Andy Blake: A Timeline (Part V)

As previously stated, this part of the timeline overlaps a bit with Part IV.

Many of the events that I'm going to write about have already been discussed at length in warning blogs, including my own, and in various online communities and forums. I want to do my best to protect Andy's friends' privacy while still providing concrete examples of how Andy uses and mistreats people, but it would be disingenuous of me to pretend that I can ensure their complete anonymity. I will refer to most people other than Andy by usernames/nicknames only. For Andy's current roommate, who changed her username some time ago, I will use her old one. In a couple of cases in which people have changed their username and haven't been mentioned in the Andysphere within the last couple of years (or ever), I will use initials. Rather than link directly to anyone's tumblr, I will link either to screenshots or to items in the tf-talk archive. Because some posts were deleted before I started archiving, there are a couple of places in which I will have to quote someone without linking to anything. I will do my best not to focus too much on any one person other than Andy.

I should also note that from Part V onward, the timeline focuses more on Andy's writing (in the form of Tumblr and Facebook posts) than Parts I-IV have done. In the interest of brevity, I'm linking to my previous analyses of these writings whenever I can. When that isn't possible, I will try to be brief but thorough.

(Part I) | (Part II) | (Part III) | (Part IV)

Part V of the timeline covers August 2011 – December 2012.

2011

August 6

Abbey starts publicly <u>blogging</u> on Wordpress. She doesn't directly mention Andy until August 18 and doesn't share much about their life together until September.

October 14

CFC posts <u>The Other Side of the Wank</u>, listing a number of claims that people have made about Andy and attempting to explain and/or refute each of them. It is clear that Andy has been lying to her pretty extensively:

• CFC consistently writes about Andy Blake and Amy Player as if they are two separate individuals and casts doubt on Turimel's assertion that they are the same person.

- She mixes facts about Bit of Earth events with the "spin" that Andy has used over the years to justify his actions (such as, "XYZ wasn't *technically* a scam/criminal act", "the LotR actors were all very wealthy", "Amy was just roleplaying and also mentally ill").
- She focuses on questions of whether he scammed money from people in various ways, rather than address the fact that he *abused* people, although Abbey was posting about it by this time.
- In fact, she never directly mentions Abbey at all, though she does bring up Turimel and Colleen Doran. The former is classified as a scandal-monger who's been "stalking" Andy for eight years; the latter is easily dismissed because she's never even met Andy.
- Her one indirect allusion to Abbey (concerning "his son, a sparrow") is incredibly reductive, and I can only hope that she hasn't yet seen Abbey's blog.
- She turns the focus onto Brittany's murder and Andy's so-called anti-domestic-violence activism.

I do not believe that Andy would be stupid enough to write something for CFC to post, or to tell her exactly what to write, but so many of Andy's favorite talking points are present here that it may as well be in his own words.

October 30

Abbey says in her blog, "I am not going to resign myself that I can't do any good in the world because I fucked up when I was young." This is a refrain that Andy will echo many, many times in the ensuing years.

November 1

Andy joins Tumblr. It's hard to say whether this has anything directly to do with Abbey's blog, but he will later admit that he reads it. At this time, Andy's main fandoms are DAYD and *Glee* (although for the latter, the extent of his involvement will be brief meta posts and tagging a bunch of gender/sexuality and life-advice posts with "be who I want to be").

One of Andy's very first Tumblr posts is a <u>reblog</u> of an art blog's sharing the *Glee* fanart that he created in support of The Trevor Project. This marks the beginning of Andy's repeated and ongoing attempts to **get attention from the Tumblr social justice community**.

November 6

Abbey publishes <u>Questions from a DAYDian</u> and <u>Twenty-One More Questions from a DAYDian</u>. The former includes a picture of the Dalai Lama with a caption that says that living with compassion is one of Abbey's highest goals. Andy will repeat this over and over on his Tumblr.

November 9

By this time, Abbey, Turimel, and Diamond have reconnected with each other and are on the way to making amends for what happened between them. They are all blogging publicly about this and about their history with Andy.

Using a dummy LJ account, **never2late2hope**, <u>Andy sends Turimel a private message</u> in which he claims to be "a gender studies psych specialist in the Denver area," which is actually where he is living at the time. My analysis of this message can be found in the second half of <u>this post</u>. Turimel treats this message as a genuine effort by a third party to help with the situation. Her reply indicates that she has no hope for Andy's getting better and that she feels she's given him plenty of chances to change and make amends.

The same day, Carlanime/Necromommycon (who has commented on Turimel's and Abbey's posts about Andy, and I believe on Fandom Wank) posts about him on her own LiveJournal. She is somewhat sympathetic toward Abbey, Diamond, and Turimel, but also toward Andy, and suggests that it might be time to let things go. This post and her comment on CFC's October 2011 post titled "The Other Side of the Wank" lead Andy and CFC to contact Carlanime as a perceived ally.

On LJ, Andy sends Carlanime a <u>private message</u>, via never2late2hope, that includes a number of his trademarks: <u>requesting/ordering her to call someone out on his behalf</u> (in this case, Turimel), <u>downplaying his abusive actions</u>, lots of <u>victim-blaming</u>, and referring to himself as a <u>"brilliantly charismatic but seriously mentally ill youth".</u> The message ends with a <u>credulity-straining claim as to his diagnosis</u>: "severe gender disphoria [sic] leading to dissociative identity disorder comorbid with borderline personality disorder". My analysis of this message is <u>here</u>.

