BTS FANFICTION RECOMMENDATIONS

A list* by Sapphiamur [yt channel]

*This list will be continuously updated as I read my way through AO3;).

Last updated: 4.9.2018

A/N Notes:

Please, keep in mind that this list was put together based on my **subjective criteria and preferences**. However, I do believe that the fanfictions listed below are some of the very best in this fandom that I've encountered so far, both in terms of storyline, quality of writing, characterization etc. Every single one of them is very special and you will make no mistake by reading any one of these. If you don't fancy the content of a particular fanfic in the list, be sure to check out the author's channel and have a look around. Some of their other fanfics might suit your tastes better. Please, don't forget to write a comment for the author as they worked incredibly hard on their stories and they give them to us for free! The least we can do is show our appreciation <3. If you have recommendations of your own, feel free to contact me on my twitter or youtube account. I always love to read a new amazing story!

My general preferences and criteria:

Any pairing / character's POV. Basically, because I learned a long time ago that good authors write good stories no matter what pairing or characters they choose. That said, I do find myself reading more fics with Jungkook, Jimin and especially Yoongi in them as one of the protagonists.

No Member x Reader. I just can't do those.

No fluff. I don't enjoy reading fluffy fanfics as they tend to be too sweet / unrealistic / cliched. I'm also not a fan of cute misunderstandings or the whole plot being based on the fact that two people can't communicate with each other (there are exceptions, BUT the author compensated for it in terms of psychological development).

Mature male characters. The characters act maturely and surprise surprise - <u>as men</u>. Although, this might seem self evident, judging by most of the fanfics I've come across, it's really not. So plainly speaking, what you're not gonna see in this list are fics about unrequited high school crushes, petty revenge plots, wishful Mary Sues, endless discussions over feelings and similar.

Realism. The characters act age appropriately. If they endured trauma, the trauma is realistically reflected in the character's behaviour and in their inner voice. Characters have motivation and believable backstories. Authors who do research for their stories are my fucking heros. Whether it be historical facts, how to efficiently slash an artery and how much blood spurts out... yes, yes and yes.

18+. I like to read adult fiction with good plot. I'm an adult, sue me :).

Non-AU / **AU**. I don't care. It can be a sci-fi, fantasy, historical novel or regular BTS as idols. All are welcome here. The only type of AUs I don't go looking for are the artistic ones - e.g. ballet, theatre, figure skaters, photographers, classical musicians etc.



Fics are listed in no particular order.

Fics with this symbol ♥ are my all-time favourites.

House of Cards

by Sugamins ♥

Read at: https://archiveofourown.org/works/5293532/chapters/12219563

Author's Summary:

"Jungkook is the heir to a mob empire, the most notorious in the whole of Seoul. Taehyung is a rookie sent in to infiltrate by his select team and bring the empire crumbling down."

Pairings: Taehyung/Jungkook/Jimin, platonic Yoongi/Jimin

Word count: 400k

My Comments:

If you haven't read this fanfic yet, you're probably new to the fandom and/or too young to read it. At this point, this is basically a classic - the most popular BTS fanfiction on AO3, which to me is a little surprising considering how heavy on violence and sexual content the fic is. So please, read all the warnings carefully before you start reading, it really does contain some extremely disturbing imagery not suitable for minors and squeamish folks.

This story is, for one thing, very original. I love reading both fanfiction and non fanfiction and this truly is one of the most memorable pieces of literature I have ever come across. I don't mind reading violence and gore, but even I was really surprised at the details this story involved. It wasn't just for the shock factor, though. The POV switches between several characters, one of them is Taehyung. We experience true horror through Taehyung's eyes and slowly follow his descent as he gets closer and closer to Jungkook who in this story is a truly disturbed - in many regards sociopathic - individual, who among other things gets off on causing other people pain. They have a really interesting relationship and you cannot but appreciate the level of psychological intricacy the author managed to weave into the story. And then there is Jimin. From the listed pairings, you might think of the three of them as a simple love triangle, but it goes so much deeper than that. His story hit me the hardest for reasons you will understand after you read it. You question allegiancy, you question motives, you question what love is. This story is a masterpiece in psychological thriller. Also possibly the best erotica I've ever read.

As for other aspects worth mentioning, the author has a very nice, clean style of writing and the amount of details is absolutely staggering. The plot is well thought-out and engaging. I cannot stress how much I enjoyed the whole story, but especially the ending left a huge impact on me. And although, the fiction might not be as "polished" in some places, for an author who doesn't have a whole team behind them to proofread and get rid of some unnecessary passages, it is incredibly impressive and the quality of the work is well above most of the regular published stuff.

My Highlights: psychologically driven, personality disorders, trauma, sexual content

More masterpieces by Sugamins:

Taste of Ink ♥ [gang AU], archiveofourown.org/works/4502748/

Warehouse Kings

by Rix ♥!

Read at: https://archiveofourown.org/works/5556446/chapters/12816503

Author's Summary:

If you can still feel the pain, you're just not getting hit hard enough.

