



FE:3H Rarepair Exchange 2022

Welcome to the FE3H Rarepair Exchange! This is a gift exchange to celebrate pairings and polyships that are less commonly seen in the Fire Emblem: Three Houses fandom.

Ships of varying “rarity” are eligible for this exchange, but we encourage participants to nominate, request, and offer the smallest ships around! We hope to encourage people to create things they might not usually consider, and to have a variety of works made for the event!

Extra thanks to [Eliza](#) for the kind use of her rarepair end cards in our graphics!

Current Stage: Creation period — assignments sent!

[Pinch hitter signups are still open!](#)

Quick Links

Twitter: [@fe3hrarepairex](#)

AO3 Tagset: [FE3H Rarepair Exchange Tag Set](#)

AO3 Collection: [FE3H Rarepair Exchange](#)

Email us: fe3hrarepairex@gmail.com

Questions form: <https://tinyurl.com/fe3hrxquestions>

Schedule

Interest Check: 7th-24th April

Pairing Nominations: 25th April - 11th May

Sign-ups: 12th-29th May

Assignments sent out by: 5th June

Drop-out deadline: 4th August

Assignments due: 13th August

Works revealed: 20th August (or as soon as all assignments are fulfilled)

Guidelines

- All participants should be over 18 at the time of signing up.
- Gifts should be complete works of a standard you would be happy to receive yourself.
 - Fics should be at least 1k words, and not part of a previous series.
 - Art should be at least a clean coloured sketch or equivalent effort — e.g. a short black and white comic.
- All works must be uploaded to Archive of Our Own for submission. This includes art.
- On signing up, you will be asked to write 3-5 requests for different ships, and offer 5-20 ships you are willing to create for.
- You will be matched with a recipient based on one ship you have offered and one request they have made, but you may fulfill any of their requests.
- Works created for the exchange should not feature any of your recipient's stated Do Not Wants.
- Please tag your works appropriately when posting!

Deadlines, Extensions, and Defaulting

If you do not think you will meet the deadline of the 13th of August, feel free to ask us for an extension! We are able to give extensions up to the 19th of August. To ask for an extension, please email us at fe3hrarepairex@gmail.com with your **AO3 username** included in the email.

If you do not think you will be able to complete a gift by the 19th, we would unfortunately prefer you to default, so that we can make sure everyone has a gift in good time. For information on how to default, see our FAQ [here](#). Any participants who do not ask for an extension or post their gift by the end of August 13th in all timezones will be considered to have automatically defaulted, and their assignment will be sent out for pinch hitters to claim.

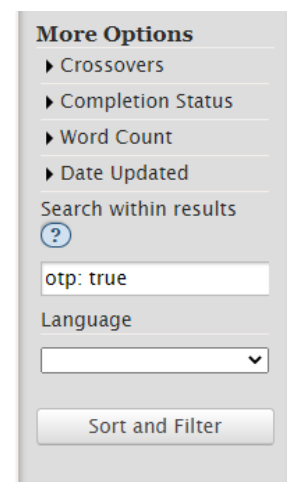
Ship Eligibility and Nominations

To determine the pairings eligible for this exchange, we will be running tag nominations! Tag nominations will run from the 25th of April to the 11th of May. At sign-up, participants will only be able to request and offer pairings included in our tagset.

To be included, pairings must have **less than 200 works on AO3 with otp: true enabled**. To see this number, navigate to a ship's canonical tag on the archive, scroll down to the bottom of the filters box, type **otp: true** into the "Search within results" field, and click "Sort and Filter". See the screenshot on the right for an example.

Polyships are welcome in this exchange! Since most polyships are relatively rare anyway, they are only **not eligible if all relationships between individual characters within the polyship are ineligible**. For instance, this means that Dimitri/Felix/Sylvain is not eligible, as Dimitri/Felix, Felix/Sylvain, and Dimitri/Sylvain are all above the threshold for inclusion. However, Felix/Sylvain/Byleth is eligible, as while Felix/Sylvain and Felix/Byleth are both not eligible, Sylvain/Byleth is.

For the comfort of all participants, ships between characters who are related are not eligible for this exchange.



The screenshot shows a sidebar with the heading "More Options". Below it are several expandable sections: "Crossovers", "Completion Status", "Word Count", and "Date Updated". Below these is a section labeled "Search within results" with a question mark icon. A text input field contains the text "otp: true". Below the input field is a "Language" dropdown menu. At the bottom of the sidebar is a button labeled "Sort and Filter".

Nominating Ships

Nominations will open on the 25th of April! You can find our tagset [here](#). To nominate ships, click the “Nominate” button at the top right, and enter a different relationship into each Relationship field in the form. You can add up to 20 relationships.

If possible, please add the AO3 canonical tag — this will usually autofill. If the ship tags are canonical, there’s no need to add fandoms for each one! It will add automatically.

