

BITTERSWEET  
DREAMS

HOUSE LINE





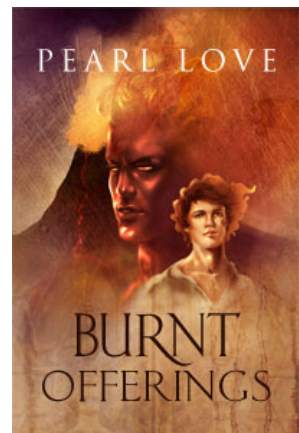
## WHAT WE WANT

Dreamspinner Press presents *Bittersweet Dreams*: stories of gay romance with nontraditional endings. It's an unfortunate truth: love doesn't always conquer all. Regardless of its strength, sometimes fate intervenes, tragedy strikes, or forces conspire against it. These stories of romance do not offer a traditional happy ending, but the strong and enduring love will still touch your heart and maybe move you to tears.

## EXAMPLES FROM OUR CATALOG

*Burnt Offerings*  
By Pearl Love

On his way home from the market, beautiful and shy Alen is accosted by local ruffians who try to take advantage of his innocence. When Alen attempts to defend his virtue, the situation takes a turn for the worse and he accidentally slays one of the men. Now he faces the mockery that is the town's justice. The penalty for murder: a slow, painful death upon the altar of the mighty god of fire. Alen's sentence is gleefully announced by



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the village priest, a loathsome man who promises deliverance if only the lovely boy will submit to depraved pleasures.

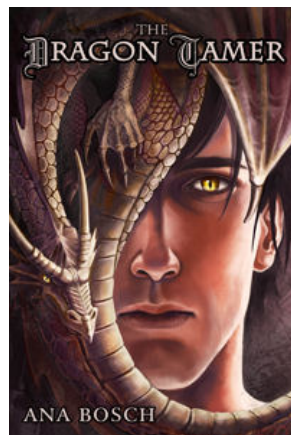
But Alen has a secret, one to which he desperately clings even though it may cost him his life. For many years, Alen has watched the flames dance in his mother's hearth, the mystery that dwells in the bright glow alleviating his loneliness and offering endless fascination. When the time comes to face his destiny upon the pyre, Alen hopes that the fire's magical embrace might hold the key to his salvation. But will the flames herald his destruction even as all of his prayers are answered?

### The Dragon Tamer

By Ana Bosch

Drake, a dragon master of the tamer clan, was barely a man himself when he saved the life of a youth burning with fever. Aedan, a fire mage, has dragon blood mingled with his own, creating such a tempestuous and volatile personality that it can literally burn him from the inside. Though Drake was able to calm the tumult enough to give Aedan a few years of peace, he knew that as the boy came of age, the fire in him would ignite once more.

When, years later, the effects of his fiery impulses force Aedan from the mage clan, his path crosses Drake's again. Once more taming Aedan with a connection that joins them body and soul, Drake promises to protect Aedan forever—but he fears the day when “forever” might come to an end.



### Sweetbreads and Sweet Nothings

By Evelyn Esrig

Bartender Lukas Schueller's life in Berlin falls apart when his boyfriend, Bernhard, disappears without a trace. A year later Lukas is finally picking up the pieces of his life. He's back on track with his Divinity studies and has found love again in Kristoph, a science professor at his University.

Things are looking up until the shocking truth about his former lover's disappearance comes to



light: Bernhard was killed and cannibalized by a man he met on the Internet. Even more horrifying, he volunteered for it. When Lukas receives graphic proof of this, he is haunted by grotesque dreams and unbearable heartbreak.

As he begins to wade into the mystery of why someone would choose to be eaten by someone else, he comes face to face with what it means to confront his own fears and must try to build a new life with Kristoph from the ashes of the old.

Last Dance with Mary Jane  
By John Goode

Peter was devastated when he lost his love, Shayne, in a car crash. Though he knows nothing will bring Shayne back, Peter takes solace in listening to Shayne's voice mail, just to hear his voice one last time. He's not prepared when one night, Shayne answers the phone.



## IMPORTANT NOTES

Dreamspinner Press will not publish gratuitous depictions of incest, rape, and other extreme material included for the express purpose of titillating the reader. We also maintain a specific Fair Use policy. Download a copy of our Editorial Policies, available on the Publish With Us page of our website, for specifics on confidentiality, editing, questions of legality, and content.

We do not accept previously published material, partial manuscripts, or simultaneous submissions. We will review your submission as quickly as we can, and we ask that you respect our editors' time by not submitting your manuscript elsewhere until we have completed our review. Partial manuscripts will be declined immediately. Thank you for your consideration.

We are currently not accepting manuscripts of fewer than 15,000 words unless they are submitted for inclusion in an announced anthology. To see a list of anthologies with open calls for submission, visit the Publish With Us page of our website.

For specific questions, please contact [submissions@dreamspinnerpress.com](mailto:submissions@dreamspinnerpress.com).

## TO SUBMIT

Send your submission to: [submissions@dreamspinnerpress.com](mailto:submissions@dreamspinnerpress.com). Please include “Submission: Timeless Dreams” in the subject line.

Send in the body of the e-mail:

- Your legal name, pseudonym if applicable, and contact e-mail address.
- Working title, series name if applicable.
- Genre and manuscript length.
- General story description in two paragraphs.
- Writing credentials.

Attach to the e-mail:

- A short but complete story summary and/or synopsis.
- The complete manuscript, for all lengths of works.

## FORMATTING YOUR SUBMISSION

Please follow these simple formatting guidelines. Our editors will thank you.

- Submissions will be accepted in .docx, .doc, .rtf, and .txt formats.
- Standard 12 pt Times New Roman, 1 inch margins, .5 indent for the first line of each paragraph. 1.5 line spaces between lines. No tabs or spacing to indent, please! Page numbers in the upper right corner, author name in the upper left corner with the title of the work following. Example: Stephen King / The Shining
- All submissions must be spellchecked and edited for American English grammar and spelling. Regional words and slang are acceptable when appropriate.
- Dreamspinner Press edits works using *The Chicago Manual of Style* as its primary reference. Editing your work to these standards prior to publication will greatly facilitate the publication process.

For specific questions, please contact [submissions@dreamspinnerpress.com](mailto:submissions@dreamspinnerpress.com).

## LENGTH STANDARDS

- Novel: 60,000 words and up
- Long Novella: 45,000-59,999 words
- Medium Novella: 30-44,999 words
- Novella: 15-29,999 words

We are currently not accepting manuscripts of fewer than 15,000 words unless they are submitted for inclusion in an announced anthology. To see a list of anthologies with open calls for submission, visit the Publish With Us page of our website.

## WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT FROM US

- Unsolicited manuscripts are accepted at any time for the Dreamspinner Press imprint.
- We will acknowledge all submissions by e-mail within five to seven days.
- Submissions will be read by an editor and you will have a response within eight weeks.
- Electronic contracts are exchanged via e-mail.

## ADVANCES AND CONTRACT TERMS

- All accepted works must be provided to us as an electronic file.
- All novels are contracted in print and digital formats, which are released simultaneously. A \$500-\$1,000 advance is paid in a single payment upon receipt of the signed contract. Once the advance is satisfied, novels earn 40% royalties for digital sales and 30% royalties for paperback sales.
- Novellas are released in digital format. A \$200-\$500 advance may be offered at the discretion of the publisher. Novellas earn 40% royalties for digital sales.
- Short stories and novellas for anthologies are purchased for a flat amount based on the length of the work. Exceptions are made for an anthology of shorter fiction by a single author in which case the novel length guidelines apply.
- Copyright remains with the author.

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