Subject: I am not looking forward to writing this post
Posted by Robin on Fri, 20 Jan 2012 01:29:41 GMT
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http://robinmckinleysblog.com/2012/01/20/i-am-not-looking-fo rward-to-writing-this-post/

Subject: Re: I am not looking forward to writing this post
Posted by rainycity1 on Fri, 20 Jan 2012 01:37:22 GMT
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Oh, I am so sorry to read that things have gone south with the New Arcadia bell tower. Best wishes.

Subject: Re: I am not looking forward to writing this post
Posted by anne_d on Fri, 20 Jan 2012 01:41:09 GMT
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Firstly, hugs and healing vibes. With extra pink sparkles and roses.

Secondly, I'm sorry it's come to this, but glad you've been able to make a decision that will, I hope, make things easier for you in the long run.

Thirdly, more hugs, and I am not worried about doodles, I'm more worried about your health and sanity.

Take care of yourself, the hellhounds, Peter, your books, and then the doodles will take care of themselves. Hang in there.

Subject: Re: I am not looking forward to writing this post
Posted by PamAdams on Fri, 20 Jan 2012 01:45:18 GMT
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I think you need to sit on the couch and be snuggled by hellhounds about now. I'd send a hellkitty or two over to help, but they'd just get distracted on the way.

Subject: Re: I am not looking forward to writing this post
Posted by HorsehairBraider on Fri, 20 Jan 2012 01:59:00 GMT
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Well, that's really sad... and in a way it's also a good thing. If you are not appreciated, then it is the right thing to resign, and how foolish of them not to appreciate someone who *is* so loyal and hard-working. And as to *how* you raised the money, why should it matter to them? That is just plain "cutting off your nose to spite your face" on their part.

Perhaps now that you have worked through this, and acted on it, you can get some rest and feel better about the whole thing. Hugs to you. It's sad but change always is, and here is hoping you find a tower that will actually appreciate you.

Subject: Re: I am not looking forward to writing this post
Posted by BurgandyIce on Fri, 20 Jan 2012 02:10:36 GMT
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oh....

So, so sorry.. those mugglesmuffinbuggleburs grrrrrr... icy empires oughtn't be so... well... don't worry... about the doodles. Hopefully they will be fun, fun, and bells... well humph. Maybe when you hear those bells remember how many of us support you and love your books and thoroughly enjoy your stories and doodles and hellhounds and everything.

Subject: Re: I am not looking forward to writing this post
Posted by danceswithpahis on Fri, 20 Jan 2012 02:25:19 GMT
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I'm so sorry to hear that. I hope that you will -- finally! -- start feeling better now that you've taken action on things, and that you'll find a way to keep bellringing in your life. In the meantime, take care.

Subject: Re: I am not looking forward to writing this post
Posted by Melissa Mead on Fri, 20 Jan 2012 02:32:41 GMT
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My thoughts are not Pollyanna-friendly right now. I'm so sorry, and I hope you find someplace better.

Subject: Re: I am not looking forward to writing this post
Posted by Robin on Fri, 20 Jan 2012 02:42:09 GMT
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You guys are the best. :) :) :) :) :)

Subject: Re: I am not looking forward to writing this post
Posted by jmeadows on Fri, 20 Jan 2012 02:46:02 GMT
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I'm really sorry it came to this, Robin. I think we all know how much you love those bells and how hard this is for you. *sends huge love*

Subject: Re: I am not looking forward to writing this post
Posted by Catlady on Fri, 20 Jan 2012 02:47:53 GMT
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I'm so sorry! I went through almost the same exact thing with my old temple and it was absolutely awful, though I did not have the courage to write an honest resignation letter, and I wish I had. I'm very sorry.

And not that it helps, not really one little bit, but mine is one of the back orders of doodle books and I'd be totally happy to wait until, you know, 2017.

Subject: Re: I am not looking forward to writing this post
Posted by skating librarian on Fri, 20 Jan 2012 03:03:03 GMT
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How awful for you, and I'm glad you got out with your love of bells intact.

I can't skate anymore due to foot problems ... it makes me sad, and frustrated having put so much time, energy, effort, money, caring etc. into it for more than 15 years.

At about the same time I was forced to retire from a job I loved and did incredibly well (if I do say so myself).

At the end, between the physical and mental pain, it was very ugly ... but I have come to recognize that other doors opened, and at the moment I am grateful to be able to walk through them.

The relief you feel surely augers better days ahead. Blessed be.

Subject: Re: I am not looking forward to writing this post
Posted by lenni on Fri, 20 Jan 2012 03:04:35 GMT
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I'm SO sorry to hear about the whole bell tower thing. I agree with everyone else. Take care of yourself (et al.) and get to the doodles (and whatnots) when you get to them. Anticipation is a tremendous spice - just layer it on!

