back towards the wall. Lacy’s worried thoughts multiplied as she watched Jason fight to hold the dragon down and against the kingdom wall.

Just as it looked as if though Jason might win against the dragon, Lacy heard the distinct sound of missiles being fired over head and watched the bunker bombs hit the backside of the dragon in a cloud of fiery smoke. Lacy tried to get up to call for Jason but the healer shoved her back on the gurney. Lacy watched in anticipation as the smoke began to clear.

Jason was leaning against the wall with blood coming out of his forehead and the military's security detail began to surround him. Lacy knew that unless a miracle happened, everyone's savior would be executed. Lacy struggled to get up but the lack of blood forced her body to stay still. Jason seemed to have regained some form of consciousness as his hand reached out for hers. It took all Lacy had to extend her hand towards his and just before they both passed out, they shared a connected moment over the distance. They could feel each other's love and slipped into the bliss of sleep, but Lacy watched as the dragon got back up.