Pairings: Yoongi/Jimin

Word count: 30k

My Comments:

Before I even address this particular fic, I just want to say that Rix is really one of the best out there and I absolutely LOVE basically every single piece she's written. There is no bad fic, just pure quality. She's honestly incredible and if I were to choose my favourite writing style, this would be it. She has this raw, unapologetic way of storytelling. She doesn't try to wiggle around certain topics and doesn't shy away from exploring some very dark themes and various kinks. She is amazingly insightful and really pulls apart the characters and understands what makes them tick. I love how she manages to tell a story by purposely not saying something and letting the reader come to their own conclusions. Her characters (she writes mostly Jungkook and Taehyung) are often portrayed as more or less the archetypes of macho men, seemingly strong, but flawed and insecure on the inside. If not that, they are always multifaceted and every time she somehow finds the perfect balance between powerful and powerless. It's fascinating. No fluff in her fics and I love it. From the few short personal notes on her channel, I gather she's really humble and would probably think I'm exaggerating. Truth is, I'm really not. I'm just a huge fucking fan and I'm really sad that I have no way of knowing how she's doing or whether she even writes anymore now that she's left the fandom.

I could list all her works here, easily, but just for the sake of efficiency, I'm gonna write down only a few select ones that stood out to me the most. See the box below.

As for <u>Warehouse Kings</u>, this fanfic spoke to me on so many levels I couldn't even believe it. Throughout the whole piece I had this suffocating feeling of nostalgia and reflected on my own life. I related to Yoongi's character a lot, to his fear and the overwhelming sense of having to grow up and not wanting to at the same time. To trying to cling to whatever he could just to prevent himself from having to face the unknown, watching the people around him moving on while he's stuck in a self inflicted limbo.

My Highlights: psychologically driven, fight club with Yoongi in charge

More masterpieces by Rix:

- Feel it Kicking in ♥ [surfers AU], archiveofourown.org/works/9134305
- Hickory ♥ [underground boxers AU], archiveofourown.org/works/7596163
- Proximal Glitch ♥ [virtual reality/cult AU], archiveofourown.org/works/6131320
- Resonance [soul eater AU], link: archiveofourown.org/works/9538235

Run This Town

by dreamingdaegu 🔻

Read at: https://archiveofourown.org/works/11655834

Author's Summary:

"Wanna give you a private dance," Jungkook murmurs, tugging him in the direction of one of the secluded rooms.

"Doesn't that cost a lot more?"

"You can afford it," Jungkook tells him.

It's true, Yoongi can. But it's the principle; the feeling of being taken for a fool, who'll pay anything just because he can. He's about to argue his point before Jungkook adds-"Anyway, this one's for free."

Pairings: Yoongi/Jungkook, side Taehyung/Jimin and Jin/Namjoon

Word count: 240k

My Comments:

The dynamic between Jungkook and Yoongi is both extremely entertaining and strangely touching. You can feel the genuine attraction between the two characters. Jungkook is the cocky daring seducer, very open and blunt, who gets what he wants whenever he wants (except for love and approval from his family), while Yoongi's the sarcastic self-reliant corporate guy who grew up in extremely poor conditions and had to work hard all his life.

Part of their dynamic and the one thing I cannot praise the author enough for, which really makes this fic stand out from the rest for me, are the <u>dialogs</u>. It was such a joy to read a work so heavily reliant on two people talking. In my honest opinion creating a good dialog between characters is one of the hardest, if not the hardest thing, about writing fiction in general. Most of the time, it all stands and falls on how the characters communicate. And this author absolutely nailed it. But it gets even more impressive. This whole series started as a simple one shot smut fic, which thankfully became popular enough that the author decided to expand on the universe and write a whole series around it. This series is not overly plotty, in fact I'd say the plot is very much secondary to character development. Every chapter more or less maintains the format of the first chapter, which is great dialog and amazing smut session. And you would think, well, it is BOUND to get boring after reading the same exact thing over and over again. The real kicker is that it doesn't, because you don't read the exact same thing. There is a slow natural progression of Jungkook's and Yoongi's relationship and the author expertly skips over unnecessary information, or mentions it in passing.

Another fact I was pleasantly surprised by was that the author had a very good grip on how the 'real world' works, e.g. how shady deals are made, how business partners bond with each other in strip clubs, how much one has to protect their true identity to not lose their status... I know, I know, that's all common sense. But I really appreciated that the author didn't romanticize it and described it as it was. It was another nice touch to an already amazing fic.

My Highlights: characters' dynamic, dialogs!, smut, intense slow-burn?:)

Inc.

by minverse ♥

Read at: https://archiveofourown.org/works/7637665/chapters/17389207

Author's Summary:

Corporate Relationship Disclosure Form -- Human Resource Coordinator: Jung Hoseok

Section to be completed by Employees Involved:

Names: Min Yoongi, Kim Seokjin

Job Titles: Chief Accountant Supreme, Professional Wet Blanket Nature of Relationship:Friends with Benefits Sex Enemies

Length of Relationship: 4 minutes

Please Describe Jin's Dick: Shut up Hoseok I see you nasty fucker, you just added this fucking question to the form you didn't even make sure the font was the same as the original you better hold on to your goddamn cat because I'm coming for you as soon as I'm finished getting- oh fucking hell.