If you want to add a ship that doesn’t have an AO3 canonical tag, great! We’re all for the rarest of pairs. Please list all the characters’ full names with “/” between them, and fill out the fandom as “Fire Emblem: Fuukasetsugetsu | Fire Emblem: Three Houses”.

Sign-ups

This exchange will be run through Archive of Our Own (AO3) — you will therefore need an account to participate. You can sign up for an account for free [here](#), but please contact us through twitter or email if the queue is too long, and we will get you an invitation.

Requests will be publicly visible during the exchange creation period, for browsing in case anyone wants to make additional gifts for other participants!

Sign-ups on AO3 will consist of two parts: requests and offers.

Can’t decide what to offer or request? Check out this spreadsheet of all the ships in our tagset, made for easier browsing and searching! <https://tinyurl.com/fe3hrxships>

Requests

You will be able to make between 3 and 5 requests, each with a different pairing. You will also need to specify the ratings you are interested in receiving for that request, and write a request in which you elaborate on what you’d like to see in a gift!

Optionally, you may also include some additional tags for the content of your request, and a link to a letter/list describing your general likes and dislikes. Requests may

include NSFW content, but the characters involved should be at least 18. You may not specify whether you want to receive fic or art.

For each request, please check the Fire Emblem: Three Houses box in the fandoms field at the beginning! This lets the pairing system run smoothly.

RELATIONSHIPS:

Please add a separate request for each ship! For polyships, please add only the tag for the full polyship, and not the tags for any relationships within that (e.g. add "Dorothea Arnault/Felix Hugo Fraldarius/Sylvain Jose Gautier" only, and not any of "Dorothea Arnault/Sylvain Jose Gautier," etc., individually).

RATINGS:

Please select all ratings you are happy to receive, not just the highest one — if you are happy to receive a work that is rated anywhere from T to E, for instance, please select all applicable ratings. If you only want to receive something SFW, select G and T.

OPTIONAL LETTER URL:

If you have an existing letter to people creating gifts for you, feel free to link it here!

This is entirely optional, but may help your gifter! This field is an opportunity to link a page (on a blog or carrd, for instance) in which you give more detail on your general likes, dislikes, and preferences that are not specific to any one prompt.

REQUEST TEXT:

Your request should contain a couple of prompts or suggestions of things you would like to see, as well as anything that you absolutely do not want to see. Your Do Not Wants (DNWs) should be as specific as possible, and feel free to put small things as well as large! They do not need to explain why you do not want it, and any vague DNWs will be disregarded. You may not specify whether you would like fic or art, so make sure you have prompts that will work for both!

A good request should give enough information to spark inspiration and let the person assigned you know what you'll enjoy, but leave enough space to allow them some freedom! Bullet points are completely fine.

Examples are given at the end of this section.

OPTIONAL TAGS:

If you would like, you may also fill out the "Optional Tags" field with any tags relevant to the content of your request. These should be what AO3 classifies as "Additional Tags", and not character or ship tags — e.g. Alternate Universe - Modern Setting; Hurt/comfort; Fluff; Trans character. These may help us with matching if you choose to fill them out, but matches will still primarily be based on pairings and ratings!

Request Examples:

Relationship: Edelgard von Hresvelg/Hubert von Vestra.

Ratings: General Audiences, Teen and Up

Some things I love:

- *Hubert performing acts of service as his love language*
- *Domestic fluff!*
- *Post-war or retirement setting with them settling into a less stressful life*
- *Edelgard struggling to show affection but learning to get better at it*

Do not want:

- *Detailed references to Edelgard's crest procedures*
- *Anything in-depth about battle/war and particularly any character deaths*

Optional Tags: *Fluff, Domestic Fluff, Post-War, Retirement*

Relationship: Felix Hugo Fraldariu/Jeritza von Hrym.

Ratings: Teen and Up, Mature, Explicit

Angry fighty boys!! Anything set on the Crimson Flower route would be great. For fic: flirting through sparring? The two of them maybe not really being good for each other, but helping each other take out some frustrations? A calmer, less fighty discussion of how they each see family and duty? Any of these would be amazing. For art: them +

swords/weapons? Either fighting (together or against each other) or just. Bonding over weapons lol.

I find Mercedes's relationship with both of them fascinating, so bonus points if she makes a cameo. Post-timeskip only please, and preferably with no or limited references to Jeritza teaching Felix. Some blood is ok but no heavy gore! If NSFW, no degradation or non-con.

Optional Tags: *Sparring, Black Eagles Felix Hugo Fraldarius*

Relationship: Mercedes von Martritz/Ingrid Brandl Galatea.

