Fundraiser for Transgender Michigan

I met Rachel Crandall more than twenty years ago, when I first started volunteering at the Listening Ear crisis center in East Lansing, Michigan. Back then, she was going by the name Rich.

I remember some of the conversations we had as she was coming out, and some of the challenges she talked about. We fell out of touch for a while, as happens sometimes. When we reconnected again years later, I was amazed at the things Rachel had accomplished, including founding the <u>International Transgender Day of Visibility</u> and working with her partner, Susan Crocker, to start what I believe is the first transgender helpline in the country.

<u>Transgender Michigan</u> was founded in 1997, and continues to run one of the only transgender helplines in the country, available 24/7 at **855-345-8464**.

We know transgender youth are at a higher risk of depression and suicide, and these coming months and years could be very difficult. Therefore, I've enlisted some very generous SF/F friends to put together a fundraiser to help Transgender Michigan continue their important work providing support, education, and advocacy.



24 Auctions in 24 Days

Each day at noon (except for Thanksgiving weekend), I'll post an auction from one of the people listed below. It could be for autographed books, a manuscript critique, a Tuckerization (where you get to be a minor character in an upcoming book), or something else altogether. Bidding will take place in the comments, one bid at a time.

The following day at noon, I'll close the bidding and notify the winner. The winner then donates their bid to Transgender Michigan and sends me the receipt, at which point I'll send your information to the donor so they can hook you up with your winnings.

Note: I will wait until 10 minutes after the last bid to close an auction. That will hopefully reduce the impact of last-second sniping.

Bonus Raffle from DAW Books

That's right, there's more! My publisher, <u>DAW Books</u>, has agreed to give away:

6 Tad Williams Bundles: each bundle includes one copy of *Otherland: City of Golden Shadow* (hardcover first edition, first printing) plus 1 Advance Review Copy of *The Heart of What Was Lost*.

6 DAW December Release Bundles: each bundle includes one copy of all DAW December titles: *Dreamweaver*, *Tempest*, *Alien Nation*, and *Jerusalem Fire*, plus a bonus ARC (dependent on stock).

Have I mentioned before how amazing my publisher is?

How can you win one of these awesome bundles? That's easy. You simply donate \$5 to Transgender Michigan and email me a copy of the receipt, with the subject line "DAW Raffle Entry."

Each week, I'll pick at least one donor to win their choice of either a Tad Williams or a December Release bundle from DAW. (Which means the earlier you enter, the better your chances of winning!)

You can donate more than \$5 if you want more than one entry. For example, donating \$20 would get you four entries. However, you can only win a maximum of one of each bundle.

This is separate from the individual auctions. Winning an auction does <u>not</u> count as a raffle entry.

Our Donors

Here are the donors for the fundraiser.

- Chuck Wendig
- Alyx Dellamonica
- Sherwood Smith
- Naomi Kritzer
- Stephen Leigh
- Leah Cutter
- Jim C. Hines
- Nicole Kornher-Stace
- Jenna Black
- Tricia Sullivan
- Stephanie Burgis
- Dawn Metcalf
- John Scalzi
- Steven Gould
- Laura J. Mixon

- Lyda Morehouse
- Blaze Ward
- Rachel Searles
- Amanda Downum
- Jessica Reisman
- Stina Leicht
- Leah Bobet
- Pamela Dean
- Seanan McGuire

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Yesterday was the <u>International Transgender Day of Remembrance</u>, memorializing those "who were killed due to anti-transgender hatred or prejudice." In my mind, that makes today the perfect time to work to make things better.

My thanks to everyone who helped make this happen. Please spread the word about the fundraiser, and about the individual auctions as they go live.

And if you want a hint about tomorrow's auction? Well...let's just say the Force will be with you, always.