Kathleen

Subject: Re: I am not looking forward to writing this post
Posted by katinseattle on Fri, 20 Jan 2012 03:30:53 GMT
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New Arcadia wouldn't accept the money because they disapproved of the way you'd raised it? It sounds like you went street walking for it. I find it difficult to wrap my mind around this concept; it's easier to believe in neutrinos that get there before they started. I guess I'm too much a materialistic American.

My heart is bleeding for you right now. But New Arcadia doesn't deserve you. So there.

Subject: Re: I am not looking forward to writing this post
Posted by EMoon on Fri, 20 Jan 2012 03:33:46 GMT
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Virtual hugs...soft cuddly shawls around your shoulders...yes, it's a very, very sad thing. You loved your bells; you worked so damn hard to ring even when you felt lousy, to help out the best

way you knew. And...you ran into Not Invented Here. Not Our Kind of Thing. Group dynamics at its worst.

I'm glad you're out of it. I agree that mind and body are inextricably intertwined, and once it starts eating you alive, the only way out is...out. (Been there once, with a choir. Hurt like hell.)

(Though, being far less non-violent than many, I think Certain People need a good clout upside the head to shake some sense into them. Not only difficult, cliquish, rigid...but stupid with it. You were making money for them. Bells need money. What part of "Bells need money; she wants to contribute buckets full of money" did not equal "Let's cheer and wave and buy her as much G&B chocolate as she can eat"??? Stupid. And besides--people who drive friends of mine into such misery--GRUMP! But not to worry; I'm sufficient thousands of miles away that all I can do is GRUMP across an ocean at them, and they won't know or care. Well...unless someday some American writer just happens to write a satirical story about a group of people who just happen to ring bells and...oh...get snooty about the person trying to help them.)

Sympathy. I make lousy tea or I'd offer virtual tea. I hope the throat clears up completely in the next 24 hours. I hope the book now agrees to be written really, really fast.

Subject: Re: I am not looking forward to writing this post
Posted by Audrey Falconer on Fri, 20 Jan 2012 03:35:02 GMT
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I sympathise. There are 6 towers in Melbourne. 2 of them run on by-invitation-only, the third is disintegrating under the internal politics they're suffering from (they've cancelled their dedicated beginner practise, something they've run for years, because of the politics), the fourth has a terrifying only-tell-you-what-you-did-wrong attitude towards beginners, and the fifth is an hour's drive away.

The sixth is *my* tower, and we refer to ourselves as "the happy tower".

We had a visitor from the fourth tower the first time I tried to ring Plain Bob Doubles. "Audrey, well done!" was the response from people from my tower. "You missed the last dodge" was the only (snarled!) comment from the visitor.

You'll find yourself a more congenial tower, and other bells will become "your" bells.

Good luck!

And don't worry about my doodles or my doodlicious Deerskin - any time until 2017 will be fine. I already have 2 copies of Deerskin in the house!

Audrey

PS: Eeek! Only hours after writing that I get a notice to all ringers about a funeral on Tuesday at the fourth tower. Our one time visitor.

Subject: Re: I am not looking forward to writing this post
Posted by HorsehairBraider on Fri, 20 Jan 2012 03:56:29 GMT
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EMoon's post reminds me of times when I took devious revenge on persons who had treated others very poorly.

One guy (whose misdeeds I will not go into) was the cook for a camping outfit and it happened that I and a group of friends would be there for a week, so on the way out there I told everyone in my group that although he *SAID* his name was Skinner, it was actually Mike. So all week long everyone called him Mike, much to his puzzlement and aggravation. No blood spilled. :)

Another was a local play director. Someone from the paper I worked at wrote a review about his latest play, and he was not happy about it (although it was totally fair and even-handed), so he wrote a 17-page letter to the editor of foaming-at-the-mouth personal insults towards the person who wrote the review. I felt that was a little uncalled for, so... I tried out for his next play. It was a musical called "Pump Boys and Dinettes", featuring sort of country music. Some people get paid to sing; however, some people get paid to not sing. That would be me. So I went to his try-out and played (and sang) "Psycho Killer" by the Talking Heads. Although he had stopped everyone else after only a line or two, he sat there in stunned silence and let me go through the whole song. Again, no blood spilled. And I get to say that I did that, because I did.

Oh yeah. I didn't get the part. :d

Subject: Re: I am not looking forward to writing this post
Posted by Stardancer on Fri, 20 Jan 2012 04:29:01 GMT
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:(I'm so sorry, Robin! I hope that you can find other, more fulfilling places to ring. And other ringers more worthy of ANY hard-earned bell-repair money, as well as more appreciative of people just doing their best.

