

I am a Muse

By Lucretia_Nicole

Submitted: December 19, 2004

Updated: December 19, 2004

ever thought of becoming evil? this is the story of how I, Lucretia Foxe, took that path... enjoy

Provided by Fanart Central.

http://www.fanart-central.net/stories/user/Lucretia_Nicole/9722/I-am-Muse

Chapter 1 - prologue ABOUT ME	2
Chapter 2 - The Leti shall follow when you run ; chapter1 part	3
Chapter 3 - chapter 1 part 2	6
Chapter 4 - chapter 1 part 3	8
Chapter 5 - chapter 1 part 4	10
Chapter 6 - Through his eyes Chapter 2	12

1 - prologue ABOUT ME

I am a muse. It is hard to believe but we are real. You are probably asking yourself why I say "we".... well, all over earth girls are born that have special abilities to give and help other people with ideas and creations. We are called muses or spirits. Some dictionaries refer to us as the nine Greek Goddesses who "protect and encourage poetry, music, dancing, history and other branches of art and literature". In my opinion I think we are nine special women (not specifically Greek) who were born to save human kind. In case you haven't noticed, the world is dying because of humans and all the things you do.

You see us as normal humans, sometimes you think us strange but because we look and mostly act like you, nobody really wonders about us. And that is how we are able to save you.

We can create and carve minds, make mothers give birth and we can take life. Creating flora and fauna is our natural gift. We each have our own strengths. The only thing you need to know about is me.

I was born number 9: the last of the nine muses. Therefore I have more powerful and more nurtured abilities than the others. I am 347 years old but I look like a sixteen year old. When I first learned of my gift I saw it as a burden. I couldn't handle being in charge of other lives but this is the natural behaviour of a muse. We learn to cope. I guess we have to.

It has only happened once that a person was born and we couldn't place her in the good or evil category. So we gave her some powers, which she used well. But then she fell in love with a mortal and all hell broke loose. Her powers were neglected and she gave up her immortal life for the man of her dreams. What she forgot was that she was already too old for a mortal and, a few months after leaving her powers behind, she died of a horrible death. An evil force called Latria murdered her. The spirits of Latria follow a strict code of hunting and killing muses and potential muses. We can almost always feel when a Leti is near. (Leti is the name given to a single spirit of Latria. The easiest to explain is to say that think of Latria as an agency and the agents are the Letie). They murdered her because they felt her weakness for the human and that is when they strike.

When you read this you will need some time to get used to us. Don't worry about having to understand this encounter of my life. If you feel that this is not your kind of book then give it to someone who might think it good. But in any case, put on some music, turn the page and indulge your senses. YOUR ADVENTURE BEGINS HERE.....

2 - The Leti shall follow when you run ; chapter1 part

CHAPTER 1.

THE LETI SHALL FOLLOW WHEN YOU RUN

"No Way! You're joking, right?" I stared at her open-mouthed.

"I am being so serious, Lia! Sam has been hanging all over him all day. I mean, okay, he is totally good looking but nobody really knows him, he's only been here for a week or two. Anyway she invited him to the party on Friday."

We walked back to the sports field where Sofia's boyfriend, Barry, was waiting for her. Sofia was my best friend and she was always on top of the gossip chain.

Now at the party I would finally be able to get to know the new guy. It is essential for me to get to know new people because then I could sign them up for muse help if they needed it. But this time I also wanted to get to know him because he was just so fine, any girl would just start drooling.

TWO DAYS LATER

"Wow, Samara, you have a brilliant party goin' on here... "

Sofia was constantly being nice to Samara. I don't really bother because personally I think Samara is a natural born dog, but she did invite me, so tonight I was going to try and be nice to her.

"Thanx for inviting us Sam, this party is already lookin' good," I said and the last part I actually meant. Somehow Samara had the right touches for getting a party off the road.

While Sam and Sofia still chatted a while, I sidled away looking for the new guy. About ten minutes later I glanced him sitting at the mini-bar in the dining hall. He looked really handsome in the darkened room. The little light coming from a candle in front of him made his black hair shine. I decided to just sit down next to him and that's what I did.

"Hi, gimme a shot of After Shock please." I ordered a shooter at the bar.

"Wow, I didn't think that anybody else drank that stuff."

I looked to my left where the deep, English accented, silky voice had sounded. It was he: the new guy. I had never heard him speak before and I was slightly shocked to see that he had his perfect, sparkling, green eyes turned my way.

" 'Scuse me?" I was totally flustered and it hadn't really occurred to me what he had just said.

