

# wallflower

*magazine*



*for the girl who  
shies away from  
the limelight*

VOL 2

Too quiet.

Too sensitive.

Too naive.

Too gentle.

Throughout our days on this blue cosmic marble, we are all called names.

These labels may be given by unaware adults, insecure peers, or uninformed strangers.

We take these words when we are young, and the words of people who do not matter still manage to cut cold and hard. They brand us, and we hold to them like an unfriendly trellis.

Because they are what we know. They are better than the great unknown, than the work it takes

to ask ourselves who we truly are.

This magazine is for the girl who has been called *too gentle*, or *too quiet*. Whose softness has been used by the hard, whose light has greatly offended the darkness.

Your light is your sword. It is a gift, and there will be many who try to take it from you.

In your heart of hearts, you want people to feel loved. You want to wander in the fading light of the day, probably barefoot, contemplating the deepness of life. You love castles and rose bushes

and rabbits and ducks.

Here, you can be soft. You can believe the world is as kind as you hope and pray you will be.

Here, we celebrate the wallflowers. For they are the ones who listen. They are the ones who love. ♣

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## CHAPTER ONE

*Act graceful*



*Bring joy to  
others*



*Clean your  
cottage*



*Dance in the  
forest*



*Embrace your  
feminine style*



*Make friends  
with everyone*

A

*is for Acting  
graceful.*

Walk like you are a floating bumblebee. Don't plop into seats. Let men open the door for you. Smile copiously. Stretch in the morning before you get out of bed (Cinderella style).

B

*is for Bringing  
joy to others.*

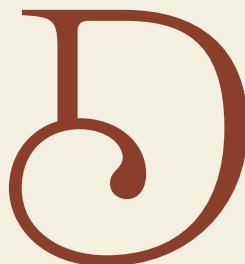
There is nothing more marvellous than bringing a smile to someone else's face. Getting a morning coffee? Grab a second one for your work bestie. Make mini pies and hand them out to coworkers with handwritten notes. Text someone and tell them you're praying for them. Give someone a compliment on their outfit. Let a stranger go in front of you in line. Pay attention to others so you anticipate and hear their needs, and can therefore fulfill them.

C

*is for Cleaning  
your cottage.*

To a princess, cleaning your cottage is quite romantic. Pull out your gloves and scrub-a-dub-dub! Clean out your fridge, update your pantries, buy new organizational drawers, then use cleaning wipes to get those dust bunnies off your baseboards.

## CHAPTER ONE



*is for Dancing  
in the forest.*

Dancing is a wonderful, feminine workout! Look up workouts on YouTube (my favorite are beginner ballet workouts!), or grab some friends and turn on some tunes. Also, pro tip . . . there's nothing like dancing in sunshine in a forest. Speaking from experience.



*is for Embrace your  
feminine style.*

Wearing a dress will make you feel so pretty and feminine! They're also so forgiving on bloat-y days. Visit your local thrift store for affordable options, and start your collection. You'll find styles you like more than others; A-line wrap dresses work really well for me, personally!



*is for making Friends  
with everyone.*

Birds, bees, squirrels, ducks . . . oh yes, and of course, humans sometimes! A princess befriends everyone, great and small. She is kind and respectful to both kings and peasants. A smile comes easily to her, and she warms the hearts of all around her. ☺

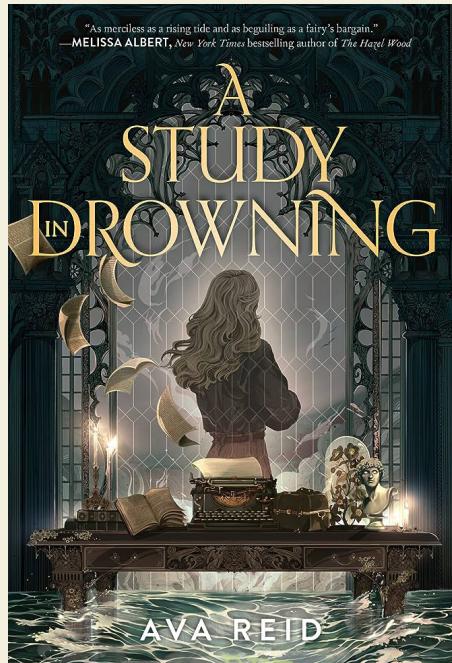


*Once Upon  
a Time*

“ANYONE COULD SEE THAT THE  
PRINCE WAS CHARMING. THE  
ONLY ONE FOR ME.”