HorsehairBraider wrote on Thu, 19 January 2012 22:56Some people get paid to sing; however,

some people get paid to not sing. That would be me. So I went to his try-out and played (and sang) "Psycho Killer" by the Talking Heads.

BAHAHAHAHA.

Subject: Re: I am not looking forward to writing this post
Posted by jkribbitdesigns on Fri, 20 Jan 2012 04:50:41 GMT
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My heart is just breaking for you Robin. I'm so, so sorry. You'd think that they'd need all the money they can get to keep the bells working and as long as it's acquired in a legal manner... That is just so frustrating.

And just for the record, I appreciate you! :) Sending virtual hugs, tea, and chocolate.

Subject: Re: I am not looking forward to writing this post
Posted by zerlina on Fri, 20 Jan 2012 05:19:57 GMT
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Virtual hug. Virtual chocolate. Virtual tea, pink roses and some champagne.
People with a little power sometimes make very odd and hurtful decisions. New Arcadia is the loser here.

Subject: Re: I am not looking forward to writing this post
Posted by Kathy_S on Fri, 20 Jan 2012 05:29:57 GMT
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How ... utterly incomprehensible of the tower.
Why does this remind me of those novels in which people are snubbed for having relations "in trade"?

Thinking of you, through all the hurt and grief.

Subject: Re: I am not looking forward to writing this post

Posted by librarykat on Fri, 20 Jan 2012 05:33:26 GMT
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Oh, Robin ... this is sad. Hugs to you (I'm going to ignore New Arcadia). I do hope you'll be feeling much better VERY SOON.

Subject: Re: I am not looking forward to writing this post
Posted by Loramir on Fri, 20 Jan 2012 06:01:57 GMT
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I'm a longtime lurker but daily reader, embarking on one of my very infrequent delurking expeditions to offer sympathy and tell you, for my part anyway, don't worry about the doodles for now. I'm looking forward to mine, but not nearly as much as I'm looking forward to Shadows. I enjoy the anticipation!

And I know it must be pretty unpleasant making a decision like that, but the decision is made, however painfully, and healing can begin, rather than the ongoing misery of staying in a situation where you're not happy.

I have a quote from one of your blog entries a while back which I have stuck in a folder of quotes I like, which goes "While constructive worry can do useful work, what I’m calling fretting does only pull you down. And creating your own reality in my view is to do with finding a good recipe for lemonade when all you’ve got is lemons, not giving yourself a headache trying to turn them into pomegranates by mind-waves." It looks to me like your tower is chucking lemons at you pretty hard (it also sounds like they may be insane, rejecting offered money), so you may as well take your lemonade and your money and go somewhere else rather than make yourself miserable and/or sick dealing with apparently crazy people who don't know a good thing when they've got it.

My sympathies, virtual chocolate, and virtual tea, which is probably just as well, since my real tea is the nasty American kind in teabags.

Subject: Re: I am not looking forward to writing this post
Posted by Fake Frenchie on Fri, 20 Jan 2012 06:11:00 GMT
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I'm so sorry that you had to resign from your bell tower.

Subject: Re: I am not looking forward to writing this post
Posted by apple on Fri, 20 Jan 2012 06:26:36 GMT
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I am so incredibly sorry. I cannot believe that they would do that to you.

I totally respect what you did in response! We all know how much you love those bells, and giving them up must be one of the most difficult decisions you have made.

hugs, tea, and chocolate

Subject: Re: I am not looking forward to writing this post
Posted by Diane in MN on Fri, 20 Jan 2012 06:33:33 GMT
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::HUGS AND SYMPATHY::

And hopes that wherever you next settle as a regular ringer won't just be a home tower, it will be a tower home with all the welcome and warmth that that implies.

Subject: Re: I am not looking forward to writing this post
Posted by Julia on Fri, 20 Jan 2012 07:52:00 GMT
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Oh, Robin! I'm so sorry that you had to make such a decision. That took quite a lot of courage, and I admire you immensely.
Hope you feel better very soon.

Subject: Re: I am not looking forward to writing this post
Posted by Caryn on Fri, 20 Jan 2012 08:23:04 GMT
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((hugs)) and sympathies and virtual Green & Blacks.

Subject: Re: I am not looking forward to writing this post
Posted by Ithilien on Fri, 20 Jan 2012 08:31:08 GMT

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You did the right thing.

I hope that you find a happy tower like Audrey's.

