



Dearest Reader,

What do you dream? Actually, let me get right to the point: Why do you dream?

The act of dreaming is subversive. Dreaming is a defense mechanism against the blandness or reality that every human comes equipped with. I wanted to know why. Why people dream, and why our minds are built to defy reality. So I wrote *Reverie*.

Reverie is about Kane, a lonely gay boy in Connecticut who hides within his daydreams until a magical threat forces him to embrace his power and defend reality. The threat? Rogue fantasy worlds called reveries that spawn from the human subconscious. The complication? A drag queen sorceress stoking the reveries so she can use them to craft a new reality all her own... one where people like her and Kane can thrive.

She asks an important question of Kane: why fight to save a reality that hurts so many, so often? Don't our dreams show us that we deserve better?

I wrote *Reverie* with discussion in mind. With interrogation in mind. The interrogation of reality. Who creates reality? Who does this reality serve? Who does it harm? How can we turn our dreams inside out, impress them upon this unkind reality, and make our ideal real? Questions like these are why I am so, so thrilled that *Reverie* is a Big Library Read. I want these questions answered, quickly, and with libraries in mind.

Libraries are vast and vital. They bring infinite, alternative worlds to people often left behind by this world. They drive vital conversations and make the imagination a powerful asset. Teens like Kane need libraries. In fact, when Kane is at his lowest, the library is where he goes for guidance. There's a reason for that. I trust you know why.

Thank you for joining me in dreaming. I'm excited to see what we can create together.

Ryan

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