Under his own username, thanfiction, Andy sends Carlanime a <u>long LJ message about Brittany</u>. I have previously written about this message and their subsequent conversation <u>here</u>. Note that Andy implies that **only "poor little malleable woobie[s]" could possibly be hurt or victimized by him** and that **any of his current friends would be happy to vouch for his blamelessness**. He often repeats variations on both of these statements. He also includes another common refrain, that **no one can possibly know what another person thinks or why they do anything**. Finally, Andy comments, as he has many times before, that **he's not very good at being a con artist**, offering his current state of **poverty** as proof. He then brings <u>Frank Abagnale</u> into the conversation, saying that he was "kind of awesome in a very twisted way" and that <u>Turimel's take on his own behavior seems Abagnalesque</u>.

In the midst of all this, Andy **forwards the exchange between <u>never2late2hope and Turimel</u> to both CFC and Carlanime**, claiming that never2late2hope had sent both messages to him. He

tells Carlanime that he'd given the anon permission to share the above diagnosis, which he says he received in 2006.

In a reply to Carlanime's comment on her LJ, <u>CFC also asks Carlanime to call out Turimel</u> for several reasons, including victim-blaming Brittany.

November 10

Andy makes his <u>first Tumblr post about cooking</u>, the start of another trend. He makes special note of his **extreme lack of resources**; makes a connection to a piece of **media with a very large fanbase** (in this case, *Iron Chef*); and then recounts how, in a very short time, he threw together a dish that a quick Google search reveals to be a **mash-up of several recipes** that had already been published online at the time. In this instance, he includes a nod to the social justice crowd as he pats himself on the back for appreciating multiculturalism.

November 12

Andy posts <u>Good Writing = Good Life</u>, a list of advice/instructions for writing with corresponding life tips. His life tips showcase a couple of his other behavior patterns: 1) casting doubt, by implication, on anyone who tries to warn others about him or to analyze his behavior and motives, and 2) contradicting himself by implying that he understands other people's behavior and motives better than anyone else does.

November 13

<u>Andy says</u> that he regularly Googles DAYD-related search terms and **follows or friends everyone** who speaks positively of his fic.

He begins a long, sporadic series of posts in which he pastes social-justice-relevant text onto images found on the internet. This seems to be another attempt to **attract attention from the Tumblr social justice community**. The earliest examples include "my female roommates are out drinking and my male roommate and I are cooking and doing chores—<u>I am so progressive!</u>" and "It is so amazing that I <u>appreciate chopsticks</u> despite being white and not watching anime!"

Andy claims that a neighbor child referred to him as "a magamagagee...like Tonks". Aside from the fact that this sounds an awful lot like the "channeled" Australian child who named a bird Kookie Buki for "kookaburra", it is unlikely that a child young enough to talk that way would remember either Tonks (a minor HP character) or the word "metamorphmagus". Additionally, Andy has only been back from the Trail of Tears hike for about a month and a half—not long enough for him to have changed his hair many times. This is just one of Andy's many stories that use **children and childish mispronunciations** to put a cutesy spin on something that he wants to talk about.

November 14

Andy announces that a roommate's injury means that <u>he (Andy) can't possibly work a regular</u> job.

Later, he <u>humblebrags</u> about **helping people** and being **famous, talented, and smart**, while passive-aggressively whining that these good qualities do not induce people to support him financially by paying him for art.

November 15

Andy sends Carlanime an e-mail containing the most recent version of his life story. This message is extremely long and several people have already analyzed it, in particular, LB Lee (Part I/Part II). In summary, Andy lies about his parents and his upbringing, claims that his previous online aliases were alters, retells the story of the "pagan priestess" who encouraged him to develop even more alters, makes several excuses for his behavior in Bit of Earth that include blaming others for pressuring him, tells a great number of victim-blaming lies about Diamond and Abbey, claims that Abbey used and abused him, comes out as transgender, explains away the lie about his heart condition, and says (not in so many words) that basically nothing he's ever done is his fault because he's hardly ever been "in [his] own head". He then claims that Andrew Blake is yet another alter, and that he's decided to give control entirely to him. He is literally saying that Andrew Blake is an entirely different person from the person who used to be known as Amy Player, Victoria Bitter, Jordan Wood, etc., and thus cannot be blamed for their actions. Andy closes with the plea/threat that due to "triggers" that he's planted, talking to Andrew about the wank will bring back the "original consciousness" and may even kill Andrew.

In later Facebook messages, Andy jokes with Carlanime about his "criminal mastermindedry" and "the koolaid drinking goosestepping absolute control brainwash cult of the DAYDians." He offers even more information, on the condition that it be kept secret. He also tells Carlanime that he was underage when he and Abbey met. He blames Abbey for everything that happened during their relationship and specifically ascribes many of his own abusive actions to her. He continues, over and over, to offer Carlanime validation that she has not requested or sought. He refers to himself as having "unusual abilities/disabilities of the paranormal nature" and suggests that he has considerable experience with running from the law and living off the grid. Finally, he takes credit for both predicting E and K's relationship, which developed over the course of the Trail of Tears hike, and being the rational adult who said they should wait to get married.

