



August 11-25, 2021

Dear Reader,

I'm so glad that *All I Ask* has been selected to be a part of Together We Read.

I began working on this story after a group of about ten police officers, all men, forced entry into my home in St. John's, Newfoundland (a remote island off Canada's East Coast). They told me I was under arrest for transmission of child pornography and began searching the house.

I was home alone and terrified, I asked several times to use a phone and was told I wasn't allowed. I wasn't given a chance to get dressed and was told I had to go alone to my bedroom with a man wearing a gun. Luckily for me, pretty shortly into the search they realized they'd made a mistake, they were looking for someone I'd never met who hadn't lived at my address in almost a year.

*All I Ask* is a fictionalized account of the aftermath of that incident but it's also a queer love story. While the protagonist is enduring an invasive investigation, she's also choosing to reveal parts of herself to another person and the world for the first time. I wanted to look at the difference between having agency over how much of yourself you reveal to people and what it feels like to have that agency taken away. As well as how much of ourselves is really captured in our digital mirror image.

Thank you for reading this novel, I hope you enjoy it.

Warmest wishes,

Eva