My Stories: Part Two

An Essay

By Maryanne Peters

A few weeks ago, I posted on Patreon, something about the first 30 stories I have ever published. These were all posted on Fictionmania.tv where I sent everything before I set up my Patreon page. As I said then, I have now posted almost everything that I have posted on that site her on Patreon, some with corrections and new images. Here is where I will post my stories in future, although I plan to use FM and other sites to show a path to me here.

Here are some thoughts on the second 30 stories that I posted on FM:

1. In fact, I knew an angel investor who really only committed because he was attracted to one of the women proponents, but the “The Statue” is really about people who are obsessed with the image of a past loved one. In the end she is disclosed to be an unpleasant person so the the fasciniation seemed purely physical
2. “New Social Order” was a story I had in mind for a long time, and by involving multiple transitions and pairings it became complicated. Ultimately it is a story of survival and how over time, societies form with what they have. Shades of “Lord of the Flies” perhaps.
3. I was so pleased that a FM reviewer said: “You must be a dancer” because of how I wrote of the trans-dance in “Tango”. Well, occasionally. I do love the original (as opposed to Argentinian) Tango best of all dances – the man leads and the woman takes direction but remains strong.
4. For “The Transmogrifier”, the idea of the machine to rectify gender imbalance arose before the idea of slipping the story into a “Star Trek” scenario, but we have the advantage of know the characters so that saves time.
5. “Gypsy Healing” is a pact with the devil sort of story, so it is about as close to magic as I get, but spontaneous remission does happen, so it is not wholly unrealistic (or so I posit).
6. One of my personal favorites is “Bait”, which is a forced feminization and genital mutilation which was apparently sufficiently Nabakovian to sneak through Patreon’s Trust and Safety net. This may reappear as a graphic story sometime soon, I hope.
7. “Births Deaths and Marriages” is another of my favorites, mainly because the character just evolved as a I wrote. I added the last sentence only because by the end I didn’t like him/her very much and thought that there should at least be the possibility that the crimes might be uncovered.
8. It only took a few hours to write “Too Convincing”. The “Change of plan” ending came out of nowhere, but I really like it. It turns a simple story into something truly romantic, I think. What do you think?
9. I always avoided the hackneyed wife-turns-husband-into-woman storyline, so in trying to think of a new angle I came up with “Mangina”. I like it as a story, as I think it creates novel situations for the subject of the story.
10. “All Grown Out” is another hair story. I am going to publish a long hair compilation one day.
11. “Daniel Defoe’s Girl Friday”. Correct me if I am wrong, but I think that this is one of the earliest novels in the English language and it is a great yarn, even now. Basically, I just took chapters from original and reworked them as a TG story trying hard to keep that 17th century language in the re-work.
12. “Witches”: I had fun writing this one because it involved inventing a belief system that is a bit wiccan and a bit “The White Goddess” / “The Golden Bough”. I think that is a good story, but maybe not so well received. I am toying with the idea of a spinoff.
13. “Immersion” takes me back to a University course I attended. At almost 6,000 words it is one of my longer short stories. It was very well received on FM and several said that it was a story they returned to again and again. I am not sure that a sequel is apt, but I suppose this story could be expanded. In doing that, I would never approve of “padding it out.”
14. “The Scholarship” is a boy-goes-to-all-girls-school story. It is a device that has been used by others, but as it is about transitioning in youth it has such potential that I had to consider my our attempt at it.
15. The idea set out in “Sprung” had been in my head for a while before I sat down and wrote the first 2,500 words. I really had no idea how it was going to end when I came back to it. But, as you probably all realize, I am a sentimentalist and a shameless romantic.
16. “Voice” is about a male soprano, which is a voice with a tone all of its own, perhaps because it is such a fleeting thing. People may not be aware that great music like Mozart’s “Exultate Jubilate” was written for a castrated male singer. But I love rock music as well as classical, as this story may show.
17. “Fishing Trip” is a voluntary transition tale, told from the perspective of a friend with other friends of the pre-transition colleague contributing. There could be more to the scene before her arrival perhaps, but I could not wait for her to be there, with her old pals.
18. One of my favorite very short stories is “Mirror Talk”, mainly because of the conflicted nature of the subject. She does not really hate him at all, although she should. I hope that in the end we feel that she is not only fulfilled, but she is also in control.
19. “Specialist Nanny” is another personal favorite, and the origin of this story is told in the note to it. This story was well received on FM although some felt that it could have been longer. That might be true. Thoughts?
20. “Duty Demands”. In my search for novel scenarios that could see a “normal man” fully transitioned into a woman and a wife, I worked on the notion of duty as explored in my first story “Zoran” and later in “The Guardian”. This story is about the power of duty to force change, and power of love to welcome it.
21. The basic plot for “Molly Grows Up” was one of my first, but again at over 6,000 words it was not finished in a single sitting. Among some readers on FM there was dissatisfaction with the end, that Albert should have succumbed himself having been so forceful throughout, but it is just that I feel that he needed to suffer a befitting fate.
22. The story behind “Our Mate Diane” is rooted in fact, as explained in the footnote to this tale.
23. I understand that there may be another TG SAS story out there, but that had nothing to do with “Squaddie”. I was just surprised that the SAS could do their urban infiltration work without women. I think that this is my first (maybe only) action story, so forgive me if those elements are clumsy. Somebody has suggested that: “you are at your best when you have inner monologues or statements of realization with characters”. Are they right?
24. I had been in France just before writing “Partners” so just wanted to incorporate a glass or two of wine into my next story. This one flowed out just as easily as a good bottle should.
25. “The Bedsit” is a slightly strange one, and as I said in my note, has no link to Polanski’s “The Tenant” which I have still not seen. Maybe it comes a bit close to magic? If anything, it was inspired by a call centre person who I met on a long-haul flight, who was talking about all the different accents and intonations that can be effective selling tools. He was British so I guess this story is based there. A few around this time were, as I was travelling.
26. “Underage” is a very simple story, and it arose from a newspaper article about a boy passing himself off as his sister to get into an age-restricted movie.
27. I like the story in “Devotee” because it gave me a chance to delve into Indian Mysticism. The idea of “shakti” within the male psyche is a real thing. I remember seeing a show on TV about a young husband and father taking a pilgrimage as a woman, in worship.
28. Some reviewers on FM called “In Mother’s Place” my best story (to that point anyway). I was a little worried about the incest thing, which is not something that I am comfortable with, but was the essence of this story.
29. I had an idea for a triple transition in a forced environment but with co-operative support for transition, and the made for a fairly big story. I was intending to write a plan but “Cambiaro Island” just appeared on the page. Sometimes that happens. I have thought about going back to that longer story, but I feel it is complete now.
30. Again, in the search for total novelty I came up with the justification for a normal heterosexual male agreeing to a complete sex change as explained in “The Leap”, and then learning to adjust. I actually started a sequel to this story, to show just how well she had accepted a new life, but I wonder if it really has value?

As I have said, here and elsewhere, I really appreciate comments on my work. I suppose that my inviting you to have another look at my past stories is a way of provoking that. So, I would really appreciate hearing from you with any comments.

Maryanne