Of lesser importance, but still noteworthy, is that this is also the date that Andy first starts trying to <u>attract attention</u> from the *Hunger Games* fandom.

November 16

This is the first time that Andy mentions Brittany on his Tumblr, stating in two separate posts that he can't watch Brave because Merida looks like her, and asking how to block related tags. He refers to Brittany as "one of [his] best friends". He says that "she'd [she would] have loved it and she'd [she would] be squeeing that there was a princess with her hair." Remember this.

In another post, Andy <u>vagueblogs about roommate L</u>. After encouraging her to become emotionally dependent on him, he has started to withdraw his support, leading her to demand that he clarify his feelings toward her—at which point he rejects her. His post explicitly blames her for being upset about this. When Carlanime e-mails him to inquire about what's happening, he says that <u>this is all because of L's emotional immaturity</u> and failure to assimilate the messages about positive, healthy relationships in his DAYDverse fics. I wrote about this in the first half of this post.

November 17

Andy posts <u>Supposed To</u>, another reframing of his Brittany narrative. The frequent repetition of the phrase, "[She/I] did what [she/I] was supposed to," sets up a lulling rhythm and flow that lead the reader to connect with the piece emotionally. This makes it more difficult to take a rational view of the story he's telling and whether the details make sense based on publicly available information and the way the California legal system works. This is a device that Andy uses very often in his writing.

November 19

Andy makes a <u>hugely problematic post</u> about the LGBTQIA community and Glee. He asserts that "LGBT has *replaced* Jews and blacks as the boogyman [sic] of the American 21st century" since "the end of the Cold War, the Holocaust, and the Civil Rights movement *took away* the previously standard scapegoats of Communists, Jews, and racial minorities" (emphasis mine). Because as we all know, none of these groups suffers from systematic discrimination or persecution anymore. Andy complains that women have much more sartorial freedom than men, as if women are never harassed for looking 'too butch' or 'too slutty'. He implies that being "working class" necessarily means being uneducated and ignorant, but also that this makes life relatively easy for men in same-sex relationships who happen to be blue-collar (because supposedly their not fitting certain sartorial or career-related stereotypes makes them non-threatening). He says that all of the "markers of what it once meant to better yourself" have become associated with "OMGTEHGAYZ" and that bigots are trying to reduce all of US culture to "the dingy, satisfyingly simple ignorant grime on a coal miner's face." Andy then talks

down to those working-class people that he's just been denigrating, explaining in paternal fashion that "life is complex" and living in fear of out-groups won't help anyone. All of this is followed with a picture of Andy's face with a rainbow phoenix painted on it, captioned, "And this can be the face of an artist, a chef, an activist, a fashionista, an intellectual, a speaker of Classical Latin and Classical Greek..." all of which are things that Andy has claimed to be. It ends with an assurance that Andy is neither gay nor evil.

November 20

Andy makes a post in which he hints that he is a <u>minor celebrity</u>, but that every single "fan" is important to him. It closes with a refrain that will become common in Andy's Tumblr: **"You matter more than you know. To me. To the world."**

November 21

For the first time on Tumblr, Andy mentions that many people "consider [him] to be a transgendered man," but he only identifies as male. He indicates that "being male, plain and simple" is different from being a male who also happens to be transgender. In a follow-up post, he clarifies that he wasn't coming out, but was standing up for the rights of "all transgendered people" because there are "more important things in this world than watching your own skin".

November 26

In <u>an e-mail to Carlanime</u>, Andy asks where Abbey could have heard that he was claiming that "...the person currently living in the body that is legally named Andrew Michael Blake is NOT the same person...he's a different 'soul' in that body." He seems to be **suggesting that**Carlanime might have shared his secret, although he doesn't accuse her directly.

November 27

The day after Abbey publishes her Letter to the DAYDians, and the same day that Diamond shares her two-part response to it (see also: some very revelatory poetry posted the same day), Andy posts DAYDverse: What we are and aren't to Tumblr, the DAYD Facebook group, and the DAYDverse LJ community. He acknowledges that the group has been running one of many recruitment campaigns and claims to have received messages from people who believe that the group conforms to a number of extreme cult practices/stereotypes. This is Andy hiding in plain sight, trying to make Abbey and Diamond sound ridiculous by presenting and summarily dismissing a distorted version of their warnings about him. Andy assures people that he/the group won't do any of the things that Abbey and Diamond have said, plus a number of other things, many of which ("Be your doctor, your psychologist, your career counselor...your marriage counselor, your professor, or your anything else that requires a professional in a field where I'm not one.") he has repeatedly done or tried to do.

November 30

Andy posts a condescending (and at times dubiously accurate) "glossary" for his Tumblr. The very first word is "performative", a word that is often used to describe aspects of Andy's behavior, and he hastens to assure people that it "DOES NOT MEAN that it's 'faked' or 'lying'". In his definition of "The ToT Hike", he refers to Brittany as "a dear, dear friend".