Subject: Re: I am not looking forward to writing this post
Posted by Vikkik on Fri, 20 Jan 2012 08:40:48 GMT
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*wraps Robin up in a very big hug *
*mutters dark things about certain idiotic, up themselves people who need a damned good slapping *
offers to lead a group to administer said slapping

hugs Robin again very tightly
sends emergency chocolate

Subject: Re: I am not looking forward to writing this post
Posted by AJLR on Fri, 20 Jan 2012 09:01:09 GMT
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Diane in MN wrote on Fri, 20 January 2012 06:33::HUGS AND SYMPATHY::

And hopes that wherever you next settle as a regular ringer won't just be a home tower, it will be a tower home with all the welcome and warmth that that implies.
Yes, what Diane said!

It's always so sad when one or two stinkers in a group cause such a situation to develop. Being the one to call them on it is invariably horrible but I'm so glad you've been able to make the break. Whichever other tower you decide to go to, things will improve. (It's a pity the lovely supportive people at my tower can't open an outreach centre, in New Arcadia. :))

Subject: Re: I am not looking forward to writing this post
Posted by tassiegal on Fri, 20 Jan 2012 10:06:39 GMT
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GRRR - I HATE HATE HATE it when things you love get ripped out from under you due to things

you technically have no control over.
I have swords to whack people with if it helps?
But until I can get over there I'll hand over my G&B stash, the contact number of the person I know who works at Cadburys (who make G&B) and some very bright pink wool.

Subject: Re: I am not looking forward to writing this post
Posted by gogglemouse on Fri, 20 Jan 2012 10:25:38 GMT
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hugs Hang in there. We're all rooting for you.

Subject: Re: I am not looking forward to writing this post
Posted by Mrs Redboots on Fri, 20 Jan 2012 11:10:32 GMT
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Very, very, very strange. I mean, it's not as if you raised the money by any dubious means - and you gave of yourself to do so. They quite seriously don't deserve you!

Although I suppose you'll now get to lie in on a Sunday morning, it's not going to be easy hearing them ring, or for the odd wedding on a Saturday afternoon.....

Subject: Re: I am not looking forward to writing this post
Posted by jaccairn on Fri, 20 Jan 2012 11:14:31 GMT
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It really doesn't sound that they want their bell repaired.

They will miss having a reliable available ringer.

glad the cough is improving. If it needs some encouragement to go maybe something herbal with liquorice in it. (It seems to be common in many cough syrups so you may be able to improvise something agreeable to you)

Subject: Re: I am not looking forward to writing this post
Posted by L.R.K. on Fri, 20 Jan 2012 12:03:46 GMT
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Good... grief! Great... Heavens... above!

Whyever would anyone find your way of raising money unsuitable? What could possibly be wrong with it? It's hardly as if you've been selling improper drawings of... er... dubious morality... so to speak... thus tarnishing the good name of New Arcadia and bringing the reputation of the tower crushing down into the dust... But, I'll say no more on what I think of this - it wooldn't be... diplomatic, and it certainly wouldn't be Pollyanna!

I do think that, however, that one sometimes just "knows" when the right time has come for doing something. It's like when I quit my last job - which I loved - but there were - outside problems. Anyway, I thought of quitting for months before I did - but one day, it just "clicked" for me, and I suddenly knew that it was the right thing to do. I think that had I quit earlier, I would have regretted it - had I quit later, I'd have been sorry.

Anyway. Sympathies. And have some virtual chocolate. :)

Subject: Re: I am not looking forward to writing this post
Posted by theplotchickens on Fri, 20 Jan 2012 13:14:51 GMT
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Eating a sympathy chocolate RIGHT THIS SECOND!

Oh, the grungier bits of human grouping! The sort of treatment directed at you right now is just the sort of thing that happens when people are more involved with their egos than the greater good of the cause they allegedly care about. It shows where their true interests lie, and clearly it's not in the bell repair. I don't take well to that sort of thing myself, and have left a couple of American groups over similar situations (Although not money-related. More to do with power, I think. Is that more American?)

Congratulations on taking the steps you need to open space in your life for a more harmonious bell tower relationship. It IS sad to lose "your" bells. It's fabulous to have a chance to explore NEW bells!

Eat something delicious. Drink something indulgent. Snuggle the pups. Buy a new flower. Look at something beautiful. May I suggest peeking at these lovely collars? Writer and artist Jackie Morris posted about them yesterday, and they're quite something. (Made in England, too.) http://kitschcollars.co.uk/collar%20range.htm

And please know that my book/doodle can wait until whenever the fancy or free time takes you to it. Bidding was only intended as a help, not as any stress or pressure for you. In fact, if it makes your life more tranquil, you can consider my payment an outright donation (to whatever bell tower

is worthy of accepting your many gifts) rather than a bid on an item.