Pairings: Yoongi/Jin, side Taehyung/Jimin

Word count: 43k

My Comments:

Have you ever read a fic, which made you die of laughter literally every other sentence? Yes, this is the one for me. I can't even point out all my favourite scenes, there are just too many. But not only was the story incredibly funny, I think the author had a really nice balance between realistic portrayal of struggles people go through and then the absurdity and witticism of the characters. She was really clever and creative with the setup and the scenes too, as well as when it came to the structure of the story and the storytelling. We all know that good jokes are all about timing, precise phrasing, voice of the character and so on. And she absolutely delivered. Moreover, she managed to get in subtle references that only BTS fans would catch, like 'Taehyung is not a chair' - and it made the story even better on a whole new level. Plus the way she writes, the realistic touch - like Yoongi being a flawed protagonist, things don't go smoothly for him, so many awkward situations arise, but not to the point of cartoon comedy, and then adding certain concepts into the mix like the low key sarcastic criticism of capitalism... It was all around a really well executed fic and the author's sense of humour, which she incorporates into her works, is absolutely unparalleled. I still have a huge smile plastered on my face just thinking about this fic;).

My Highlights: funniest read you'll find, do I need to say more?:)

More masterpieces by minverse:

Jammed ♥ [best men AU], archiveofourown.org/works/4932889

Speed Demon

by lethallergic ♥

Read at: https://archiveofourown.org/works/9946805

Author's Summary:

Pick up the pace like danger and ride.

Pairings: Jungkook/Taehyung

Word count: 50k

My Comments:

I wanna say bad boys in action, but that would be such a huge fucking understatement that I'm really not going to succumb to the temptation. This story is so well written that I'm struggling to grasp how authors like these (all authors in this list tbh) don't have their own pedestals and aren't carried around the town, while we throw money at them. It gripped me from the first few paragraphs.

Jungkook is a valet boy who understands how the world works and uses his charm and talents to get by, including stealing from rich people who don't need the money anyway. He meets Taehyung, an annoying yet intriguing person who challenges him like noone else has ever done before. Their dynamic is what really made the fic for me and it is written so expertly that it gives you great insight into why these two people would naturally gravitate towards each other. I also loved how on one hand, they would be incredibly blunt with each other, and on the other, they would struggle to express what they really thought and felt. Some of the scenes aren't even that 'shocking' for lack of a better word, and yet I can remember them very clearly, like e.g. the first time Jungkook meets Taehyung. You get to see Jungkook question himself and his life choices leading up to this point and afterwards. It's a really engaging story, not such a heavy read as some of the other fics in this list, but more than worth reading for all the things mentioned above.

Be sure to check out the author's other works too. Again, extremely well written pieces with amazing characterizations, plot and memorable scenes.

My Highlights: characters' dynamic, great plot

More masterpieces by lethallergic:

- Something To Do With Hands ♥ [Idols non AU], archiveofourown.org/works/5995291
- Some Killer King You Are ♥ [X Games AU], archiveofourown.org/works/7010941
- Swimming With The Stars (Until We Drown) [dystopian/vampire AU], archiveofourown.org/works/3710992

起死回生; To Live Again

by mindheist

Read at: https://archiveofourown.org/works/9396056

Author's Summary:

Fiction gives us a second chance that life denies us.

Pairings: Jungkook/Taehyung

Word count: 30k

My Comments:

I've read some work from this author before, because I've seen her on so many recommendation lists. And although I understand why a lot of people love her stories, I gotta admit, and again, this is <u>purely subjective</u>, that I haven't found myself engaged enough to be able to immerse myself in most of the stories she created. She has a very specific type of dialog in her modern age fics. If I had to describe it, without trying to trivialize it, I'd say rather close to a sitcom dialog, where the characters have similar sense of humour and play into each others cards. And there is nothing wrong with that per se, it can be cute and funny, but for me it was something that I just couldn't get past. So imagine my surprise when I found a story, that was so completely different to what the author usually writes that I still struggle to believe it was even written by the same person.

To Live Again is a historical fiction with an (un)expected twist at the end, which will pierce your heart through and through. It's such a beautiful story, following the boys' lives since they were very young. It touches on many problematic aspects relevant to that particular time, but even today, although in a much less pronounced manner, like stratification (low-born vs. high-born), pressure of expectation, danger of being discovered as someone outside of the norm... The relationship between Jungkook and Taehyung is so pure and genuine you really cannot but mourn for them as they discover the world is a harsh and cruel place. I still can't get over how beautifully the author uses words in this piece, almost bordering on poetic. Truly a mesmerising read, very detailed and concise at the same time.

My Highlights: historical fiction, slow-burn

Seeking A Friend For The End Of The World

by TheOrgasmicSeke ♥!