December 1

<u>Andy posts about Brittany again.</u> This is the first post in which the "**M'Bidny**" [sic] nickname appears. In the midst of it, he says:

I loved you. I was in love with you. In so many ways, so deeply, even if not in the only way that some people think matters and that they have the gall to pretend would have made us not matter at all and made something ugly out of everything beautiful that we were. In other words, he may have loved Brittany, but he was not romantically in love with her, at least, not by any standard definition of the word.

December 3

Andy posts <u>Author =/= Character and Hero =/= Perfect</u>, in which he explains that all of the problematic viewpoints expressed in his DAYDverse writings are merely examples of how his characters are flawed, and thus why he is a good writer. Despite the misogyny; gender essentialism; and ethnic-, gender-, and sexuality-based stereotyping that he has frequently displayed while writing and promoting the DAYDverse, he claims that none of those views correspond to his own.

Later that day, Andy <u>passive-aggressively complains</u> that his roommates don't care about his feelings and that social media is his only outlet.

December 4

In the very early hours of the morning, Andy posts on the DAYDverse Facebook community about the <u>wrock album</u>. This is the first time that he claims that it was **Brittany's pet project**: "...it was something that was wanted very badly and worked on very hard by someone who hasn't lived to see it done." Andy wants to have the album finished by the first anniversary of the murders, and pressures L and another DAYDian to convince some actual wrock bands to record one or two songs each. He says that "all proceeds from the sale of the album [will] go to NEWS" (Napa Emergency Women's Shelter, the same organization that he allegedly wanted to support with the Trail of Tears hike). **Please note that the idea that the Brittany was heavily involved with the wrock album has been refuted by the anon who posted this compilation of wrock-related DAYDverse Facebook posts prior to her death. I have also read all of the wrock-related posts (including the locked ones) in the LJ community and can verify that Brittany**

was not writing about it there, either. In fact, in his 2011 posts on the subject, Andy indicated that it was another DAYDian who had taken on responsibility for the project, and he still intended to use that person's work.

Andy makes an extremely self-aggrandizing post in which he says that while he has "the talent in a dozen areas...the style, the guts, the charisma, the thick skin, the passion" to make it as a celebrity, he nobly chooses to languish in obscurity for the sake of saving people. It's unclear what he is saving them from, but depression and other psychological issues seem to be part of it. He says this is because he has "penance to pay".

He also posts a picture of his version of Seamus, stating that Seamus is his favorite DAYD character because "he was a really horrible person for a while...and even still, he's been given a second chance." As he did for himself in the amy_player fauxpology, Andy hastens to justify Seamus's actions: "he didn't mean to be [horrible], he was hurt, he was out of his mind". He hopes for similar redemption and says, "Maybe all I have to do is save the world." This suggests that Andy's fixation on saving/helping people stems from a desire to atone for his past wrongs; however, it reads more as a very self-aware bid for sympathy.

December 5

On Facebook, Andy tells Carlanime, "If you don't draw the lines, I won't try to be your cult leader, but I also won't shut up for hours." He also claims that Turimel was "VERY attracted to [him], to a level that was scary," and that is why she was so angry to learn that he was AFAB-rather than the fact that he repeatedly lied to her, causing her unknowingly to mislead a detective and his parents by extension.

December 7

Andy <u>chastises people</u> (presumably including his roommates) for having any real-life expectations of him at all, saying that his extreme DAYDverse-related productivity is a coping mechanism and literally the only thing he is capable of doing at this time.

December 8

Andy posts <u>Sheriff's Deputy's 20 Rape Prevention Tips For Men</u>, which he says comes from "a law enforcement officer I know who has been on the force for 40 years." The tips sound a lot like Andy's own writing dressed up with folksy language (e.g. "no part of nobody's body") and inappropriate flippancy (e.g., referring to sexual assault as "Rape Jr.").

On Facebook, Andy <u>informs the DAYDverse community</u> that "the DAYDians are a disproportionately good-looking fandom." He asks, "please, **don't tell me how many of you are still Hogwarts age**, or I may have to cry."

December 9

On the Facebook community, Andy asks DAYDians to post about their <u>skills or experiences</u> that they're willing to talk about with fellow writers and artists. He says that his own areas of expertise are:

Catholicism, Irish mythology, street French, living off the grid, severe injury, getting shot, LGBTQ issues, living truly dead broke, survivalism, MANY areas of non-conventional travel, being homeless, art, writing, emergency medicine, disaster planning, bartending, leadership, running a group, cooking, extreme hiking, losing a friend [Brittany] violently, being in a fight for your life, having someone try to kill you, having your reputation systematically attacked/destroyed, horsemanship, medical recovery, heat exhaustion, blood loss, shock, what you can do with enough adrenaline, self-employment, all things DAYDverse, and a lot of other stuff...just ask.

December 10

Andy posts a GIFset of <u>Leonardo DiCaprio as Frank Abagnale</u> in *Catch Me If You Can*. He captions it, "I could if I wanted to. I choose not to."

