

The Crissing Link: Poetic License

a poetic journey through the labyrinth of multiplicity

Rev. Criss Ittermann

A true inspirational story, poetry and manifesto about one woman's choice to live proudly, authentically and openly with multiple personality disorder.

I was taken to a medical hospital by ambulance, a trip I can only remember with an amazing capacity for macabre humor. At this point the irony of the situation had gotten to what was left of my mind in my drug-induced haze. They performed exploratory surgery, and checked my organs. The stab wound in my abdomen missed everything. My first night was one of screaming for pain relief, as all the pills I had taken wore off, and in my pain-induced delirium, yet another Vision Quest of a lifetime full of them, I had a simple and short conversation with God. In essence:

"Wouldn't it have been easier to let me die?"

You have a job to do.

I remember thinking it was not ever worth a suicide attempt again if I was not going to be allowed to die, and I was going to suffer like this. All the energy I had been spending

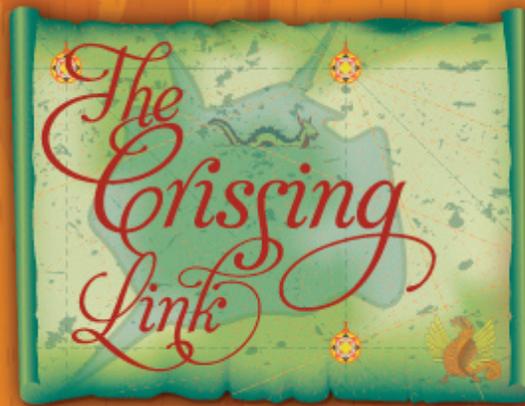
trying to figure out how to leave had to be channeled towards making the situation the best it could be.

I can't even begin to tell you of the emotional aftermath. I was a very private person. Whether due to the drug induced brain damage or the fact that I was never alone, in a room full of comatose patients with nurses wandering about, I kept basically to myself, journaled when I could, cried as quietly as I could, put up with the stern but also protective staff nurse who somehow had enough willpower to get me out of the bed in spite of myself and make me walk around. Friends and family came out of the woodwork, including my father whom I hadn't seen in quite some time. I got cards. I got gifts of notepaper and pens, everyone knew I was a writer. I was given books. And someone even cut my hair while I was there.

AUTHOR BIO

Rev. Criss Ittermann (aka The Crisses) has been openly multiple on the Internet since 1996, when she posted poetry and stories of her different personalities online. Then she created <http://kinhost.org> in 2003 as an online resource for people with multiple personalities. After 4 years of crawling back into the closet to run a business, she decided to write this personal manifesto and burst out of the closet again, never to return. Her story is intended to inspire anyone who is "in the closet" on any issue.

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