I'm now going to have a cup of Earl Grey and watch the hummingbirds, in your honor.

Subject: Re: I am not looking forward to writing this post
Posted by Re Williams on Fri, 20 Jan 2012 14:36:46 GMT
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Years ago, after a horrid day at grade school which involved me not doing something like the 'in' crowd and hence suffering their ridicule, I remember thinking, "I can't wait until I'm an adult so all these silly games will stop."

As an adult I wonder how much better the world would be if people stop channeling their energy into tearing down others and, instead, worked to build each other up.

Sorry to hear about your situation. Sending Chocolate truffles and a single pink rose. (be careful, she had thorns.)

Subject: Re: I am not looking forward to writing this post
Posted by Birdreader on Fri, 20 Jan 2012 15:21:19 GMT
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Hugs and roses and chocolate. People are sometimes hard to figure out. But remember - What goes around comes around. It will come back to haunt them that they lost someone who cared so much. Sending you healing thoughts and good wished.

Subject: Re: I am not looking forward to writing this post
Posted by Birdreader on Fri, 20 Jan 2012 15:25:24 GMT
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Sending you hugs, roses and chocolate. Please remember that what goes around comes around. They will regret losing such a dedicaited ringer. I am sending you healing thoughts and good wished.

PS as one of the backlogged doodles - please don't stress. Your health is more important.

PPs - just finished rereading Beauty. Such a great story.

Subject: Re: I am not looking forward to writing this post
Posted by SarahAllegra on Fri, 20 Jan 2012 16:38:13 GMT
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Oh no :(That is very sad news. It reminds me of the time I had to "break up" with a friend I'd had for a very long time, but the friendship had become toxic and unhealthy. It was the right thing to do, but I still laid in bed and wept many nights after it. Loss is always very difficult, even when it's the healthy choice to make. I'm glad you have other bell activities and other bell options for your future, but I'm sure it won't be quite the same as YOUR bells :(I'm very sorry you have to be going through this.

Subject: Re: I am not looking forward to writing this post
Posted by maggie on Fri, 20 Jan 2012 16:38:48 GMT
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I'm so sorry to hear that - not that you did what felt right, but that the tower people brought you to that point. And I still find their response somewhat baffling - they needed money, and you raised money for them, and they said NO? Really? To the money they needed, they said no?
I think perhaps their instruction manual on how to raise funds was slightly faulty.

Subject: Re: I am not looking forward to writing this post
Posted by shalea on Fri, 20 Jan 2012 16:52:49 GMT
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I'm so sorry it's come to this for you, Robin, but it sounds like it was the right decision for you. Last year I had to resign as president of the board of a non-profit with which I've been associated for a decade, and although it was the only decision I could make for me I still am not sure it was the right decision for the organization. It's not easy. {{hugs and chocolate}}

Subject: Re: I am not looking forward to writing this post
Posted by Bratsche on Fri, 20 Jan 2012 17:34:51 GMT
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Robin, I'm so very sorry to hear your bad news! I'm glad to hear you're starting to feel a bit better. I'm definitely part of the "Doodles 2017 or bust" wagon-train! I'm looking forward to pre-ordering my copy of Shadows when the time comes. I'm so glad you are still writing and will continue to happily wait for your next book (which will be true for as many "next books" as we will ever be blessed with).

Subject: Re: I am not looking forward to writing this post
Posted by DrDia on Fri, 20 Jan 2012 18:35:03 GMT
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Robin -

Like so many others I was horrified when I read your blog. How could they NOT accept what had been given in such an open manner? And - hello - you're getting an monetary gift from a world famous author who got this gift by selling her books & autographs to her blog followers - not like she went out & extorted money from people. Sheesh (some very un-Pollyanna-esque comments have been deleted!)

The mind-body connection IS very strong and, as a homoeopath, you have trained yours to be even stronger - a double edged sword right now.

I wish for you roses and puppy-dog kisses (sans drool) and chocolate and champagne and a home tower where they appreciate innovative thinking and people offering help from their own strengths rather than trying to shoehorn everyone into some sameness that limits outcomes (which reminds me of the old definition of insanity as doing the same thing but expecting a different outcome).

And like so many others, I'm on the pre-order list for your next book - however many that happens to be - and count myself lucky to have someone with your talents in this world.

hugs from SoCal

Subject: Re: I am not looking forward to writing this post
Posted by libby.gorman on Fri, 20 Jan 2012 19:19:20 GMT
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So sorry to hear this news! I hope a new way to have a bell ringing "home" opens up to you (or that the N.A. crew comes crawling for forgiveness...), and in the meantime, I hope you feel better!