Andy posts An Open Letter to You on the DAYD Facebook group and in the DAYDverse community. He reaches out to people who are "hurting" and "scared" and feeling ignored. Despite the fact that he is "supposedly some kind of internet celebrity", Andy assures these people that he sees them and he cares. He alludes to a number of coping mechanisms, listing self-harm, drug abuse, smoking, drinking, and eating disorders alongside hair dye, makeup, sex, consumerism, and group activities in general. He says that none of these things will help these hurting people feel any better, but urges them not to "quit", i.e., commit suicide. Andy says that he is not like "all the other people": he cares about them, is proud of them, won't judge them, isn't criticizing them. He just wants to know what they want ("honest, the answer you can whisper into the dark") and he wants them to succeed. He encourages people to reach out to him for help. "Because you are good enough, and you are worth it, and I saw, and I cared, and I'm not alone and neither are you." He tags a number of fandoms, as well as "it gets better" (the slogan of the Trevor Project, which is name-checked in the post). While it is not unusual for people on Tumbir to offer help to people suffering from depression, suicidal ideation, etc., Andy's long history of manipulating people with psychological and emotional issues makes this hugely problematic. His focus on teenagers and his insistence that he's "not like all the rest" are also troubling.

An <u>accompanying post</u> offers free art to five people if the Open Letter is reblogged at least 1000 times.

Andy also makes two posts to castigate people for criticizing anyone's efforts to help others. In one, he says, "I don't give a shit how horrible a person you think someone is...If they're trying to save someone's life, you <u>STAY OUT OF THEIR FUCKING WAY OR HELP</u>. Those are the only two choices for a decent human being." In other words, anyone who questions Andy's attempts to establish private communication with vulnerable teenagers is a bad person acting from bad motives. He uses the bizarre example of "a convicted pedophile child pornographer human trafficker kitten-stomping cannibal clown" purporting to assist a dying child. This extreme character seems to be intended to make Andy look nonthreatening by contrast, and to make his detractors seem like alarmists. Not for the last time, Andy states that even if the rescuer does have bad motives, it's okay because at least the victim isn't dead.

In his <u>second post on this topic</u>, Andy lists nine things that he "NEVER [wants] to fucking see/hear again about trying to help someone in trouble". Among other things, he claims that people are criticizing him for **putting his life on the line** to help others ("...and I'd do it for you. Yeah, even YOU."). Regarding his motives, he says:

"Let's say that I have every possible evil intent and want to victimize them ten different ways. They have to be alive for that. Which means that step one is me trying to save their life. Whatever the further steps are, those could theoretically be recovered from. Death cannot."

In other words, none of Andy's abusive words or actions toward a person matter if he can claim to have "saved" that person in some way. He also states that anyone who disagrees with his arguments is heartless and judgmental, and has "never been in a truly dark place". Andy still cares about them, though. "Because [they're] human. And that's enough."

Later still, Andy posts his personal Facebook, the URLs for the DAYDverse LJ and Facebook communities, his e-mail address, and his phone number. He asks people to contact him personally for help.

Finally, on Facebook, Andy <u>informs the DAYDians</u>, "There is nothing you could do so bad I could never forgive you for it. Nothing."

December 11

Andy posts 10 Things I Won't Tell You, a list of things that he says other people say to offer comfort, that he will never tell anyone. (TRIGGER WARNING: Although Andy did not tag/warn for anything, this post includes graphic images of war, a starving child, and people with eating disorders.) His explanations of why he won't say these things are loaded with affirmations and validation: for example, "...you're already good enough to be worth my attention...you always have more power than you may be afraid you do...you can achieve tremendous things...you can be so much more than you think you are right now." Andy also alludes to "Saving People",

the fic that he wrote about Sirius sexually assaulting Hermione as a means of teaching her about the dangers of older men and the myth of "The Bad Boy Who Just Needs Love". The purpose of this post seems to be to project the ideas that **Andy is different from everyone else** and that **Andy cares more and understands the reader better than anyone else**.

In <u>another post</u>, Andy claims to be "an artist/writer/activist/counselor/journalist who touches, betters, and even sometimes saves lives." He bemoans the fact that he can't get paid for any of this, and that an actual job would "destroy" him, so he has no money. He also refers to Brittany as "one of [his] best friends".

Andy says that saying that <u>someone has an agenda</u> is "accusing them of sneaking the opinions into fun things...and making you consume something that you'd decided to hate or fear." In other words, **people who worry that Andy has an agenda are just narrow-minded.** He then denies that he is promoting any agenda with his work on DAYD, but claims to be sending important messages.

December 12

Andy posts a link to "Saving People", the aforementioned fic in which Sirius sexually assaults Hermione after she propositions him. (Sirius stops fairly quickly and then tells Hermione that she shouldn't have been surprised, and that had he been any other man, "by all rights" he should have done something much worse to her. After all his talk of how women stupidly endanger themselves in the vain hope of saving or changing men, and how he could have taken advantage of her in a dozen ways if he wanted to, he still verbally "teaches" her a couple of fairly graphic things about sex, and then kisses her sexually.) Andy says that he understands teenagers' feelings, especially as they pertain to sexuality, and encourages teenagers to talk to him about it. "I get it. I really do. I haven't forgotten what it was like. I'm not that old." Andy is 28 years old at the time.

