

Who Do We Become?

By Tannara Young

Appearing at Luna Station Quarterly, issue 55

“Hold up,” said Bey, standing. “My price has changed.”

“Price! What price?” said Pierre. “We never discussed a price.”

“Well, I’ve got one now,” said Bey.

“You disrespectful cur!” sputtered Lieutenant Yesterin.

“This is my price,” said Bey, ignoring him. “I want my record expunged. If I save the town from another magical explosion, I don’t want that yapping puppy,” pointing at the red-faced lieutenant, “to decide somewhere down the line to hang me for past crimes. Furthermore --” he raised his voice to be heard over the Lieutenant’s indignant protest. “I know you’ve been allotting the repaired houses to family groups. I want to get on that list - me and my sister, we’re a family and when those folks with children are settled, I want to be next.”

“You don’t have a sister,” spluttered the Lieutenant.

“Right there,” Bey pointed at Alisa.

“She’s not your sister --” began the mayor.

“Oh?” said Bey. “We may not share parents, but we both know what it’s like to be abandoned by them. And not only abandoned by our parents, but by the whole of the town, including the Temple which is supposed to care for orphans. You all turned your back on the whippings doled out by my former master Johann, or by the cruelty visited on Alisa by the old Captain. Well, I’m done being treated like I’m not worth anything. I’ve worked as hard as any of you

these last days, and so has Alisa. And still we're both sneered at and slandered and treated like dirt. That ends now. Clean records for both of us and a spot on the family list so that we can have a house where our stuff isn't deliberately trod on, or 'accidentally' tossed in the trash pile."

About the Author



Tannara Young is the creator of the world of Idhua: fourteen kingdoms surrounding a vast magical forest. She writes short fiction and novels exploring the people, landscapes and magic of Idhua. Her work has appeared in [*The Mythic Circle*](#), [*The Great Tomes Series*](#), [*Fall into Fantasy Series*](#), and at [NewMyths.com](#), [Luna Station Quarterly](#), [The Scarlet Leaf Review](#) and [Smashwords](#). Tannara lives in central California, on the coast of the wild Pacific Ocean, near the majestic redwood forests. When she is not writing, she loves to ramble through these inspiring landscapes, dreaming up her next tale.

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