

A Dream So Real

A Dream So Real is the latest incarnation of the first full-length novel I ever wrote. The original (which I never gave a title to) was written in my very early days as a writer, so it was little more than a way for Gary and Elaine (as the female lead was called in that draft) to meet up, fall in love and have Lots and Lots of Sex.

Most of the names from A Dream So Real come from that early draft:

- ValaDi was Vallidi, inspired from 'Vivaldi'
- Kalob was Chalob, which I was never quite sure how to pronounce: Tchalob? Shalob? Kalob?
- DamoKrall was Democrib, because it was the 'crib of demons'
- Saindle remained Saindle
- Gary remained Gary
- ElAhn was Elaine. I originally wanted to name her Lena after the unfortunate young lady in Stephen Donaldson's "Lord Foul's Bane" but I couldn't quite bring myself to so obviously copy the name
- LaroJec was Lershock, a Spoonerism of 'Sherlock' as I was scanning book titles to find inspiration for names
- Del was Arndel. He could turn into a wolf and a hawk because Plot Device
- Carn was Carndle. He and Arndel were brothers, because their names rhymed

Gul did not exist, nor any of the other soldiers, as it was only Gary, Elaine, Lershock, Carndle and Arndel who went on the journey. Quite why the highest-ranking members of the council went off on a dangerous journey with no guards was a question I didn't think to ask.

Lershock and Arndel went off for a few days because I needed them Out of the Way so that Carndle could attack Elaine and Gary could Prove His Love, leading to him and Elaine Having Sex.

After failing to defeat Saindle at Democrib, Gary and Elaine ended up separated from all the others. They eventually arrived at an island, because Opportunity for Sex, where they lived as a married couple until Magic Happened to force them back into the fray. They then promptly defeated the bad guy so they could continue to live happily ever after and have Even More Sex.

Although I much prefer A Dream So Real as the better *story*, I can't forget how much unbridled fun I had writing the original!