

Glowfic guide compendium

For user-written glowfic guides and glowfic reading lists. If you add a chapter, please add it to the table of contents. The table of contents also contains guides elsewhere on the wiki.

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Table of Contents

This compendium includes:

- [Clover's newbie-friendly reading list](#)
 - Contains a quick explanation of "what the heck is glowfic" and a reading list written to be accessible to people with no prior experience with glowfic.

Reading lists elsewhere on the wiki:

- [fulmination reading orders](#)
 - Contains thread links, summaries, warnings, and assorted meta data, plus reading order, for the Fulmination continuity between ChaosMagic, Decima, and Diaeresis.
- [fulmination recs](#)
 - WIP, which goes more into what 'moods' the different threads fill than the reading orders. Will eventually include non-Fulmination threads about the major characters in fulmination.
- [lightning peal index](#)
 - Reading order specifically for the complicated mess that is the lightning peal (*mixed with the lightning of slaughter* and its related threads)

Meta note: When adding chapters to the compendium, please include your name in the chapter title (e.g., "[Username]'s guide"). Ideally, also include in the Table of Contents a brief description of what it contains. Please keep things alphabetical.

Clover's newbie-friendly reading list

Real quick glowfic 101

What is glowfic?

Glowfic is a genre of webfiction! It's a cross between a text roleplay and a coauthored story. It started as a collaboration by a couple of writers, Alicorn and Kappa, on dreamwidth; now it has [its own website](#), called "the Constellation."

If you want more information, here's the [community guide to glowfic](#) and the [wiki glossary](#).

There's an awful lot of glowfic and no obvious way to tell which things are prerequisite for which other things! Where do I start?

If you just want a single generic rec: Start with [in color](#) by Alicorn and lintamande. It was the first glowfic I (and a lot of other people) read and requires basically no background. If you want you can read [this](#) setting explanation first.

If there are specific themes you're interested in reading about, or if you want something pretty short: you can take [this uquiz](#) to recommend you a starter glowfic.

If you want a list of options: Check out the [newbie-friendly reading list](#) on the next page of this guide.

What if I want to read things by a specific author, or involving a specific character?

You can go to their author page (respectively, character page) on the Constellation and choose from their list of threads or continuities. You can also enter, for example, [author="Alicorn"] into the wiki search bar to find wiki pages for glowfic written by Alicorn.

Reading list

A list of glowfic I recommend, in what I think is a basically reasonable reading order.

- Purple = highly recommended
- Reading time = time it took me to read, for those where I kept track.
- Spoiler warnings are not thorough. I have basically included spoiler warnings for things I personally would have wanted to be warned about.
- Nothing listed is more than mildly NSFW.
- This list was written in 2019-2020. I am not planning to update it.

Easy stuff to start with:

- [in color](#) (Sandbox) - Alicorn, lintamande
 - Prerequisites: optionally, [this setting description](#)
 - Reading time: ~days
 - [Wiki link](#)
- [i've got a list of names](#) (Sandbox) - Alicorn, lintamande
 - Prerequisites: [in color](#); possibly benefits from having read Silmaril first but I didn't and it was fine
 - Reading time: ~days
 - [Wiki link](#)
- [with the time that is given us](#) (Continuity) - apprenticebard, lintamande
 - Prerequisites: none
 - Reading time: ~days
 - Moderate spoilers for early Buffy (don't remember if season 1 or 2)
 - I read this before watching Buffy and kinda wished I'd done it in the other order
 - [Wiki link](#)
- [while there's still evil afoot](#) (Sandbox) - apprenticebard, lintamande
 - Prerequisites: [with the time that is given us](#)
 - [Wiki link](#)

Where it all began:

- [Luminosity and Radiance](#) (Fanfic) - Alicorn
 - Prerequisites: none (not even Twilight)
 - This is not a glowfic, but it's very good and it's what the foundational glowfic, Effulgence, is based off of
- [Effulgence](#) (Continuity) up to subcontinuity "will you marry me" - Alicorn, Kappa
 - Reading time: a month (it will eat your life)
 - Major spoilers for Ender's Game
 - [Wiki link](#)