Ratings: Mature, Explicit

I would love to see the two of them becoming comfortable with their sexuality with each other! Maybe one of them has some problems acknowledging their attraction to women (because of all the arranged marriage and crests bullshit, perhaps) and the other helps them get over the reservations. Or maybe it's about kinks rather than orientation — I'd love to see some dom Mercedes in a BDSM context. For art, I'd really like to see something of them very blushily getting it on.

I'd rather Ingrid be confused than Mercedes, but I'm fine with either as long as Mercedes isn't portrayed as super innocent or unaware, just with some hangups! I also really like non-binary Ingrid and trans woman Mercedes, so if you wanted to include either of those I would absolutely love it!

DNW: any kind of dub-con or non-con, any past sexual abuse as the reason for their reservations.

Optional tags: *First time, Sexuality Crisis, Kink Exploration, Trans Character*

Offers

RELATIONSHIPS:

Please put the pairings and polyships you are willing to create for into the Relationships field. You must add at least 5 and up to 20 relationships that you would be happy to be assigned. The same guidelines apply for polyships as in requests —

please add the full polyship, and not individual relationships within it, unless they are also eligible and you are willing to create for those as well!

RATINGS:

Please select all ratings at which you would be happy to create a gift. Unfortunately, specifying ratings individually by pairing would make the sign up process very unwieldy, so if for instance you're happy to make E-rated content except for one pairing, where you will only make G- or T-rated content, please specify this in your Offer Text.

OFFER TEXT:

In the Offer text box, please tell us a little about what you like to create, and list anything that you absolutely do not want to create. Being specific here will really help both us and you! A great offer lists some things you love to create, things you don't particularly like to create, and things you absolutely will not create (DNWs).

If there is anyone you do not wish to be matched with, please tell us here, and we will ensure you are not matched with that person. Please give AO3 usernames if possible, or we will not be able to make absolutely sure you are not matched with someone! You do not need to provide a reason or any details. General requests for "do not match me with anyone who has created X/thinks Y" will be disregarded.

OPTIONAL TAGS:

If you would like, you may also fill out the "Optional Tags" field with some of your favorite tags to create for (e.g. Hurt/comfort, Fluff, Character Study,). As with requests, these should be classified as "Additional Tags" on AO3, and not characters or ships. These may help us with matching if you choose to fill them out, but matches will still primarily be based on pairings and ratings!

Offer Example:

Relationships: Annette Fantine Dominic/Hilda Valentine Goneril, Annette Fantine Dominic/Ingrid Brandl Galatea, Annette Fantine Dominic/Ingrid Brandl

Galatea/Mercedes von Martritz, Annette Fantine Dominic/Lysithea von Ordellia,
Annette Fantine Dominic/Mercedes von Martritz (etc.)

Ratings: General Audiences, Teen and Up, Mature, Explicit

I love writing angst!! happy or unhappy endings, utterly bleak or a vehicle for some nice hurt/comfort, etc. it's all good. I'd also rather not write pure fluff, but e.g. angst with a fluffy ending or hurt/comfort are fine.

I particularly love writing the Blue Lions characters, but I'm happy with most students! Any rating is ok.

DNWs: I really don't want to write omegaverse or anything involving pregnancy or children. I also do not want to write any student ships set pre-timeskip, even if entirely SFW.

Don't match me with: xxx_yyyyyy

Optional Tags: Angst, Angst with a Happy Ending, Unhappy Ending, Hurt/Comfort, Fire Emblem: Three Houses Blue Lions Route, Post-Timeskip | War Phase (Fire Emblem: Three Houses)

Assignments and Matching

Assignments will go out by 5th June!

To match all participants we will be using AO3's automatic system, and then manually checking for best fit and any conflicting DNWs. You will be matched with a recipient based on one ship you have offered and one request they have made, but you may fulfill any of their requests.

We will do our best with matching, but your assignment may include other requests containing things that you stated you did not want to create — you are never obliged to create something you are uncomfortable with! The request you have been matched on should not include anything you stated you did not want to create.

We will not re-do your assignment unless we have made a clear mistake, for instance if all your recipient's requests feature things you do not wish to create, or none of their requested pairings match your offer. If this is the case, please message or email us as soon as possible.

Gifts are due by 13th August! Please post these directly to AO3 using the “Fulfill” button under your assignments, or check our FAQ below for any problems or questions.

FAQs

What are treats? How do I make one?

“Treats” are any extra gift in the exchange beyond original assignments and pinch hits! The general minimums of 1k fic/clean coloured sketch do not apply to treats. Anyone can make a treat, even if you’re not signed up for the exchange! They’re perfect for if you see a request that you love from someone other than your assigned recipient, or if you have some spare time and want to make an extra little something. When posting a treat, please make sure you’re posting to the exchange AO3 collection [here](#), and that you manually enter the username of the person the treat is for!

To browse all the requests made for the exchange in a more searchable form than the AO3 page, you can see the Autoao3 for the exchange [here](#)!