Subject: Re: I am not looking forward to writing this post
Posted by Jeanne Marie on Fri, 20 Jan 2012 19:31:06 GMT
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Oh, my dear friend...what sadness! My heart weeps for you at the loss of your bells to human blindness and rigidity. :(I am so, so, so very sorry.

{{HUGS}} from KC.
JM

Subject: Re: I am not looking forward to writing this post
Posted by b_twin_1 on Fri, 20 Jan 2012 20:07:14 GMT
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Lots of HUGS, CHOCOLATE and HELLHOUND CUDDLES heading your way.

You did the right thing.

Subject: Re: I am not looking forward to writing this post
Posted by kstevensxyz on Fri, 20 Jan 2012 20:45:17 GMT
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I'm so sorry to hear this, but I'm so glad I got to participate in the auction. I wish you could have seen my daughter's face when she opened her *signed and doodled* present to offset some of the sadness. I know the point of the auction was supposed to be support for the bells, but for some of us it was... Robin McKinley!

Subject: Re: I am not looking forward to writing this post
Posted by Aaron on Fri, 20 Jan 2012 21:29:06 GMT
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The next time you hear the local bells I want you to listen carefully. If you think back to how they sounded when you first heard them you should be able to hear a little more tolerance, an improvement in their determination to show up and ring even on a bad day, a greater degree of care for the nurture of new ringers, and a thousand small things that you did right while you were there, a thousand more that you helped others do right, and, just possibly, a thousand beyond that that the people still ringing will be inspired to do right in the future because you were there.

The things you put into those bells are still there and they are the better for it. When you listen, don't listen to the echoes of your parting, listen to the joy, and sweat, and care that you put there and which still rings out.

It is still a joyful noise.

Subject: Re: I am not looking forward to writing this post
Posted by Gomoto on Fri, 20 Jan 2012 21:49:37 GMT
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Wow! Ouch. Grrr. This is sad news.

Subject: Re: I am not looking forward to writing this post
Posted by claning on Sun, 22 Jan 2012 01:47:48 GMT
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I love what Aaron said.

Yes, politics rears its ugly head.

I suppose they could have thought that your gift was an opening wedge and would result in, sometime down the road, your throwing your weight around to "make" them do things differently because You Gave Them Lotsa Money. Truth to tell, I've encountered donors like that. (What part of the word "give" did they not understand, I always wonder.)

Of course you would not do that, so: Sigh.

One of my life lessons has been: if other people persist in being stupid after having their stupidity pointed out to them -- then let them.

Hugs, roses, chocolate and doggy snuffles (or however sight hounds express their affection: with cats, it's forehead bumps).

Subject: Re: I am not looking forward to writing this post
Posted by Robin on Sun, 22 Jan 2012 21:48:36 GMT
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Claning wrote:

I suppose they could have thought that your gift was an opening wedge and would result in, sometime down the road, your throwing your weight around to "make" them do things differently because You Gave Them Lotsa Money. Truth to tell, I've encountered donors like that. (What part of the word "give" did they not understand, I always wonder.)

::Blinks::
This had never occurred to me . . . but . . . it would totally fit the personalities involved. This is all,

after all, about POWER, and money is POWER. Golly.

By the way, one of the approaches the admin is using to berate me is that by pulling my money in this selfish way (I wanted the six-inch bronze plaque, you know) I am FORCING the rest of band TO MAKE UP MY SHORTFALL. Make up your minds guys, you can't have it both ways. Well, you can't have it EITHER way any more--I quit. You may have noticed . . .

Subject: Re: I am not looking forward to writing this post
Posted by L.R.K. on Sun, 22 Jan 2012 22:53:10 GMT
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Wait, am I getting this right? First, they didn't want your money - and now, it'a all your fault that they're not getting your money? I'm not sure I'm getting my mind round this properly - but if I get it aright, sadly... I'm not surprised. That's how people like this generally behave.

Also - bronze? Far too modest of you - you should have asked for something better. ;) I'm thinking gold with inlays of diamond - in the form of hellhounds and/or roses maybe? ;)

Subject: Re: I am not looking forward to writing this post
Posted by Robin on Sun, 22 Jan 2012 23:40:19 GMT
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I think there may be a certain amount of good cop/bad cop/poisonous evil alien cop from another reality going on. :) But yeah.

Gilt anyway. :)

Subject: Re: I am not looking forward to writing this post
Posted by glinda on Mon, 23 Jan 2012 02:10:52 GMT
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Oh dear sweet ghods. I am so sorry. And yeah, that response to you is a very obvious ChangeBackNow! message.

Sometimes I do not like people. (Have been through this sort of thing.) Much sympathy. And roses. And G&B. And champagne - the good stuff.