## CHAPTER TWO

# Book Shelf



RETURN BY NOVEMBER 29  
NOVEMBER 29  
NOVEMBER 29

**AUTHOR:** Ava Reid  
**BOOK TITLE:** A Study in Drowning

This book was exactly the cozy, autumnal dark academia novel I was hoping for! There's fairies and a sea town and thunderstorms and books and maps and a love interest. This is a beautiful book about how stories can save us and make us feel heard.

The premise is that our heroine is an outcast at her school, and when she's chosen to take a trip to refurbish an old house as a class project she's more than happy to leave her homeland. She's a huge fan of a fairy novel, and it's what keeps her sane as she still feels she's a victim to her past and relates to the fairy princess.

There, she meets a broody bookish boy (our favorite kind), and they work together to fix the house . . . and discover its secrets.

**DISCLAIMER:** This is a book dealing with heavy topics (like abuse), so please read with caution. I also always give a disclaimer that just because I've read a book doesn't mean I agree with 100% of the content. There were some scenes I didn't feel comfortable reading, so my best practice is always to skip over them, but you can use your own discernment and follow your conscience. ☺

# Her Suitcase



*I USED TO BE  
AFRAID TO TRAVEL.  
BUT I DECIDED  
NOT TO LIVE IN  
FEAR.*

The whole ordeal filled with such panic, and I felt incapable. I'm known to get lost anywhere and everywhere, which is not helpful when traveling.

But, the only way to conquer fear, is to do the thing that scares you. I'm writing a book right now all about that concept, and I felt I need to live it out as well.

So, in August, I booked a trip to Miami to visit my best friend. I wanted to romanticize it, so I promised myself if I made it

through TSA (which is honestly the worst part for me, because they're yelling and the rules are always different and I can never seem to get my shoes on afterwards in a decent amount of time), then I could buy myself a coffee. I even bought a new book for the trip—a cozy murder mystery.

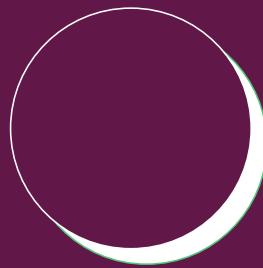
Thankfully, the trip there wasn't that bad. On the trip back, I went through the wrong security line and almost ended up in Turkey. My heart was beating so fast, because my flight was supposed to leave in 30 minutes and I didn't know how long the correct security line would take. Thankfully, God blessed me and the line was super short.

And then I made it! The feeling was amazing.

My next trip will be to New York, and I have a close friend who is planning our itinerary. If you're not a planner, like me, all you need is a friend who is. She can either go with you and keep you on track, or she can send you there with a detailed itinerary to follow.

If traveling is not in your price range right now, why not explore your city? I'm in LA, and while not every city is LA, there's surely some activities for you to enjoy wherever you are. Ask around, or look on Instagram if your city has a page where they share local events. I've actually found out about a lot of events by seeing a flyer on a telephone pole at a red light, or a random sign on the side of the road.

So, this is YOUR sign to book a trip somewhere. I'm excited to hear about your adventures! ☺



## A COLOURFUL HISTORY

# Tyrian Purple

**Formula:**  $(BrC_6H_3C(O)CNH)_2$  /

**Greek name:** porphúra /

**Hex Code:** # 611848

*This highly valued dye was so tedious to make that only royalty could wear it originally!*

Named after the city it was originally produced in (Tyre, Phoenicia) this rich reddish-purple color is made from less-than-regal sources: the mucus of shellfish. The Phoenicians (located in modern-day Lebanon) were the first on record to begin creating this dye, perfecting it to create a luscious color that appeared purple on first glance but turned red in certain light.

A Phoenician legend explains that the color purple was originally discovered by a dog belonging to the mistress of the god Tyros. The dog bit into a mollusk, turning its mouth purple, and Tyros liked the color so much he asked for his clothes to be dyed the same color.

Some historians believe that Phoenicia was so linked to the color that its name is derived from the Greek for "land of purple."

The color's production continued into the Greek and Roman empires. It was very difficult to manufacture, but also longlasting which added to its popularity.

### ONE DIFFICULT DYE

To make the dye, shellfish were caught in baited traps. They were then crushed and left to dry out in the sun. Then, the dye was extracted from the shellfish's glands and salt was added before boiling the mixture. This process may have created a beautiful, expensive end result, but it was smelly and time-consuming...and has driven most of these species of shellfish into extinction.