Read at: https://archiveofourown.org/works/5883118/chapters/13558942

Author's Summary:

Jungkook was holding him against the edge of a bridge and asking him to jump into the unknown with him. He was asking Yoongi to trust him; a kid who he didn't even know existed until a few days ago. A kid that was quickly tearing down every wall Yoongi built up around himself for the past ten years and shoving himself inside, curling up like he belonged there all along.

So Yoongi did the only thing he could.

He jumped.

Pairings: Yoongi/Jungkook/Jimin, side Jin/Namjoon

Word count: 79k

My Comments:

This story will hurt you. It will make you fall in love and then rip everything to pieces. I have no idea how I got through reading it, let alone how the author managed to write it all. You know how the story ends and you know it from the very beginning. What you don't expect is the exponential rate at which you start caring for every single character and feel the slowly approaching doom as if it was happening for real.

In this story, you follow Yoongi and learn about his experiences, insecurities, perceived failures. You learn what led to him being alone and wanting to end his life. And then, at the end of the world, he finds a purpose to live. I don't even know how to express how unbelievably tragic, yet inspiring and full of hope this story is. I'm telling you, if I were to recommend just one fic from the BTS fandom, it would be this one. The writing is stunning, it reveals important aspects of Yoongi's character in the right moments, the progression of Yoongi's relationship with Jungkook and later Jimin flows completely naturally, there's not one forced element of it in the whole story. I am saying this, because admittedly I was going into this a bit sceptical. Up until that point I have never read a believable and realistic polyamory relationship that wouldn't feel too far-fetched or more on the toxic side (as the case is with House of Cards). But the author made it work, and not only that, you absolutely believed all of them belonged together. This story will stay with me for a long time to come.

Don't forget to check out the author's other works, she wrote quite a lot. She likes to play with fantasy elements and prefers more fluff than angst. The focus is usually Yoongi x someone.

My Highlights: psychologically driven, tragic, inspiring

More masterpieces by TheOrgasmicSeke:

Sink Your Teeth Into My Flesh [vampire AU], archiveofourown.org/works/13291386

All the King's Men

by annafeu

Read at: https://archiveofourown.org/works/5951442

Author's Summary:

Castle servants Jimin and Taehyung find themselves involved in a game with the Crown Prince.

Pairings: Jimin/Taehyung, Jimin/Jungkook

Word count: 52k

My Comments:

Another historical fiction on this list, but this time - more on the dark side. This stems from the fact that this is not the typical premise of everyone is inherently good and nice to each other. They are not, and you get to experience that first hand throughout the story, and especially at the end. The degree to which you do experience it was actually quite shocking for me, but not because it was so outrageous and unrealistic, but because the author really went there. I didn't expect to find that sort of thing in a BTS fanfiction - which is not to say I consider it bad or bad writing - not at all, it was just unexpected.

To be honest, unexpected will be the theme of this whole review. I really have to praise the author for not making it obvious from the beginning where the fic was going in terms of the three main characters and their involvement. You start the journey with Jimin and Taehyung, both low-borns trying to get through the days filled with heavy labour unscathed and with the little joy they get from spending some time with each other. They are happy, content even. Then Jungkook comes along, the Crown Prince, and you can feel the whole dynamic of the relationship changing. Nothing is so easy anymore. Can they all be friends? More than friends? Can low-borns even refuse it? What happens when someone gets jealous? The author asks all these questions and gives you the answers at the end.

Apart from the plot and character development, I should mention that I absolutely loved the writing style this author has. Also contains some really unforgettable moments.

Written for Bangtan Valentine's Day Exchange. Oh, the irony.

My Highlights: realistic historical fiction, psychological aspects, beautifully written

Loverboy

by gangbang

Read at: https://archiveofourown.org/works/6094344

Author's Summary:

This much Jimin's figured out: sometimes, somehow, his words make people fall in love with him.

Pairings: Jimin/Taehyung/Jungkook

Word count: 10k

My Comments:

Although this story is relatively short, it introduces the universe in which it is set really effectively. The main protagonist is Jimin, who has the power of controlling the emotion of love. The tragic irony is that making people fall in love with him and influencing their judgment has nothing to do with finding actual love with someone. He wants to experience that, but spending his entire life dependent on his power and not knowing to what degree he's even able to control it is not easy. He's not the only one with such powers, though. Emotions vary greatly and anyone who wields them faces this strange dilemma. Having to deal with the consequences of using their abilities is what brings them together - Jungkook, Taehyung and Jimin.

I absolutely loved this original concept of controlling emotions and wish that the author found inspiration to expand this universe some more, even though part of me recognizes that the idea and meaning behind the whole story was already said and the story ended at a perfect place. The writing is absolutely amazing and really puts you in the characters' shoes. I also commend the author for adding another layer to the mix, which is what profession would people with special abilities of this nature choose, given how they felt about themselves for using them in the first place.

My Highlights: very original concept, psychological aspects

More masterpieces by gangbang:

• Teeth Over Skin [demon AU], archiveofourown.org/works/12346014

Appetite For Stars

by *snarcsics* ♥

Read at: https://archiveofourown.org/works/12232512/chapters/27790884

Author's Summary:

Jeongguk has a thing for his step-father.

