

# 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](http://the-fear-of-childishness.tumblr.com) and [stitchesinablanket.tumblr.com](http://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](#)