Andy writes about how <u>all of his struggles</u> mean that he can relate to people on Tumblr who are in pain and contemplating suicide. He says, "I know what it's like to have...everyone rooting that you'll fall—even die—because you've **made mistakes** and they've decided you're a bad person," waving away the idea that he's hurt anyone and shifting the focus to his feelings of persecution. He says that **while some people think that literally everything about him is a lie and that he's only out for personal gain, he chooses to rise above and help people anyway. The anecdote that he borrows to illustrate how important he thinks this is once again references societal fears of pedophilia.**

December 15

A much younger Tumblr user expresses <u>anxiety and discomfort</u> over the idea of calling Andy, as he has apparently asked them to do. He chooses to publish their message along with his phone number, reiterating that it's **"for anyone who wants to call about anything ever."**

December 21

Andy <u>dismisses the entire Romance genre</u> as "dangerous propaganda"; differentiates between "Capital M Married" (ownership of a woman by a man) and "married" (an equal partnership), implying that most people can't tell the difference between the two; and announces that he writes *people*, and is incapable of writing something as "scary, unhealthy, destructive, all-consuming, [and] depersonalizing" as Romance. This is one of many examples of Andy's talking down to women about what (he says) they want/enjoy, why it's actually bad for them, and how what he has to offer is better and healthier.

A separate post talks about people who cry over Andy's stories, and how he wants to apologize and "stay up with them all night talking." He says that he hates hurting people, in part because "all the crying places in [his] stories come from too-real things." He goes on to indicate that he believes that DAYD and its sequels show the 'reality' of the Potterverse, which his readers (whom he seems to view as childishly naïve) never could have imagined before ("I never meant to take away your world of magical floating candles and best-ever candy stores"). In contrast, he also believes that his work shows a better, more functional wizarding world than Rowling portrayed.

The same day, Andy posts in a panic because a teenage Tumblr user that he follows is not posting at the time of day that she usually does. He writes about her as if he actually knows what her thoughts and feelings are—as if she is a fictional character that he can analyze, although he is adamant that she is a real person. At the same time, he won't name her ("I don't 'out' people for anything") and can't give enough information to make her recognizable.

Later, Andy announces that in an effort to fight back pain, he has combined Aleve, Advil, three hydrocodone (Vicodin), and alcohol. While he initially emphasizes that he did these things one at a time and at intervals, he ends up by saying that he's "so motherfucking high". Combining narcotics and alcohol is something that Andy has written about numerous times over the years.

Finally, Andy posts <u>Girls Just Wanna Have Fun: Femininity and Sexual Power</u>. He notes, again, that he is "high as a motherfucking kite", and goes on to write a lengthy refutation of CFC's viewpoints on several female characters in DAYD. In doing so, he obliquely accuses her of being not only unobservant, but also gender essentialist and even antifeminist because of the way she interprets these characters' feelings on and expressions of their own sexuality. In their

subsequent Tumblr exchange, he informs her that she is projecting onto the characters and "throwing canon to the wind".

December 22 or 23

Andy returns to his parents' house in Virginia for Christmas. By this time, he is aware (because he reads at least some of their blogs) that former Bagenders Abbey, Diamond, Little Sam, and Shopping Cart Bob are all talking to each other and to Turimel again.

December 24

Andy posts <u>A Mile in Your Shoes</u>, which I wrote about <u>here</u> in 2014. In this post he says that **he and Brittany were planning a life together**, that they **loved each other**, and that they were "everything to each other"...but he also refers to himself as her **best friend and roommate** and indicates that he was lying when he told the police and hospital staff that he was her boyfriend or fiancé.

December 28 or 29

Andy returns to Denver.

December 31

Andy posts a picture of Brittany and writes about how they used to spend each Tuesday, which he says was their one day off each week. Parts of it read like the eulogy, as he describes Brittany as "working like a dog and...playing like a duchess" and says that she "never rolled her eyes at caviar or street cart tacos." He indicates that being blue collar precludes having "CLASS, in the true and gracious sense of the word" and that "living gorgeously" does not include spending time with someone who is "mentally disabled but a fantastic person" (emphasis mine).

2012

January 1

Andy once again refers to Brittany as a dear, dear friend.

January 4

Andy posts pictures representative of the ages of the <u>youngest DA members</u> during DAYD, "Sluagh", and "A Peccatis". He tells his followers, "This is what heroes look like. This is what changing the world looks like. So is what you see in the mirror," emphasizing that no one is too young to make a difference. This was a significant part of the message that Andy used to draw people, some as young as 15, into both the LotR and DAYD cults.

January 5

Andy responds to an ask about <u>child abuse in the DAYDverse</u> by writing an essay about how **abuse is so often a "grey area", especially where children are concerned**. I have previously blogged about this post <u>here</u>.

Andy says that his friends are "fighting about [him]", as if he has nothing to do with the situation. Despite how upsetting he says Brittany's loss is for him, he also says that he can write about it while "utterly fucking sedated", which is odd, to say the least. He also makes another mention of "trawl[ing] the internet for DAYDians".

Andy reblogs a <u>side-by-side comparison</u> of Marilyn Monroe ("This.") and a present-day runway model ("Not this.") and asks in the tags, "is that Gollum's sister on the right?" This is just one of many examples of Andy's tendency toward **casual misogyny and body-shaming**.