Pairings: Jungkook/Jimin

Word count: 37k

My Comments:

Listen, I know how the premise sounds like, I've been there. But this work is so well-written, so immersive and so delicately and carefully woven together that I seriously vouch for it not being one of those creepy romanticized relationships, where one party takes advantage of the other, justifies it in their head and the reader is just supposed to go along with it. In parts, it is definitely uncomfortable and really hard to read, but it was written so deliberately and completely intentionally, in fact it is one of the main points of the story. In no way does the author condone the behaviour presented in the story.

Being realistic, this fiction will most definitely not be everyone's cup of tea. Just the topic itself is very controversial and not many will see the work for the qualities it has. Having said that, let's move on to what I found fascinating.

'Jeongguk has a thing for his step-father.' is an understatement and when you read the story, you will understand why. It borders on pathological obsession. In the beginning of the story Jungkook is also very underage. As you can probably guess, this is not a very healthy combo and the advances he makes towards his step-father, Jimin, will at times make your skin crawl. I'm still surprised how the author managed to write the psychology of Jungkook's character with such accuracy and credibility. I often find it hard to read young teen characters, either because I'm now well past that age and cannot relate to them at all, or because the writer just didn't do a good job at writing them. Either way, this is not the case and you cannot but stare at your monitor thinking this is getting too real. To Jimin's credit, he tries his absolute best at not engaging Jungkook in any way, shape or form. The problem is, Jimin is too nice. And once again, this is so in character that it gives me chills just thinking about how well the author described their interactions and the eventual outcome. And last, but not least, enter Namjoon, Jimin's husband and Jungkook's father. And flabbergasted for the third time, Namjoon is the archetype of absent father with a controlling streak who probably means well, but work has always been more important than family. Everything fits so well it's unbelievable. And that's just the first part of the story.

There are so many scenes in this fic that are hard to forget, but one in particular is stuck in my mind, and it was the one in which Namjoon and Jimin were going at it, while young Jungkook just sort of voyeristically observed them. And they knew. Yes, that's the sort of thing you're getting yourself into.

I absolutely loved this fiction, it was seriously a most fascinating read.

My Highlights: psychologically driven, extremely well-written

First Love

by *xiajin* ♥

Read at: https://archiveofourown.org/works/8004949

Author's Summary:

Jungkook is more than a star - he's a black hole, and Yoongi has no gravity.

Pairings: Yoongi/Jungkook

Word count: 17k

My Comments:

This piece of fiction is so special and beautiful I struggle to find the right words to describe it. Jungkook is a psychic, who can see things that will keep you awake at night. Yoongi and Jimin are detectives fighting crime. Jungkook comes and goes and Yoongi realizes Jungkook's another mystery he cannot solve. I love the author's summary, because it really does reflect the essence of the whole story, which is the inevitability - of everything that happens in the future, of the growing attraction Yoongi and Jungkook feel towards each other, of uncertainty... I love how the author kept certain things ambiguous. For me it doesn't always work in fics, because it can feel like the author is purposely avoiding having to get to the nitty gritty of explaining why and how. It works amazingly here, because even though Jungkook is the one with the knowledge, we experience everything from Yoongi's perspective. Yoongi who doesn't understand everything and eventually learns to be okay with it. I really appreciated that the author took their time to insert potentially inconsequential details into the story as well, like Namjoon and his attitude towards Jungkook's method of solving crime. The heart of the story, though, lies with these two, Jungkook and Yoongi. There is one moment in the story where the author repeatedly kicks you in the gut while you're still lying and you just have to accept it and learn to live with it just like Yoongi did. Because it was/is/will be inevitable. The ending is open and I really think it's perfect just the way it is. There is a lot of symbolism in it and in the story in general. I absolutely love it. I love the author.

My Highlights: original concept, psychology, symbolism

More masterpieces by xiajin:

• **Do It Like Me** [housekeeper/cop AU], archiveofourown.org/works/7351963/

Same Damn Hunger

by marienadine ♥

Read at: https://archiveofourown.org/works/11711706

Author's Summary:

When it comes to fucking around with his best friend, Yoongi follows two rules:

1. They must be inebriated.

2. They must not kiss.

Pairings: Yoongi/Hoseok

Word count: 40k

My Comments:

I apologize beforehand, because my true colours will be revealed shortly and it might very well shock you. Probably not, looking at the works I recommended above, but I'd rather be safe than sorry. This story was so <u>hot</u>. Fuck. And not just in a cute little haha way no, I was absolutely sweating and felt things during *certain parts*. Writing good sex scenes is hard and this author delivered so hard it physically hurt. (I apologized beforehand, guys.)

This is just one aspect of the story worth mentioning, though. Another one is Yoongi's and Hoseok's relationship itself. They are best friends, the sort of best friends who have no secrets between them and who consider each other basically family. Yoongi pretty much knows what he wants, whereas Hoseok is kinda questioning his allegiancy to one preferred gender. With Yoongi. Understandably, they don't really know what they are doing and how they should behave towards one another after they progressed to this new (un)tapped territory. (I'm stopping it now, I promise).

