

30th Anniversary Special Interview

C. McWhorter Fanic writer

1) When did you first become aware that B&B had a fandom?

I never gave it much thought, but one day in 1997, I put Beauty and the Beast into Yahoo and hit a jackpot. I dove into a deep sea of fanfic and nearly drowned. I found the tunneldreams Yahoo group not long after I found Peg McNab, who on learning that I'd had no idea anyone else was there, said "YOU'VE BEEN ALONE ALL THIS TIME!?"

2) Why did you decide to write fanfic?

I've been writing stuff since I could make letters. I wrote my first BatB-based story in Season 1. The big shock to me, on discovering places like Father's Online Library, was that people could actually publish those things. It still took me a couple of years to actually post something on my own on the Bluebird.

3) What character(s) do you enjoy writing about the most?

Mostly Vincent and Catherine, although I love pulling other characters in around them. I like Jenny and Mary a lot and I adore Pascal.

4) Do you prefer long stories or short ones?

To read? I don't care. To write? I've succeeded in completing a few short stories, but I have this habit of turning a one-shot into a novel. I try not to. Really, I do.

5) Do you feel you have more stories in you yet to write?

Absolutely.

6) What aspect of the B&B fantasy world intrigues you most?

I adore the Tunnels, even though I know that I personally wouldn't last very long underground. I'd absolutely love to try, if I could live among people like those.

7) Have you written other fiction, or any non-fiction?

I am published professionally under another name. I've written fanfic for Harry Potter (I'm a Fire and Ice shipper), Highlander, and Witchblade. I'm working on a novel of my own at the moment. Slooowwwly.

8) What person do you prefer to write in (i.e. first, second, third)?

I'm making an attempt at a first-person narrative at the moment, but I prefer third-person. My major preference is using present tense. I think like I'm writing a script, so past tense is a "translation" for me.

9) What do you wish they had explored (or explored more) in the series?

I would have loved more backstories for Tunnel dwellers.

10) What aspect of the series do you like least?

Probably the artificial wall between Vincent and Catherine. It is a definite plot-blocker and makes it hard to write anything really canon-consistent without violating Koslow's original premise. Darn his hide.