

That's a pretty big question.

The main thing that I do differently when writing harems (as compared to any other kind of thing) is, think of what the *girl* gets out of being part of a harem - I make it up, if I have to. (Such as if it's a canon character, like Erza or Cass.)

Main possibilities are:

- Bisexual. For my part, I only use this when the canon character is bi or that's part of the character. I just find it tedious and I'm not interested in lesbian stuff in sex scenes.
- Compersion. The girl in question likes seeing other people happy and doesn't really feel jealous about other people having sex with her boyfriend/husband. It's not in a sexual way. I write Cass and Xico this way.
- Love/Desperation. The girl really, really likes the guy, so even if she'd rather it was just the two of them, she can put up with it. Kylie (FTPG) and Juvia (my Fairy Tail SI) both fit this bill, in their own ways. This solution often involves highlighting some of the downsides of haremshit.
- Relevant Fetish. Cuckqueanry, hothusband, netorare, recruiter, etc. The girl has some type of kink that can *only* be satisfied if her man is fucking other women. Alice, Julia, Amber, etc.
- Here For My Friend. The girl has a closer, deeper, longer term relationship with another girl in the harem - who has one of the above factors at play to make her want threesomes or the like. Jenny from Gamer IRL, Mai from KHiT 1-Q (pre-dicked straight), etc.
- Not That Into You. Boy likes girl, girl likes boy, but their relationship isn't intimate enough for sexual exclusivity to be on the table, or their personalities make it obviously unlikely. Loki in Waifu Dungeon fits this bill, for example. Plenty of others, I'm sure.
- Abuse/Control. The male party is clearly manipulating or abusing the girl into going along with it. Tends to be for dommy fetish stuff, like Vista Corruption.
- I Don't Care. Just don't mention the jealousy problems/dynamics at all, pretend they don't exist. Kinda the case for most Hentalian girls, I think Starfire too, generally I use it for aliens. Not super common among my human characters.

I try to make sure that the character is still themselves as they express these features, and go for the specific option and form that most fits them. Juvia's desperate for Lee not to leave her, so of course she'll let him have sex with Erza even though she's prettier and has bigger boobs! (Especially because of that, since if her beloved Lee had to choose, he'd probably choose Erza!) Cass can see people's emotions extremely obviously, so she likes watching people having sex because they're enjoying themselves. Loki is a huge annoying horndog.

As to intra-harem dynamics, I just write the characters and let them become (or not become) friends, as the case may be. Weak/pathetic characters like Noriko become little sisters who get protected by strong/powerful characters like Erza and Julia. Girls with compatible or incompatible personalities have the appropriate responses. Etc. Just like you'd write any fic where characters are forced to be a team but maybe don't like each other so much.