This is one of those stories, where miscommunication between characters plays a huge role in the plot. And I know I mentioned in the introduction part of this list (my general preferences) that I wasn't much of a fan of this trope - unless, of course, it came to stories like this, where the psychological development of the characters, their past experiences etc. rendered this trope secondary to all the other aspects. I really appreciated the author delving into the characters' pasts, e.g. Yoongi's story and why he reacted so emotionally whenever someone showed him any real kindness. I also love non-linear storytelling when it is done right, and here it absolutely was. The skipping between 'now' and 'then' was used brilliantly. All in all, a really amazing read.

My Highlights: characters' dynamic, storytelling, brilliantly written happy times?

Love in the Sky

by jonghyunslisterine 🔻

Read at: https://archiveofourown.org/works/11175552/chapters/24948525

Author's Summary:

Yoongi's just trying to make it to the top. Jimin complicates things. (Yoongi and Jimin learn that dreams require sacrifice.)

Pairings: Yoongi/Jimin Word count: 73k

My Comments:

Junghyungslisterine is such an amazing author. The whole story felt very realistic, with the main theme being just like the author's summary says - dreams require sacrifices. Yoongi is a well established producer with complicated past, both in terms of relationships and professionally, and a bad habit of perpetual drug use to keep his inspiration going. Jimin is a trainee idol, who after years of hard work may finally be getting closer to his debut. The harsh reality is not every trainee gets to debut and not every producer produces music they stand by, enjoy and are proud of.

I loved so many aspects of this work. First of all, Yoongi and Jimin have a jaw-dropping chemistry from the first moment they meet. You can feel it through the screen. And Jimin here is definitely not the usual shy boy I see in a lot of fics. Oh no, Yoongi and Jimin kick it off pretty quickly and only then slowly progress to getting to know each other. Their whole relationship is pretty fucking intense if you ask me, but what ever isn't with BTS members as characters and junghyungslisterine behind the wheel stepping on the gas pedal every chance she gets. - Yes, I'm referring to that scene in the car. And all the other scenes in the car. But seriously, the story is amazing, it has depth and the characters' background stories are fascinating and incredibly touching. It's also quite scary how I can easily imagine Yoongi slipping into this self destructive behaviour, not having any safety nets around him to stop his fall. I know it's all complete speculation, but watching these famous people live in such claustrophobic bubbles under public scrutiny, it really does make you think how one would cope with so much stress and expectation and stay mentally stable. The author does an amazing job at portraying all that in this piece.

My Highlights: character development, message of the story, slow-burn, realistic

More masterpieces by jonghyunslisterine:

- I Guess I Want Too Much [poly yoonminkook AU], ao3.org/works/15707970
- As You Are [shibari/photographer AU], <u>archiveofourown.org/works/11710770/</u>
- My, What Big Teeth You Have [werewolf AU], archiveofourown.org/works/5995291

Kotov Syndrome

by numajiri 🔻

Read at: https://archiveofourown.org/works/8846485/chapters/20285302

Author's Summary:

Jeon Jungkook's guide to avoid stumbling over a major conspiracy:

- 1. Don't go out looking for the people going missing all over the city
- 2. Tell yourself that you shouldn't follow that mysterious sound at night
- 3. Disable your email account, your cell phone, and anything else you know and love
- 4. Don't get close to Min Yoongi

Pairings: Yoongi/Jungkook, side Jimin/Hoseok

Word count: 54k as of 20.4. [unfinished]

My Comments:

I'm taking a huge leap of faith here, because this story is not finished yet. But I can't help myself, because I am genuinely intrigued. The main part of the story, and the reason why I'm so enthralled with it, is the mystery itself. I don't know how well-thought-out the mystery is, how the story will progress or how the characters and their relationships will come into play, all I can say is that so far it is an extremely well-written piece. It definitely shows that author took their time researching expert topics in fields like medicine and computer science, which in itself makes me a fan already.

Let's pray the author updates soon ;).

My Highlights: mystery, extremely well researched topics

Thirty Thousand Feet and Falling

by linzeigh

Read at: https://archiveofourown.org/works/13679043

Author's Summary:

From twitter au idea: [seat neighbor airplane au, omega yoongi is so fucking attracted to his seat neighbor's smell that he accidentally starts leaking and alpha joon is like 0_0 "you um... you - your smell? i think you..." to which yoongi promptly replies "fuck, oh my god"]

Pairings: Yoongi/Namjoon

Word count: 16k

My Comments:

This was such a fun read! I expected it to be all sorts of cliché, but it turned out to be pretty much the opposite and exactly what I was looking for at the time – a lovely funny oneshot with some steaming smut. I had a huge smile on my face throughout the whole story and even though it is quite short, the warm fuzzy feeling really stuck with me. Awkward Namjoon and sarcastic Yoongi for the win:).