"Hi. I was just saying that I am surprised to see someone else drinking that stuff other than myself. I thought I was the only one crazy enough to try."

"Oh, I don't try. I always drink this," Hey I actually managed a somewhat wobbly smile, "It helps me clear my mind."

"Tell me 'bout it. That's the same reason I drink it," Then he added to the barman, "Make that two will ya? Thanx."

The barman brought us our little shooter glasses filled with a sparkling, clear substance. I stared at the glass for a while and it seemed to be filled with a crystalline iridescence. We sat there in silence for what appeared to be ages; at least to me. From the corner of my eye I saw his eyes constantly flicking my way. I felt my cheeks starting to blush but the good thing is that I have an amazing ability to control myself. The blush quickly subsided but my fingertips still kept tingling.

At this point I made up my mind to be bold. I turned to face him, "By the way, my name is Lia Foxe. Lucretia Foxe if you want to tie your tongue."

"Nah, that's a cool name. I'm James. James Dyer."

We shook hands, "Nice to *finally* meet you."

His puzzled look told me he hadn't exactly understood what I meant with "finally", so I enlightened him, "We happen to go to the same high school."

"Oh bugger, so sorry, I just haven't gotten round to meeting new people and getting to know them. But I think now that you mention it your face does seem oddly familiar and I guess now I know why. You're in a grade under me; grade 10 right?" It seemed odd to me that he was so polite, (most guys these days were not) but it was really cool.

"Don't worry it's okay and yes I am in grade 10. So tell me why you had such a lousy day, to have that as a drink?!" I said while indicating the After Shock shooters.

"Well actually it has been a crummy *week*. As you probably know this was my first week here. Thank god it's Friday. I have to really get used to the way this school works and my grades have been deteriorating lately."

Oh my God, I thought, he needs help! Now I can sign him up for my help. I'll have to ask Adélie whether I can take care of him. (Adélie is our head muse. She was the first to be born and the start of our race.)

*

3 - chapter 1 part 2

We sat in silence for the rest of the time. Later some friends of his came over and they chatted away animatedly. It was kind of funny listening to them blabber on about their girlfriends but I did get the feeling that James was not exactly listening to it all.

I could feel that something was bothering him and I was about to ask him about it when something stopped me. I was not sure what was going on but something felt out of place in this small hall at the centre of this old house. Something was in this room, in the middle of a huddle of teenagers partying the night away, which did not belong in the fabric of things.

And then I felt it. Small pulses were rippling through the air, breaking the fine molecules of the surrounding atmosphere. No human could have felt these pulses but they were there. I stood up to investigate the strange presence. I noticed James watching me with a slightly puzzled look in his breath taking eyes but right at this moment I didn't care.

Wafting and weaving my way through the crowd like a breath of fresh air gave me more freedom to explore. The pulses became stronger on my way to the middle of the room. And there it was, I found it or better to say it found me. I spread out my arms as if to embrace an unseen presence and everyone including everything turned immobile in the room. I froze the hall so as not to lose the eidolon. I walked past a motionless couple talking to a group of friends.

I moved right to the centre of the hall to where my gaze laid fixed on one tiny spec. There it was in all its beauty, hovering lifelessly in the air. It was a butterfly. Better to describe it is to say it was a ghost of a butterfly. These little creatures never failed to amaze me. They were always almost totally see-through and invisible to the human eye. These little creatures were best described as free roaming pets to us muses. We cared for them and in return they helped us. We call them Omans; sort of like omens but they preferred us to use a long and soft-spoken 'a' instead of the short 'e'.

Well as beautiful as they were, they never meant anything good. That is where the name came from; they were omens of danger to us. In some incredible way they turned up whenever a Leti was near. This meant that somewhere in this crowded room there was a Leti. It came as a bit of a shock to me because the room was only full of teenagers and that meant that we had overlooked a birth of a new Leti. I knew I had to disappear from this place as soon as possible. I cupped my hands around the immobile Oman and rushed out of the room, my cloak swishing behind me. Once I was outside I released the Oman from my grasp and it hung in the air. I could not leave the room completely immobile. Once again I stretched my arms open wide in an invisible embrace but this time all living things around me moved into motion. I could hear the party getting on and my heart longed to be there, but I knew I could not stay. I turned, the Oman silently flitted around my head and I ran. The way muses run is not like ordinary people run. We have a gliding stride without our heads bobbing up and down like they do when people walk. And it was four times as fast as an ordinary human.