Are there any content restrictions?

All creations should avoid perpetuating discriminatory or oppressive attitudes (e.g. writing about homophobia, racism, or other prejudices is allowed, but not writing something which is in itself homophobic). When making work about these or other sensitive topics, however, please remember that you are making a gift for someone else. What they find upsetting or difficult to happily consume may differ to you, so keep that in mind!

For everyone’s comfort, this exchange will also not allow NSFW content featuring characters under 18, or ships including characters who are related. This includes relations by marriage.

Are NSFW gifts allowed?

Yes! If you would like to receive or create an NSFW gift, please show this in the ratings for your requests and offer in your sign-up.

Can I only offer and request from pairings in the tagset?

In short, yes. This is so that the mods don't have to individually check every single request during signups to see if the pairing is eligible! We have collected over 500 eligible ships in our tag nomination phase, so if you're looking for ideas try browsing through it, or its more searchable form [here](#).

A pairing I want to request is in the tagset, but not showing up in the sign-up form.

This happens sometimes, unfortunately! Just copy and paste the pairing from the tagset.

I won't be able to finish my piece by the deadline.

We know that life happens, don't worry. We're happy to give extensions — please just email us to ask for one. If you're having problems, we'd always rather you contacted us than not! Extensions can be given up to August 19th.

What if I have to drop out?

It's ok, sometimes life *really* happens. If you're sure you won't be able to complete your assignment even with an extension, please use AO3 to default on your assignment. Navigate to the "My Assignments" page on AO3, and click the "Default" button next to your assignment for this exchange. There is no need to contact us about this, AO3 will do it automatically!

Please drop out as soon as you know you won't be able to participate, and barring exceptional circumstances before our drop-out deadline of August 4th. The sooner we know the better, and the more time a pinch-hitter will have to work on a gift, so please tell us as soon as you make the decision.

If you do not submit your gift by August 13th without contacting us to ask for an extension, we will consider you to have dropped.

How will submission and posting work?

To submit your gift, please post it to the AO3 collection, gifted to your recipient, by August 11th (or your extension deadline). If you navigate to the "My Assignments" page and click the "Fulfill" button, it will bring up a posting form with the gifting information already filled out! If you are submitting an extra gift, you will need to fill

this in manually — please enter “fe3hrarepairex” as the collection name, and your recipient’s AO3 username in the “Is this a gift?” field.

The collection will be revealed on August 20th, or as soon as all participants have gifts! Please make sure to comment on your gift as soon as possible after reveals.

Once works are revealed, feel free to share your work on other social media platforms! On twitter, either @ our account or tag #fe3hrarepairex and we will retweet your post for you, **if it is SFW or the tweet shows only a SFW preview of an NSFW piece.**

I’ve created art — do I need to post to AO3 too?

Yes. AO3 unfortunately does not have native image hosting, so you will need to upload your work to a hosting service such as imgur, dropbox, etc., and grab a sharing link from there. Then, on the new work form, scroll down to the “Work Text” box, make sure you’re on “Rich Text”, and click the image button. You can then just paste in the link to your work! There is no need to add dimensions — AO3 will now automatically resize images.

How will pinch hitting work?

When we need a pinch hit gift, we will email all those who have filled out our pinch hitter form. To claim the pinch hit, simply reply to the email!

Can I sign up to pinch hit without signing up for the full exchange?

Absolutely! To sign up as a pinch hitter, fill out [this form](#).

What is a letter?

Some people like to link to a write-up of their general likes, dislikes, and preferences in fanworks! If you don’t have one, there’s no need to worry about this — it’s entirely optional.

I don’t want to post my gift publicly.

Please let the mods know! We can post it from the mod account. However, we very much encourage you to post yourself if possible.

Can I make more than one gift?

Yes, absolutely! Feel free to either make multiple things for your assigned recipient, sign up to be a pinch hitter, or consider making a treat for someone else in the exchange! Everyone's requests will be open to browse on the collection page, so feel free to have a look through and see if anything catches your eye.

Am I allowed to ask for something including my OCs?

Not for this exchange, sorry.

Can I talk about what I'm making?

We ask that you don't talk about it publicly or where your recipient might see (for example, on twitter or in a discord server they are also in), or post any WIP snippets, but talking about it privately is OK! It should be kept a surprise for the recipient.

Please don't share your work on social media until works are revealed!

I have a question about the requests in my assignment.

Let us know, and we can ask your recipient for you! Please don't contact your recipient directly before gifts are posted.

Contact/who's running this?

The best way to contact us is by emailing fe3hrarepairex@gmail.com or messaging us on twitter [@fe3hrarepairex](https://twitter.com/fe3hrarepairex).

This exchange is run by Rye (@riahK — mostly graphics, social media, etc.) and berry (@_epistrophic — mostly spreadsheet wrangling, making many lists, etc.).