Now, for those who are familiar with the author, you are probably surprised I chose to rec this relatively simple, easy-to-read story and not what is probably the author's most popular work called **Protégé** (read here: ao3.org/works/10956282, as of 4.9. still a work in progress with 150k+ words).

I know this story is well beloved in the fandom and I completely understand why, which is also the reason I simply couldn't pass up this opportunity and not mention it in this list. Protégé happens to include all the great tropes I usually love reading, be it Namjoon as the organized crime boss, Jimin as a dancer/prostitute and Jungkook as hired muscle. And get this: it's the unconventional Namjoon/Jimin/Jungkook poly to top it all off. Sounds exciting? Go ahead and read up, because as much as it didn't exactly turn out to be my cup of tea, I'm more than certain that a lot of people will fall in love. It's well-written, plotty and the characters are definitely three dimensional and with interesting backstories. You probably ask now, what my problem with the story is, since I didn't rec it directly as many other people did. I'm gonna be honest, sometimes stories click with you and sometimes they don't. I have no solid criticism per se, it might have just been the fact that I wasn't in the right mood when reading it, or maybe I've read these tropes one too many times to enjoy it once again, but after a certain point I lost interest in the plot and the relationship development. Nonetheless please(!), don't let this deter you in any way. My mood swings or whatever don't say anything about the quality of the story.

My Highlights: funny and hot and cute in the best way :)

If You Wanna Go To Heaven (You Should Fuck Me Tonight)

by *TrappingLightningBugs* ♥

Read at: https://archiveofourown.org/works/11258832

Author's Summary:

They mark a trade; Jimin's soul for Jeongguk's body, till death does the hunter get dragged down to Hell. Those are the conditions.

Or well, they're supposed to be.

Pairings: Jungkook/Jimin

Word count: 39k

My Comments:

This goddamn story. I loved it so much I cannot even tell you. It's the epitome of forbidden fruit complete with the hunter/demon themes. Jimin is one sly motherf*ck**. I can guarantee you the amount of unprecedented Slytherin vibes in the story are off the charts. It was so rewarding to finally read Jimin in control like that. It's not something you see often and more importantly done so well.

Jungkook is a naïve demon (incubi) basically fresh out the womb and Jimin was gonna be his easy first job. As you can probably tell, Jimin wasn't an easy target. If anything, he was a demon's nightmare. Or was he?

I seriously couldn't be more into the grey morality dilemma in the story. Yes, Jungkook is a demon praying on innocent folks, but should Jimin treat him the way he does? Moreover, what is real and what is just sex and part of the deal?

It was a real joy to read the characters' dynamic. You can literally taste the push and pull. But not only that, the story has a really great plot. I seriously wasn't expecting that on top of everything else. And all the smut parts just blew my mind. And the ending was satisfying as hell too (:d). Overall it was an amazingly well written story.

Bonus: surprise tentacle porn (my first).

The author wrote quite a number of stories, I haven't read anything else by them so far, but I'm definitely planning to.

My Highlights: character development, hunter/demon AU done well, sign me the f* up

Speaking in Bodies

by dickmilk ♥

Read at: https://archiveofourown.org/series/1068629

Author's Summary:

Jungkook's always wanted a leg up on his step brother but maybe he's bit off more than he can chew.

Pairings: Jungkook/Jimin

Word count: 14k

My Comments:

Okay, this is another one of those stories that I'm more than sure is not gonna be everyone's cup of (dick)milk. God I'm horrible. But let me get to the point. When I read the tags, I was hesitant too. Yet here I am, absolutely smitten and so into the relationship it's almost ridiculous.

In this story Jimin is an intersex character, meaning he was assigned female at birth and has female genitalia, which he keeps a secret. Other than that, he's the same Jimin as we know him. Him and Jungkook start out on very bad terms, just learning how to function with one another after their families moved in together. Jungkook is pissed for more reasons than one, but the biggest problem he has with Jimin is the fact that he seems to be perfect in every way, a role model to strive for as his family would put it, much unlike Jungkook himself. I'm not gonna say anything else since I don't wanna spoil the little plot it has, but this is the thing despite the story being so short, the progression of their relationship is so captivating. There is just something about the way the author went about telling it that really made it special for me. It felt real from start to finish, from Jungkook's jealousy and Jimin's sense of shame, to how eventually they clicked together.

Understandably, a big part of the story is sex. So I think I'm just gonna go right ahead and say it. It was one of the hottest things I've ever read, no joke. The chemistry Jimin and Jungkook have together is insane. I really hope the author decides to write the long-awaited sequel some time.

Btw. This work was partly inspired by another story called **Walk In** by maledict (read here: ao3.org/works/9040877), which also presents Jimin as a main intersex character, but this time it's Yoonmin as the couple. And similarly, this story is also amazing in its own way and a great read. (Go for it)

My Highlights: intersex character, smut with an S

We Go On and On and On

by almostblue

Read at: https://archiveofourown.org/works/4773350

Author's Summary:

"I want to try something," Yoongi murmurs, almost to himself. Hoseok opens his eyes inquisitively, and then he gasps as Yoongi carefully places the ice-cold base of his water bottle on the flat plane of Hoseok's stomach.