Historian B. Caseau recorded that

"10,000 shellfish would produce 1 gram of dyestuff, and that would only dye the hem of a garment in a deep colour," hence its steep price tag (worth more than gold). One pound of dye would cost \$19,000 today.

### DEADLY FAUX PAX

Historical records relate a time when King Ptolemy decided to wear purple to visit Emperor Caligula of Rome... and was sentenced to death for his audacity.

learn more

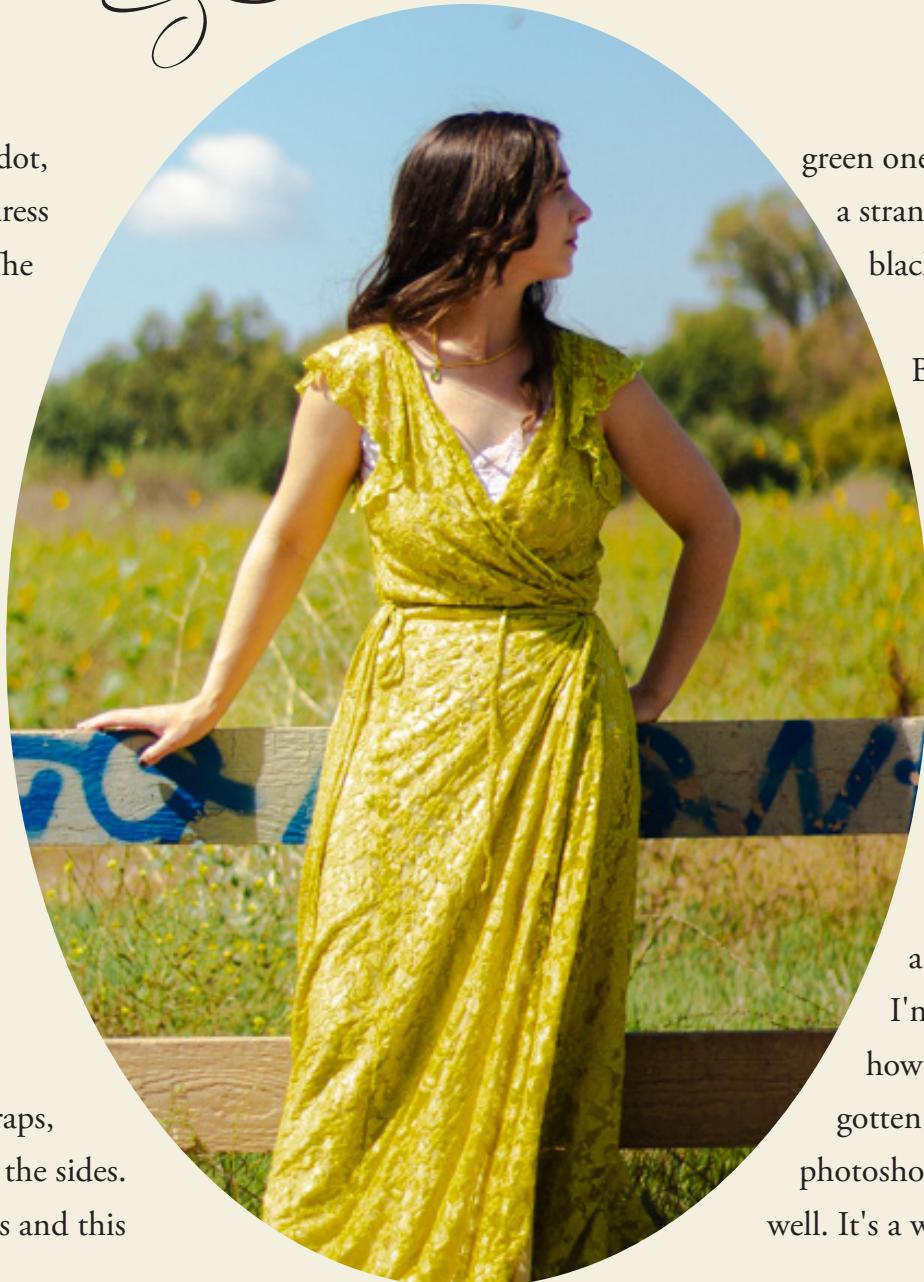
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cnCH1YG-PCI> \*



# Off the

I wore this peridot, mossy swamp dress to a wedding. The wedding was black tie, and I wasn't quite sure what I wanted to wear (never having been to such an occasion, and feeling out of my league).