More Effulgence please:

- [catch without release](#) (subcontinuity of Effulgence) - Alicorn, Kappa
 - Prerequisites: none
 - Reading time: < an hour

- [like a thief in the day](#) (Sandbox) - Alicorn, lintamande
 - Prerequisites: [in color](#), [catch without release](#)
 - Reading time: a couple hours
 - [Wiki link](#)
- [in spite of a nail](#) (Sandbox) - Alicorn, Kappa
 - Prerequisites: Effulgence up through “they bite”
 - Reading time: ~half an hour
 - [Wiki link](#)
- [the prime directive](#) (subcontinuity of Effulgence) - Alicorn, Kappa
 - Prerequisites: none
 - Reading time: hours
- [an art project](#) (subcontinuity of Effulgence) - Alicorn, Kappa
 - Prerequisites: none
 - Major spoilers for the Vorkosigan Saga up through “Mirror Dance”
 - I am so serious about the spoilers, I delayed reading this until I'd read the Vorkosigan saga and I'm really glad I did things in that order
- [something that i want](#) (subcontinuity of Effulgence) - Alicorn, Kappa
 - Prerequisites: none
 - Reading time: hours
- [seidr and spear](#) (subcontinuity of Effulgence) - Alicorn, Kappa
 - Prerequisites: none
- [unfashionable tattoo](#) (subcontinuity of Effulgence) - Alicorn, Kappa
 - Prerequisites: none
 - Reading time: half an hour?

Other early Bell continuities:

- [Incandescence](#) (Continuity) - Aestrix, Alicorn
 - Prerequisites: Effulgence up to “truth be told”, plus “unfashionable tattoo”
 - Reading time: a week
 - [Wiki link](#)
 - After you're done, read [this](#) wrap-up post
- [Bluebell Flames](#) (Continuity) - Alicorn, Red
 - Prerequisites: optionally, previous exposure to Bells, e.g. Effulgence
 - Reading time: hours
 - [Wiki link](#)
- [Eclipse](#) (Continuity) - Alicorn, Red
 - Prerequisites: some of Effulgence (optional, for template background)
 - Reading time: days
 - [Wiki link](#)

Long Arda continuities:

- [Elentári](#) (subcontinuity of Silmaril) - Alicorn, lintamande
 - Prerequisites: optionally, [seidr and spear](#)
 - Reading time: a week
 - This is the first, and best standalone, part of Silmaril; it's worth reading on its own
 - [Silmaril wiki link](#)
- [Silmaril](#) (Continuity) - Alicorn, lintamande
 - Prerequisites: details on wiki page; all are optional

- Reading time: over a month (it will eat your life)
- Major spoilers for Puella Magi Madoka Magica in subcontinuity "West"
- If you plan to read Golarion sandboxes (later in this recommendation list), then I recommend delaying reading the subcontinuity Starstone until after you do that
- [Wiki link](#)
- **[if the world can't be saved i'll save it anyway](#)** (Continuity) - lintamande, swimmer963
 - Prerequisites: optionally, [A Song For Two Voices](#) (Fanfic series by swimmer)
 - ASFTV is very long but also very good; if you care about spoilers it's worth reading that first
 - [Wiki link](#)

Golarion:

- **[ask yourself if you could have predicted this](#)** (Sandbox) - lintamande, apprenticebard
 - Prerequisites: none, but benefits from prior exposure to Feanorians and/or Imrainais, e.g. [in color](#) or [with the time that is given us](#)
 - [Wiki link](#)
- **[baubles and bangles](#)** (Sandbox) - lintamande, Alicorn
 - Prerequisites: none, but benefits from prior exposure to Feanorians and/or Isama, e.g. [in color](#)
 - [Wiki link](#)
- **[fascinate](#)** (Sandbox) - lintamande, Alicorn
 - Prerequisites: none, but benefits from prior exposure to Feanorians and/or Rebecca, e.g. [in color](#)
 - [Wiki link](#)
- **[Starstone](#)** (subcontinuity of Silmaril) - lintamande, Alicorn
 - Prerequisites: none
 - [Silmaril wiki link](#)
- **[only that which they defend](#)** (Continuity) - lintamande, swimmer963
 - Prerequisites: preferably at least one thread with lintamande's adventuring party (e.g. [ask yourself if you could have predicted this](#) or [Starstone](#)) and exposure to Vanyel and Leareth (e.g. [A Song For Two Voices](#) or [if the world can't be saved i'll save it anyway](#))
 - [Wiki link](#)
- **[free will was a mistake](#)** (Sandbox) - lintamande, Alicorn, swimmer963
 - Prerequisites: [we know we once were gods](#) (subcontinuity of only that which they defend)
 - [Wiki link](#)
- **[necessities are free](#)** (Sandbox) - lintamande, Alicorn
 - Prerequisites: [lbyabek](#) (short story by Alicorn) and [we know we once were gods](#) (subcontinuity of only that which they defend)
 - [Wiki link](#)

Vampires, demons, and Imrainais:

- **[what you are in the dark](#)** (Sandbox) - apprenticebard, root
 - Prerequisites: preferably, previous exposure to Imrainai/Karen (e.g. [with the time that is given us](#)) and previous exposure to Z (e.g. his [Amenta RP](#) blog, [industrialbruise.tumblr.com](#))
 - Reading time: < half an hour
 - [Wiki link](#)
- **[jealous is the night when the morning comes](#)** (Sandbox) - Alicorn, apprenticebard

- Prerequisites: [what you are in the dark](#), Effulgence up through “raise the stakes,” optionally “[Daevinity](#)” (subcontinuity of Incandescence)
- Reading time: an hour
- Moderate spoilers for Buffy season 2
- [Wiki link](#)
- [every breath you take](#) (Sandbox) - Alicorn, apprenticebard
 - Prerequisites: “[Daevinity](#)” (subcontinuity of Incandescence)
 - Reading time: an hour or two
 - [Wiki link](#)
- [bro you need to stop summoning demons in the frat house](#) (Sandbox) - Alicorn, lintamande
 - Prerequisites: [with the time that is given us](#) and optionally “[Daevinity](#)” (subcontinuity of Incandescence)
 - [Wiki link](#)
- [tough guy talk](#) (Sandbox) - lintamande, apprenticebard
 - Prerequisites: [with the time that is given us](#)
 - [Wiki link](#)
- [raises some questions for gary gygax](#) (Sandbox) - lintamande, apprenticebard
 - Prerequisites: with the time that is given us, and prior familiarity with lintamande's adventuring party, e.g. [ask yourself if you could have predicted this](#) or [Starstone](#)
 - [Wiki link](#)
- [much of the world is lawless and cruel](#) (Sandbox) - lintamande, apprenticebard
 - Prerequisites: none, but benefits from prior exposure to Feanorians and/or Imrainais (e.g. [in color](#) or [with the time that is given us](#)) and/or from prior exposure to lintamande's adventuring party (e.g. [ask yourself if you could have predicted this](#) or [Starstone](#))
 - [Wiki link](#)
- [Desperate Measures](#) (Sandbox) - lintamande, apprenticebard
 - Prerequisites: [much of the world is lawless and cruel](#)
 - [Wiki link](#)

The diamond queen:

- [you were kind to something once](#) (Sandbox) - lintamande, apprenticebard
 - Prerequisites: none
 - [Wiki link](#)
- [some only had hearts that were brave and true](#) (Sandbox) - lintamande, apprenticebard
 - Prerequisites: none
 - [Wiki link](#)
- [anyone who says differently is selling something](#) (Sandbox) - lintamande, apprenticebard
 - Prerequisites: [while there's still evil afoot](#)
 - [Wiki link](#)
- [give me the wretched refuse of your teeming shore](#) (Sandbox) - lintamande, apprenticebard
 - Prerequisites: [while there's still evil afoot](#)
 - [Wiki link](#)
- [most foolish of all](#) (Sandbox) - lintamande, apprenticebard
 - Prerequisites: [give me the wretched refuse of your teeming shore](#) and [you were kind to something once](#)
 - [Wiki link](#)

- [you can't warm the stars with your hands](#) (Sandbox) - lintamande, apprenticebard
 - Prerequisites: none, but benefits from prior exposure to Feanorians and/or Imrainais
 - [Wiki link](#)
- [origin of the diamond queen](#) (Continuity) - lintamande, apprenticebard
 - Prerequisites: [much of the world is lawless and cruel](#) (Korva), [some only had hearts that were brave and true](#) (Elizabeth), [give me the wretched refuse of your teeming shore](#) (huddled-masses), [you were kind to something once](#) (Catherine), and [while there's still evil afoot](#) (Slayer Karen)
 - [Wiki link](#)

Forever is a long, long time:

- [repeat after me](#) (Sandbox) - Aestrix, Alicorn
 - Prerequisites: [Queen](#), [Visitor](#), and [Changeling](#) (short stories by Alicorn), and [Phixable](#) (subcontinuity of Incandescence)
 - Reading time: ~half an hour?
 - [Wiki link](#)
- [exact words](#) (Subcontinuity of Effulgence) - Alicorn, Kappa
 - Prerequisites: Effulgence, optionally some previous exposure to the Harmonics setting (e.g. [repeat after me](#)).
 - [Effulgence wiki link](#)
- [blood sweat tear](#) (Sandbox) - Alicorn, Kappa
 - Prerequisites: Effulgence up through "raise the stakes," plus "exact words"
 - Reading time: a couple hours
 - [Wiki link](#)
- [Fairylights](#) (Continuity) - Alicorn, Red
 - Prerequisites: previous exposure to the Harmonics setting, e.g. [repeat after me](#) or [exact words](#) (optional, for setting and character background)
 - Reading time: a day or two
 - [Wiki link](#)
- [choose wisely](#) (Sandbox) - Alicorn, lintamande
 - Prerequisites: previous exposure to the Harmonics setting, previous exposure to fastfairyland (e.g. [you were kind to something once](#))
 - [Wiki link](#)

Miscellanea:

- [ademption](#) (Sandbox) - swimmer963, Alicorn
 - Prerequisites: [Will](#) (short story by Alicorn) and preferably prior familiarity with Vanyel and Leareth (e.g. [A Song For Two Voices](#) or [if the world can't be saved i'll save it anyway](#))
 - [Wiki link](#)
- [cleanliness is next to godliness](#) (Sandbox) - Alicorn, westwind
 - Prerequisites: [in color](#), familiarity with [the Cascadia setting](#), and optionally the Cascadia RP blogs [the-fear-of-childishness.tumblr.com](#) and [stitchesinablanket.tumblr.com](#)
 - Reading time: a couple hours
 - [Wiki link](#)
- [i don't know how to play this hand](#) (Sandbox) - hearts, westwind
 - Prerequisites: none

- Major spoilers for The Magnus Archives up to season 3
- [Wiki link](#)
- [people being fundamentally people](#) (Sandbox) - apprenticebard, westwind
 - Prerequisites: none, but benefits from familiarity with Imrainai (e.g. [with the time that is given us](#)) and Lev (e.g. [i don't know how to play this hand](#))
 - Minor spoilers for Good Omens
 - [Wiki link](#)
- [complete disrespect of the institutional review board](#) (Sandbox) - Unbitwise, root
 - Prerequisites: none
 - [Wiki link](#)