"Can you balance it?" Yoongi asks, and his eyes are curled in the corners, pleased and catlike. He sinks down cross-legged next to Hoseok, unable to take his eyes away from the bottle...

Pairings: Hoseok/Yoongi

Word count: 25k

My Comments:

This was such a great story. Funny and witty and sexy. So refreshing, reading something that felt like it could actually happen in real life were Hoseok and Yoongi attracted to each other (which they still might be, I'm not saying anything :d). But here, the author played with what the fans have been 'speculating' about for some time now based on quite a selection of Bangtan bombs: Hoseok having this dark side that enjoys certain pain kinks. Specifically done on his band members. In this case Yoongi, who he helps realize that they might have some things in common, including their ever-growing erections when they are in each other's proximity:).

Unfortunately, the author couldn't really finish the fic due to personal issues, so the full extent of these themes remains unexplored and is more vanilla than what you'd probably expect to see in a fic that mentions BDSM in the tags, also the last chapter ends pretty abruptly and without proper resolution. Still, it was a very enjoyable read. The situations the boys found themselves in were some that I've never seen in a fic before, which is to say something. And just because I can, here's one of my favourite parts:

Yoongi has a bite mark two inches wide on his upper thigh. It's soft with color, with mottled purples and greens and a set of teeth marks, neat and precise. It is a bite mark. There is no other explanation.

Hoseok knows nothing about it, and he's sticking to that story.

So read away :).

My Highlights: realistic idol verse, bdsm for beginners?:)

Best Served Cold

by roachprince

Read at: https://archiveofourown.org/works/12493484

Author's Summary:

They say when you / embark on a journey / of revenge,

dig two graves.

They underestimate me.

(mr state trooper. please don't stop me. please don't stop me.)

After Yoongi's parents get killed by the mob, Yoongi sets out to avenge them. No matter what it takes.

Pairings: Yoongi/Seokjin

Word count: 16k

My Comments:

I'm on a roll with dangerous smut. Dangerous as in Yoongi is literally out there planning to kill Seokjin and the smut part can be easily illustrated using the very first sentence of the whole story: "Yoongi wakes up to a fat cock crammed all the way up his ass."

But how can you say no to this kind of story? Because I can't. I never can. So here we go again with me feeling slightly bad for reccing and enjoying a fanfic with literal hate sex. But there is more to it than that, the story is actually quite uplifting in a way and the author definitely has their own style. It reminded me a little bit of these Japanese manga stories I read back in the day, pretty straight forward and discussing these dark themes without much holding back. As it turns out, killing someone you've been sleeping with and kept close for so long for revenge, is not so easy after all.

I really really liked how Yoongi's dilemma and inner discussions were displayed here. And as a matter of fact, the more I read this pairing in various fics, the more I fall for it. Don't pass this one up.

My Highlights: the hate sex is real

A Touch of Sin

by pettey **Y!**

Read at: https://archiveofourown.org/works/10236242

Author's Summary:

After his transfer to a quiet seaside town, Jeongguk was prepared to face a year of uneventful CID work, but found himself dealing with a series of strange murders instead.

Pairings: Jungkook/Jimin

Word count: 102k

My Comments:

I love this author to death. To DEATH. In my opinion, she writes the most realistic-feeling fics and always manages to tackle so many issues within them, she's absolutely brilliant. Every single one I've read by her is incredibly well-written with complex characters and exciting dynamics and themes and perfect pace and structure, and very original settings, and the details always blow my mind. There is so much dedication and talent it's unbelievable. I read this one comment from the author herself, which I think summarizes this fanfic perfectly, but also happens to reflects her writing style and her preferences (read over themes etc.): "Introspective and more screenplay-oriented than a straightforward linear procedural. It's about human condition, so it unfolds accordingly with that theme, through JJK as an unreliable narrator. It's ptsd and certain stigma, isolation, corruption, cultural repression, misplacement, dissociation, and painful process of trust; toxicity of confined communities; generational tensions and war guilt; human cruelty and the issue of how we perceive time and project our insecurities on others; coming to terms w/ self beyond the definitions that others are so inclined to put on you and use you as they see fit."

Yes, this is the type of quality reading you're about to get if you give it a chance. These stories are the reason why I love being in this fandom.

A Touch of Sin is a fic I'll remember always. I love everything about it, everything it stands for. The descriptions are so vivid and the storytelling absolutely amazing.

My Highlights: everything, pettey marry me pls

More masterpieces by pettey:

- Nocturnal Animals ♥ [jikook, boxing AU], ao3.org/works/11413263
- Map of the Sounds ♥ [taegi masterpiece], ao3.org/works/12274311
- Perfect Blue ♥ [yoonmin masterpiece], ao3.org/works/8234974
- All Tomorrow's Parties [jikookhope masterpiece], ao3.org/works/7393669

TO BE CONTINUED:).