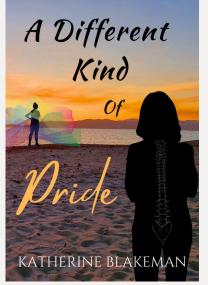


Hello everyone!

Apologies for the tardiness of this newsletter. I know you normally get it on the first of the month, but if you've seen my social media posts in the last few days, you'll know why it's a few days late. I was busy networking and author panel-ing at FanFusion! And oh my goodness, what a whirlwind that was. I think I need some time to recover!!

In the meantime... I hope the first few days of November have treated you well. Now that Halloween is officially over, thoughts are starting to turn to Christmas. You may recall that last Christmas was not a good one for me, due to a family bereavement. I'm hoping this one will be better. Although I





have to admit, I'm very behind on my present-buying this year. I've been too busy preparing for FanFusion, and other voluntary endeavours that I've started recently.

Here's one thing I am considering, though. An Etsy business. At FanFusion, I had for sale a number of geometric art prints (hand-drawn), in the colours of the various LGBTQ+ flags. I also had some hand-drawn prints of what I called 'positivity turtles'. They're hard to explain without showing you a picture - if you saw my social media posts, you'd have seen them. Anyway, I'm considering starting an Etsy business to sell them. Have any of you ever had an Etsy business? If so, what should I know? Please reply to this newsletter and tell me!

But in the meantime...

The Summer We've Had, Love You However, and A Different Kind Of Pride are available now!

WHAT I'VE BEEN UP TO IN OCTOBER

Those of you who know me well, will know that mental health is one of my great passions. I know, I know. Big news. You would never have guessed from my book featuring Dissociative Identity Disorder. Anyway. World Mental Health Day was on the 10th of October, so in the seven days running up to it, I re-shared the 'Mental Health Musings' that I did back in May. Seven interviews, with the likes of Teresa Purkis, Violet Morley, Helen West and Hayden Quinn, all talking about why they wrote about mental health in their books.

Then on World Mental Health Day itself, I shared something of my own. I've long since been intending to talk about why I wrote such a subtle mental health theme into A Different Kind Of Pride. And why I wrote about mental health in Love You However, too. So I shared a blog post about it - Time To Talk: Why Do I Write Books About Mental Health? If you'd like to read that, check it out here.

The day before that, I had a call with the lovely Saffron Asteria. For those of you who don't know Saffi, she is the founder of <u>Indiosyncrasy</u>, an online portal full of information about indie authors. It's not going live until the New Year, but Saffi hopped on a Zoom call with me to run me through the contents of my page. It's looking fabulous, so I can't wait for the website to launch! Make sure you follow it

on social media to keep up with that.

I broke the habit of a lifetime and shared a photo of myself on Twitter. Albeit with a little something over my face. There's so many bots and AI makers out there now, so I like to provide proof that I am, in fact, a human being. See picture on the right. You wouldn't think it was taken in summer, based on my outfit. Suitably spooky, I think. Which is useful, since it was Halloween the other day!

And then I... well, I prepared for FanFusion. You'd be surprised how much preparation goes into something like that, so MASSIVE kudos to all the staff members, volunteers, and people at the hotel who made it happen.

What went down there, I hear you ask? What did I get up to?

Well... I'm going to have to cover that next month. Sorry. I'm running out of steam right now - good old CFS - and I have to go to work. So... stay tuned, I guess?

Have a fabulous November, you lovely people. See you in December, where things will be getting festive!