First, I found a dress that was black, had gold metal on the straps, and two slits in the sides. I tried that dress and this



green one on, and I felt like a stranger in the stunning black dress.

But as soon as I put this lace dress on, I felt like I was at home. *The delicate lace looks like swampy moss, and it seems to melt as it descends to the floor.* I had to get it altered because I'm the height of a pixie fairy, but I'm quite happy with how it turned out. I've gotten many magical photoshoots out of it, as well. It's a win-win-win!

# Hanger



## FEATURING

# the Peridot Lace Gown

THAT FELT LIKE ME

*Price: \$15*

*Location: Sherman Oaks, California*

*Seller: Buffalo Exchange*

*Perfect with: White sparkly heels and a vintage-inspired, yellow-gold peridot necklace*

I absolutely love this *Buffalo Exchange*. It's my go-to for decently priced, quirky pieces. I found it the first time when me and my thrift-store-loving friend were wandering around Sherman Oaks just looking up "thrift stores" on Google maps. Most of the ones in Sherman Oaks are upper-end thrift stores, the one where you flip the price tag over and wonder if Jennifer Lopez herself previously owned this piece.

That's why Buffalo Exchange is such a diamond in the rough. To get there, you might have to fend off a couple homeless people and find parking on the busy streets, but what else is new?

I also love that the color is the color of my birthstone. I used to hate this color as a child. I wondered why my birthstone was ugly yellow-green, and not gorgeous sapphire or ruby or diamond. But the color has grown on me, especially since my friend bought me a peridot necklace for my birthday and its vintage vibes have made it one of my favorite pieces of jewelry.

If in doubt, buy the piece that makes you look in the mirror and say "THERE I am. That's so me." Even if it's a bit different from everyone else. That's the best part of fashion: finding yourself in fabric form. ♠



## CHAPTER SIX



THE CITY  
// Joy Kelley

FOURTH  
OF JULY  
// Sufjan Stevens

THIS WILD  
EARTH  
(Subjects)  
// Josh Garrels

WHERE IS MY MIND - Piano Rendition  
// The Blue Notes

Playlist

# SOFT THOUGHTS

## CHAPTER SEVEN

15

### Psalm 60:4

Let me dwell in your tent forever!  
Let me take refuge under the shelter  
of your wings.

•A man who is ruled by his instincts is a weak man,” Preston said, at last. “People aren’t treasures to plunder.”

#### What is your only comfort in life and in death?

That I am not my own, but belong—body and soul, in life and in death—to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ.

He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven; in fact, all things must work together for my salvation. Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.

#### What must you know to live and die in the joy of this comfort?

Three things:  
first, how great my sin and misery are;  
second, how I am set free from all my sins and misery;  
third, how I am to thank God for such deliverance.

I've always loved wild things.  
I never even thought to call a  
dandelion  
a weed.

PRAY FOR GOD TO  
BRING PEOPLE  
INTO YOUR LIFE  
WHO LOVE HIM &  
WHO YOU CAN  
HONESTLY BE  
YOURSELF WITH

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I'm always where I'm meant to be  
Whether in a valley  
Or the sunniest of mountaintops  
It  
All  
Has  
Reason  
It  
All  
Has  
Purpose  
So take a deep breath  
Stop waiting for the clouds to clear  
And learn to grow where you've been planted  
Because you may find  
That soil is richest  
In the desert places  
Because our gardener  
Isn't limited  
By materials or location or time

Pray to the God who brought an entire nation from an old man and a barren woman.

Pray to the God who parted an entire ocean at the last minute for His people to pass over dry ground.

Pray to the God who gave that which he loved most—His own Son—to save the world.

Pray to the God who has conquered death and has a plan for redemption.

Believe me, this is a plan you WANT to be a part of.

# Art History



*This artist of the Pre-Raphaelite movement has deeply influenced many of my photoshoots.*

John William Waterhouse (1849–1917) was one of the most prolific artists of the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood, a beautiful art movement encouraging a return to intense colors and complex composition focused on historical/literary and nature-driven subjects.

Waterhouse was born in Rome but eventually moved to London and studied at the Royal Academy of Art Schools. His paintings were often based on Shakespeare plays, Tennyson poems, or Greek mythology, focusing on powerful or tragic women like Ophelia, the Lady of Shalott, and Persephone. He also focuses on creatures like sirens, mermaids, and nymphs.