That same day, he <u>reblogs a photograph</u> of a woman's lower body and analyzes it as if he can possibly know everything about this person's fitness and beauty regimen from looking at a single picture. Once again, he informs the reader that while they are "supposed" to find it sexy, it really isn't.

January 6

In <u>What do I want out of this?</u>, Andy says that his dream for the DAYDverse is that the group will become known as **"the ones who took the children's series and changed themselves and each other with it,"** as well as the ones who are supportive and respectful of other cultures. Again, changing oneself and the world via fandom is a recurring theme with Andy.

January 7

In <u>one of his first Glee meta posts</u>, Andy uses Finn to talk about men's body image issues, complaining that people talk all the time about **unrealistic standards for "girls"**, but that no one talks about the fact that **it's just as bad for "men"** (emphasis mine). Andy **boasts about his** "**very slender frame"** and ability to have visible abs with minimal effort, an early example of his posturing as a slender, pretty boy to attract attention from his younger female followers.

January 8

Andy compares DAYD to the canonical *Harry Potter* universe, explaining that his world is larger and richer than Rowling's, that "Sluagh" and "A Peccatis" are written for adults, that his influences include horror/classic sci-fi/historical fiction/gritty realism as opposed to fantasy, and that the DAYDverse fics are meant to be as realistic as possible. He says, "The DAYDverse is shitty Harry Potter, but by that measure, Tolkien is shitty Narnia...and no, I'm not comparing myself to Tolkien," despite the fact that he literally just put DAYDverse on a level with Tolkien's vast body of work.

Evidently, the main reason that Andy can't bear to live with his parents is that he "can barely get out of bed for mediocrity" and can't tolerate people who are "content with doing being and pursuing nothing." (Andy's mother is a renowned metal sculptor; his father has worked in emergency services and disaster response for many years and has a fair bit of prestige as a result of his experience and skill. Neither of them sounds particularly mediocre or apathetic about life.) In contrast, Andy says that he can "fight mountains to dust for the impossible...do anything for the big, mad dream against all odds." Again, Andy is special, different, not like other people. His need for constant stimulation and for the feeling that he is fighting to survive and achieve underlies all of his cult-building activities over the years.

January 9

Andy writes about the difference between knowledge and belief, emphasizing, "You can never know why another person does what they do, or even to a certain degree, yourself." He says that people like to substitute "know" for "believe" out of fear, but that it makes them no less likely to be hurt and more likely to hurt others. "I would always choose being hurt over being the one to cause hurt," he says. This post seems to serve a three-fold purpose: fostering uncertainty in his readers (making them more vulnerable to manipulation), sending the message that the people warning others about Andy are wrong about him (making him seem safer), and presenting Andy as a deeply compassionate person (making people admire him and want to get closer to him).

January 10

Because many of his followers are much younger than he is and (in his words) "either newly sexually active or contemplating becoming so", and because he claims to have counseled many people on sex before, Andy makes an <u>advisory post about healthy and consensual sex</u>. He lectures on consent, communication, control, consequences, and compassion.

January 11

Andy <u>publishes his phone number again</u>, encouraging people who are "scared, alone, or in trouble" to call him.

In response to a remark in the above post, <u>an anon asks</u> whether people have really called Andy to verbally abuse him. He says that they have, but that he'd take 10,000 verbally abusive calls for being able to help just one person. Then he repeats that people should call him any time and any day if they are "feeling scared/alone/worthless/like no one cares/is thinking of hurting/killing themselves, or even just needs to talk to a non-judgmental adult," and posts his number again.

Andy writes about 'haters' and how he doesn't understand people who devote significant amounts of time to "studying [the people they 'hate'], taking them apart, writing about them, talking about them, blogging about them, etc." He advises that people who don't like a particular person or thing should just "walk away" because all they're doing is making their hate-objects "famous/infamous," and unlike Andy, they're not doing anything worthwhile with their lives. This is very obviously aimed at Turimel, Abbey, Diamond, and everyone who's contributed to chronicling his activities on Fandom Wank and elsewhere. In a rather unsettling twist, he mentions in the first paragraph that he can "put himself in a mental place where it makes sense how [war and genocide and child abuse] would make sense," but cannot understand 'the haters'. The idea seems to be that Andy is so compassionate that he can even sympathize with people who have done horrific things on a massive scale, but that his haters are somehow worse and/or more unreasonable than genocide, so he can't sympathize with them.

January 12

This is the point at which Andy starts blogging more frequently about grocery shopping and recipes, and generally presenting himself as a **foodie**. At this point, per Abbey and DAYDian E, this has been going on in real life for years, and presumably it also features on Andy's old LiveJournal.

January 16

Andy goes after the <u>low-hanging fruit of formulaic romantic comedy films</u> to reinforce the message that while the dominant culture "hates women," he is a feminist who loves women and understands how real love is supposed to be. Of particular interest is one of his takeaway messages from *Mr. and Mrs. Smith*: "someone you really love and who loves you can be trusted with your darkest secrets and will still have your back." It's worth noting that the Smiths' relationship works out only because *both of them* were lying about who they were, and most of all because it's *fictional*.

January 17

Andy posts about <u>coerced sex as "therapy"</u>, which is something that Diamond has reported he did to her in the Bagenders cult.