(Sorry for the belated comment; have been having a more-than-usualo CFS-fibro-flare-Thing. Lots

of balls get dropped when that happens. *wry*)

katinseattle wrote on Thu, 19 January 2012 19:30New Arcadia wouldn't accept the money because they disapproved of the way you'd raised it? It sounds like you went street walking for it. I find it difficult to wrap my mind around this concept; it's easier to believe in neutrinos that get there before they started. I guess I'm too much a materialistic American.

My heart is bleeding for you right now. But New Arcadia doesn't deserve you. So there.

Edited to add:

Am joining the "doodles in 2017" crowd, and changing my doodle request, if bells are... problematic now. Bats by themselves are fine. Or hellhounds. Or whatever you feel like doing.

All of that. When I first read your post, I was literally speechless. It just... it makes no *sense*.

--glindanearseattle

Subject: Re: I am not looking forward to writing this post
Posted by Firebyrd on Mon, 23 Jan 2012 05:50:39 GMT
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I'm sorry. Drama really, really sucks, and it does seem to pop up at some point or another in many, if not most, organizations. I hope you can find a place in one of the other towers that will be more welcoming of you and the funds.

Subject: Re: I am not looking forward to writing this post
Posted by equus_peduus on Mon, 23 Jan 2012 08:22:02 GMT
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I would like to echo what everyone else has already said more eloquently than I can. It is a difficult thing to decide to leave a group to which one has committed much time and effort to, but it sounds as though this was the best thing for you.

(I also don't mind that the doodles/books haven't come yet... I'd guessed that it would take some time to get them, and while I'd had hopes they'd come soon (because who wouldn't?), I am content to wait as long as it takes - 2017 or later if necessary :) I hope that whatever bells end up

getting the proceeds from the auction will be suitably grateful :))

Subject: Re: I am not looking forward to writing this post
Posted by KatydidNL on Mon, 23 Jan 2012 10:17:38 GMT
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The whole thing just does seem baffling. In that horrible-baffling way, not the bemusing "isn't that odd" way. Isn't it bizarre how people can block own best interests, and then remain completely and totally oblivious to how they are getting in their own way? It's like they build a wall in front of their own feet and then complain about how that wall keeps them from doing whatever they want to do.

I admire your strength and wisdom in knowing when you need to just let things go; and I wish you healing as you go through the process of accepting the changes that decision has brought into your life.

In any case, as so many others here have said, you are wonderful and we support you! Keep writing, knitting, singing (when you can again), spending time with people who bring you energy rather than suck it out of you, hurtling hellhounds, reading, eating chocolate and drinking tea, and let the rest of the nonsense be what it is -- nonsense. That you don't need to be involved with.

Sending virtual hugs!

Subject: Re: I am not looking forward to writing this post
Posted by jmeadows on Mon, 23 Jan 2012 16:55:19 GMT
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L.R.K. wrote on Sun, 22 January 2012 17:53
Also - bronze? Far too modest of you - you should have asked for something better. ;) I'm thinking gold with inlays of diamond - in the form of hellhounds and/or roses maybe? ;)

Gold hellhounds (with diamond collars) holding crystal roses in their teeth? Oh, and the hellhounds' eyes should be gemstones, too. What color are the boys' eyes, Robin? We need to make sure we get this right. . . .

Subject: Re: I am not looking forward to writing this post
Posted by lorelibrarian on Mon, 23 Jan 2012 16:57:48 GMT

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That is really frelling puzzling and sad. I would not be surprised if it *was* a fear of power shifting that led them to do that; I really can't think of anything objectionable about doodles. Other than them (and the artist) being entirely TOO AWESOME for humanity.

sends virtual home made brandied cherries The real ones are going to need to be eaten soon, they've been brandying for nine months.

I am curious though: does the church you rang at have a vicar and a PCC, and if so, do they know anything about this rejected money strangeness?

Because *I* cannot think of a Church of England vicar who would not claw the money out of your hands in five seconds flat for their bell fund or roof fund or whatever. (I'm related to several) Vicars, that is, not bell funds.

Subject: Re: I am not looking forward to writing this post
Posted by Robin on Mon, 23 Jan 2012 22:22:13 GMT
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lorelibrarian wrote:
I am curious though: does the church you rang at have a vicar and a PCC, and if so, do they know anything about this rejected money strangeness?

Because *I* cannot think of a Church of England vicar who would not claw the money out of your hands in five seconds flat for their bell fund or roof fund or whatever. (I'm related to several) Vicars, that is, not bell funds.