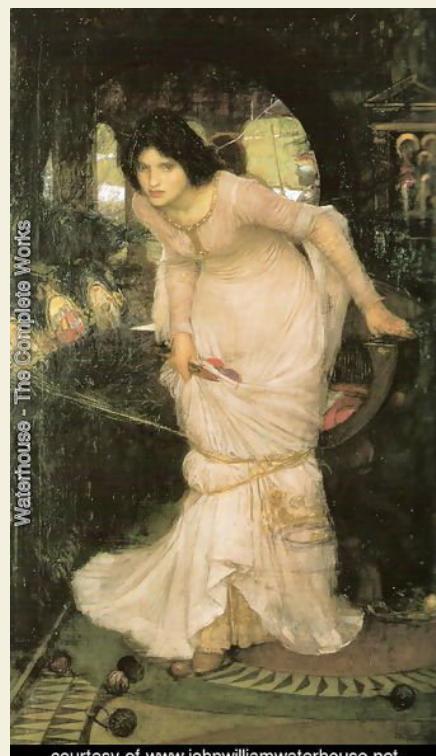
His primary paint medium was oil, but he was actually elected into the Royal Institute of Painters in Watercolour. He completed over 118 paintings in his lifetime.

Not much is known about Waterhouse's private life. No one knows who his female model was for sure. Waterhouse did marry, but he never had any children. Unfortunately, he succumbed to cancer but he continued painting even as his illness developed.

Much of my photography is inspired by the circular movement and drama of his paintings. His paintings are filled with so much angst, and as a writer I appreciate that they are embedded with storytelling. ☈



courtesy of [www.johnwilliamwaterhouse.net](http://www.johnwilliamwaterhouse.net)



courtesy of [www.johnwilliamwaterhouse.net](http://www.johnwilliamwaterhouse.net)

# BEST moments **2024**

1. Being a bridesmaid in two work-friends' weddings!
2. Co-hosting a flower crown party
3. Watching my best friend and coincidental sister graduate nursing school
4. Delving deep into photography (**I did 44 photoshoots**)
5. Writing 20+ original songs for ukulele
6. Visiting San Diego and attending a Switchfoot concert
7. Running a 5k
8. Celebrating my novel's first birthday
9. Weekend trips: Laguna Niguel, San Diego, Solvang, and Big Bear
10. Birthday tea party (i was absolutely spoiled)
11. Watching Les Mis at the Pantages Theater
12. Attending a book signing for Percy Jackson
13. Big trips: Miami and NYC
14. Learning how to sew and crochet
15. Lauren Daigle concert
16. Friendsgiving with the design team at work
17. Meeting a member of one of my favorite bands (Lord Huron)

What were some of the highlights of **your** year?

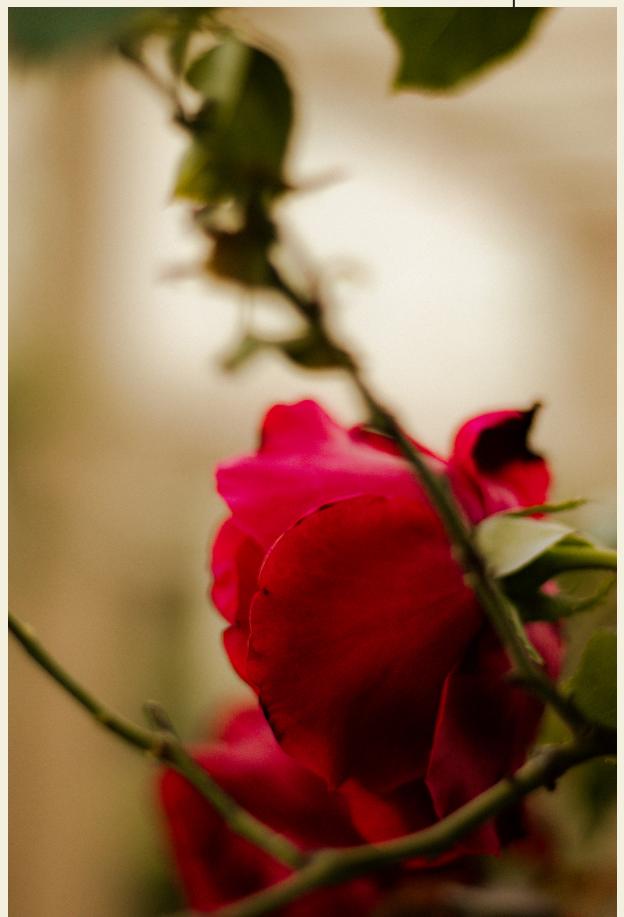


## CHAPTER TEN

## Quiet



Moments





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