I ran and ran as fast as I could and as far as my feet would carry me. I knew where I would go and could

lay low for a day or two. It was a huge lake with some rocky cliffs behind it, which had some interesting caves to hide in. I reached it at eleven pm on the spot. It had taken me a good deal of three hours to get here and I was glad to finally be able to lie down on a ragged old blanket I had placed in on of the caves some five months earlier. This was not my first time of hiding from a Leti. The last one I had encountered was someone I hoped never to meet again. He was a body builder, brute of a type and scared the life out of me when he had snuck up on me while sleeping on a camping trip. I had only just gotten away with the help of a friend and had hidden here for three days.

*

4 - chapter 1 part 3

The night breeze lay icy-cool on my cheeks. I must have fallen asleep in the past hour or two (the moon hadn't moved a lot since the last time I looked) but now I was wide-awake. At first I did not know what had woken me up. Once my eyes focused and my heart actually skipped a beat, I realized I was looking into the light grey eyes of a trusted friend. A young wolf lay before me patiently waiting for a sign of movement. His name? Faso. Faso was the one who saved me from the last Leti. He had tracked him down by means of his clever little brain and his good sniffing skills.

When he was a young pup I showed him how to recognise a Leti. And since then we've been best of friends. Now I have to tell you that I am not weak or anything just because I keep hiding from Letie, it's just that my powers will only fully develop in a year's time. Until then I have to use my powers sparingly.

Even though it was about three am I decided to get up because I couldn't sleep anyway. I was too concerned to notice Faso walking down beside me and tipping me with the cold tip of his nose. Both of us ran down to the waters edge and sat there staring at the placid lake and the light reflection of the moon on the docile water. A gradual mist had begun to flow over the lake while I was sleeping; creeping into the land just like the foreboding fog that was building in my mind. Having **felt** a Leti so close to me, especially one my age, was alarming. It meant that Adélie and I had missed a birth of a Leti because there should only be one Teenage Leti on this earth and she is still in Russia. We always keep tabs on all beings born and now that we missed one, I fear we might have missed others.

*

The morning dawned, a pale sheen on the horizon. Faso still lay next to me, breathing deeply. His fur felt smooth and velvety under my touch.

I stood up and had to first stretch my legs, which were aching from the long run yesterday.

I went down to the waters edge and splashed my face with the arctic droplets of water.

For a long time I sat there watching the pale, morning sun rise. The cool air felt a bit thick though. At the moment it felt like the calm before a storm, little did I know that a storm *would* soon be brewing.

Faso took his time waking up, until then the sun had risen warm and annoying. I had to change my sitting position, next to the lake, a couple of times, because the shadows were growing shorter by the hour. Finally I gave up waiting and wandered off into the underbrush. If Faso wanted to sleep long then he could get his breakfast on his own.

I learnt as a child which herbs and berries are edible with the help of my mother. Coming across some violent and potent looking plants brought back some painful memories of her. I now remembered the

time when she taught me the effects of these poisonous berries when I was 9 years old. Those memories are still painful today, 338 years later. My parents were wonderful. I lived with them for 16 years until they were brutally murdered by a powerful Leti. I swore then that I would avenge their death, and so I will!

It took me a while to find something edible, but finally I stumbled across some young ferns; a sweet, crispy bite with a slightly sour aftertaste. They're always fresh and never a bad start to the day. Little did I know what lay ahead of me that day.

*

5 - chapter 1 part 4

Somewhere to my left a bush rustled. At first I thought it was Faso, because I knew he wasn't in the cave anymore. But it wasn't. I could feel it. The presence was definitely female and I knew exactly whom it belonged to. Mayinna and Matina. The two schizophrenic twins that switch both their personalities at random. Both had flaming red hair that reached down to their waists. They usually wore them tied in pony-tails, high on the back of their heads. They always looked exactly the same and they consistently wore the same outfits. I could only tell them apart because their auras were very different.

I kept my gaze on the serene water in the beautifully sparkling lake. With these ladies I did not need to run. I had enough powers to face them, yet I did have to use the element of surprise. So I started, becoming invisible I turned and face them. I could see the whites of their eyes through the foliage but they were too well hidden for me to see anything else. Deciding to double back I crossed through the forest and ended up behind them.

They were waiting anxiously for me to reappear close to the lake. Well they could wait as long as they wanted. I really felt like annoying them because they ruined my perfectly amiable morning and they weren't supposed to be here anyway. No one should know about this place, it was too well protected. So I slipped between them and lightly blew into Mayinna's left ear. That was my first mistake. She immediately lashed out and caught me on my right arm. It went momentarily numb. I ducked to the ground, balancing on one knee.