::Shuffles feet modestly::

The admin was frelling NOT going to bury my resignation the way they'd attempted to bury my (attempt at) contribution. I may have copied my letter to quite a few people . . . :)

Subject: Re: I am not looking forward to writing this post
Posted by Robin on Mon, 23 Jan 2012 22:23:58 GMT
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And THANKS AGAIN to everyone who has commented about this--and for that matter all of you who hissed through your teeth in disbelief even if you didn't wave your hand on the forum. Let me tell you it REALLY, REALLY, REALLY makes a difference to me.

:) :) :) :) :) :)

Subject: Re: I am not looking forward to writing this post
Posted by lorelibrarian on Mon, 23 Jan 2012 22:34:17 GMT
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Do not shuffle your feets! You might put more wear on the all stars.

If hinky stuff is going on in one group that's connected to a church, the vicar and PCC really need to know, and everyone hgetting the letter gets the same level of info, which can cut down on damaging/inaccurate guff.

(Turning down free funding is *very* hinky) It was am amzaing amount of money to raise, and you did it all with yourself (your art) so it wasn't just money, it was time, and love and awesomeness.

Which you probably know, so I should stop babbling and go read Pegasus again. I got a Kindle for Christmas, you were the first living author I looked up on there, btw. :)

Subject: Re: I am not looking forward to writing this post
Posted by librarykat on Tue, 24 Jan 2012 00:23:44 GMT
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The admin was frelling NOT going to bury my resignation the way they'd attempted to bury my (attempt at) contribution. I may have copied my letter to quite a few people . . . :)[/quote]

GOOD FOR YOU!!!

And yes, the Vicar and any other PTB at the church need to know what's going on within the church organization (speaks the pastor's wife).

Subject: Re: I am not looking forward to writing this post

Posted by glinda on Tue, 24 Jan 2012 00:52:54 GMT
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Robin wrote on Mon, 23 January 2012 ::Shuffles feet modestly::

The admin was frelling NOT going to bury my resignation the way they'd attempted to bury my (attempt at) contribution. I may have copied my letter to quite a few people . . . :)

peals of laughter Oh, perfect! This should get... interesting. :)

Subject: Re: I am not looking forward to writing this post
Posted by Diane in MN on Tue, 24 Jan 2012 06:30:07 GMT
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jmeadows wrote on Mon, 23 January 2012 10:55L.R.K. wrote on Sun, 22 January 2012 17:53 Also - bronze? Far too modest of you - you should have asked for something better. ;) I'm thinking gold with inlays of diamond - in the form of hellhounds and/or roses maybe? ;)

Gold hellhounds (with diamond collars) holding crystal roses in their teeth? Oh, and the hellhounds' eyes should be gemstones, too. What color are the boys' eyes, Robin? We need to make sure we get this right. . . .

Many jewelers use sapphires for the eyes. (They don't look blue, just nice and dark.) Some use diamonds, but they give the dogs that unfortunate Little Orphan Annie look . . . The roses, of course, should be rose quartz. :)

Subject: Re: I am not looking forward to writing this post
Posted by Robin on Tue, 24 Jan 2012 15:35:51 GMT
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. . . But it probably won't, unfortunately. Inertia is very strong, the bell admin has been the bell admin for a long time and is all tangled up with the general church admin . . . and there's no tradition of protest. I think it will be only too easy to discount me--furthermore, I'm an American and I Don't Understand How Things Are Done!!

What I'm hoping is that my public resignation might suggest that one CAN do things this way, and someone else, somewhere down the line, might try it themselves. Which is how traditions get started.

Subject: Re: I am not looking forward to writing this post
Posted by springlight on Tue, 24 Jan 2012 16:07:15 GMT
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So sorry to hear this. Other people express far more eloquently than I ever could what I'd like to be able to say so I can't add anything. But I've been thinking about you and your bells and I wish you health and a peaceful mind.

Subject: Re: I am not looking forward to writing this post
Posted by Mrs Redboots on Wed, 25 Jan 2012 20:08:47 GMT
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Robin wrote on Mon, 23 January 2012 22:22

The admin was frelling NOT going to bury my resignation the way they'd attempted to bury my (attempt at) contribution. I may have copied my letter to quite a few people . . . :)

Good for you!

Subject: Re: I am not looking forward to writing this post
Posted by Jeanine on Thu, 26 Jan 2012 05:37:00 GMT
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Incomprehensible! Mind boggling! So sad! Others have already said everything that I would have said and more eloquently too. So, I'm just posting a brief note to extend my sympathies and show my support. Hang in there!

Subject: Re: I am not looking forward to writing this post
Posted by anef on Sun, 29 Jan 2012 09:04:03 GMT
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Just adding my voice to the general chorus of bafflement. These people are BONKERS! It sounds as though you have made the right decision, and I hope that things get a lot less stressful.