Matina looked at her sister, "What the hell is wrong with you?"

"shoot! she's here, she just blew into my ear, I hit her, and I know that! Where is she? I can't see her!" Mayinna started to feel around her, I had to dodge her hand swiftly before she touched my hair.

"Dammit! I know she's here! Show yourself Lia!"

"You wish Mayinna!" I replied.

To that she said, "I'm not Mayinna, she is!" pointing at her sister.

With a slightly puzzled look on my face I realized what had happened. They had once again switched personalities. Great, so now both of them thought I had blown into their ear to annoy them. Time for some action. Still invisible, I kicked Matina in the shin so that she fell to the ground. My second mistake. Mayinna, if it was her now, grabbed me from behind and elbowed me in the back. Pain coursed through my spine. Both of them were really good fighters. I turned visible once again and knew I shouldn't have provoked them. Why were they here in the first place?

"Listen carefully Lia. We don't want to hurt you!" Mayinna whispered in my ear then released me.

"So what... was that... for?" I asked in gasping breaths, indicating my aching back.

"Pay back!" and she hit me across the face.

At that moment Faso rushed out of the bushes and pinned Mayinna painfully to the ground. Matina tried to kick him off but I came in the way, grabbed her ankle and twisted her to the ground.

"What are you doing here? How did you find me?" I had to know. Matina tried to get up but I had my ankle in the front of her neck, "You move, I hurt you!".

She immediately went limp and said, "We came here for you, its time you learn some dark magic."

"What? Everyone knows that I like my fellow sisters am responsible for good things. Why the hell would anyone even think about us being evil?"

"No you're not evil. That's not what I said, but someday you will be. And we want to be the ones to teach you."

Now I was starting to get pissed. "I will never be evil!"

That was a bad idea, I still needed to find out what they really meant, but at that moment Matina and Mayinna just vanished into thin air. My foot crashed to the ground and Faso slumped to the floor. Shocked I stared at Faso who seemed as puzzled as I was. *What just happened here? Where and how did they learn to vanish into thin air like that?*

*

6 - Through his eyes Chapter 2

CHAPTER 2.

THROUGH HIS EYES 1

He watched her through the bows of the trees. After she had left the party, he excused himself and followed her. For three hours she had run through fields, crossed streams and easily jumped low fences. She must have been really freaked out by him. He couldn't believe that she could run so fast; then again she *was* one of the most powerful beings ever and only pretended to be weak when near humans (so as not to alert them to her powers).

She's growing stronger he thought in desperation, remembering what he had to do.

*

They arrived at her hiding place around 11pm. It took him a couple of hours or so to break through the impressive enchantment she had cast as a barrier, around the lake and its surrounding caves, the first time she ever came there. The problem was that she felt it when he finally broke through and awoke immediately from the sleep she had unconsciously fallen into. But she probably thought it was something else because she didn't pursue the matter. Only then did he realise that a young wolf had joined her company. They seemed to be good friends. He knew he was exceedingly skilled with animals yet didn't dare come too close to them just in case either of them might detect his presence (he had a distinct vibe of evil about him).

*

Slowly as the night deepened he realised he had to test her to see how much power she had already accumulated.

"Fiery Twins burn and come to my aid!" he murmured into the tranquil night.

"You called?" Mayinna and Matina had appeared almost instantly.

"Yes. I gather that both of you received the vision, as did we all, last evening?"

"Of course, and I think it will be useful to all of us," said Mayinna with a malicious glint in her eyes.

"I need you to test Lia. I want to see how powerful she already is," he told them.

"No way! She'll murder us, you know well enough that she will become most powerful and probably only hurt us as much as she can if we just turn up for no reason."

"Oh but you will have reason. You will tell her that its time for her to convert!"

"What if we refuse?"

"Then you will know the true meaning of pain!"

Both of them recoiled from the force that resounded in his voice. But they still argued through the night.

The next day dawned warm and annoying. His anger rose to a point that the twins gave in. in the meantime Lia had gone out for breakfast and the little wolf had stalked off somewhere.

Mayinna and Matina went to work. They attained Lia's attention and then pretended to search for her when she disappeared. He had struck a nerve; Lia was definitely a bit miffed.

He listened in on the little conversations that the girls had. Mayinna and Matina were revealing too much info about the visions. It was time for him to interject and quieten them. With an angry wave of his hands the twins absconded into thin air.