In another post, he writes about <u>keeping secrets</u> for someone who "doesn't deserve it" and is taking advantage of his silence "to continue being a hurtful douchebag". **This is obviously about Abbey.** Andy is **playing the martyr**, and at the same time, issuing a **thinly-veiled threat** to reveal potentially embarrassing secrets about her. He claims that Abbey is writing about him because he's "offend[ed]" her in some way, and that her "cuntishness...will become self-evident to everyone in time."

January 26

Andy, who has a long history of taking away others' autonomy, <u>lectures people</u> about shaming and guilt-tripping anyone who has done things they didn't want to do and normally wouldn't have done, but did do because someone took away their autonomy.

The same day, he says that he regularly reads posts by his 'haters', that they think he's "literally sub-human", and that they want him to die. According to Andy, they don't care at all about the truth because they've already decided that he's evil. He says that the fact that they think he's a monster makes him feel good because a) they clearly don't know him, so he doesn't have to take it personally, and b) he thinks they're brave for fighting that "demon". The latter seems to refer particularly to Abbey and Diamond, to whom he still has not apologized, and he specifically opens up the possibility that they're wrong about who he is and what he's done. Andy goes on to write about how hard he's trying to help everyone in his life. He suggests that people are upset with him in part because he's letting them down, but mostly because (again) they don't really know him: "too much of me is made of other people's secrets". While he now has a job, Andy claims that it pays less than half of minimum wage, and that he's terrified, but can't talk to anyone because he can't be "human" with anyone he knows. He infantilizes and guilt-trips his friends, saying, "I've promised to give to them until they can grow up and out and past me and away and hopefully go help others. Real people, ones who deserve it. Because I don't." He refers to having gone after some "demons" of his own, and to "keeping everyone's secrets even when they don't keep [his] and respecting them no matter how they treat [him]," at once projecting compassion and vaguely threatening that he could spill some embarrassing stories about his past targets if he wanted. All of this, he says, is because he is so noble that he has vowed to help the countless people who "need" him until there is literally nothing left of him at all.

Andy also says that <u>he is suicidal</u> because he's "given [his] whole life trying to help people and just keep[s] getting tremendously shafted in return." He will heroically go on bearing the pain, though, rather than hurt anyone.

January 31

On the DAYDverse Facebook group (and in private messages to friends, and on his own Facebook), Andy requests someone to provide him with "room and board, as well as round-trip travel and visa sponsorship" in exchange for "any kind of legal and ethical work for up to 60 hours a week". He says that he would prefer to be in Southeast Asia and to work as a "nanny/personal chef/personal assistant/housekeeper," and that he is willing to live under extremely spartan conditions. This post also repeats his previous claims of having had a partially Catholic upbringing and of speaking French, Latin, "Gaelic", Classical Greek, and Spanish.

February 2

Andy posts about the wrock album in the Facebook group again, claiming that Brittany had been involved in the project to the point that "it was really almost her album." He repeats his request for DAYDians to help him finish the album by the first anniversary of the murders, but this time he says that proceeds will be split between NEWS (Napa Emergency Women's Services) and "sponsoring someone for a volunteer humanitarian aide [sic] trip to China or Indonesia."

February 3

Andy <u>reblogs an image</u>, adding the caption, "Je suis ne sais pas ce que in all the ways that truly matter and none of the ways people think matters." The French text translates to, "I am I do not know what." Two things are evident in this post: the beginning of Andy's claims about schizophrenia and DID, and the recurring theme that no one really understands him. This is just a week after <u>Abbey's post about The Man From Earth</u>, which she describes as "a condensed version of what it is like to be drawn into Andy Blake's world of fantasy". I do not think this is a coincidence.

February 5

Via <u>private Facebook message</u>, Andy informs Carlanime that he has just discovered that "[he is] a symptom of someone else's psychosis and everything [he] thought he knew about [him]self and [his] past...isn't true." In other words, despite his earlier claims of having carefully-placed triggers to prevent the Andrew Blake persona from ever learning the truth, he has just awakened to the fact that he really is the same person who was formerly known as Amy Player, Jordan Wood, etc.—but without the "original consciousness" reasserting itself.

February 6

On the Facebook group, Andy <u>tries to arrange</u> "a revival of the use of the DAYDians as a support group". This is not because of his current mental health crisis, but because he's trying to quit smoking.

February 14

Andy complains that it's difficult for male writers to write female characters because literally any trait, action, or dialogue that they ascribe to those characters is held up to an impossible standard. He says that for any given aspect of a female character, some readers will love it, and others will hate it, "and often both these people will be women." He says that this is because "as soon as a human identifies female, everything's a double or triple standard," and that this is "one tenth of one percent of the shadow of the idea of what it must be like to...live as a woman." At the same time that this drives home the idea of Andy as a sensitive feminist who

understands women's struggles (despite not really knowing what it's like, because he's denying that he was AFAB and lived as a girl/woman for 18-19 years), it also dismisses every complaint that anyone has ever made about the way that he portrays female characters in the DAYDverse.

March 19

Andy posts for Brittany's birthday, again referring to her as a dear, dear friend.

March 22

In a brief summary of why he hasn't posted much recently, Andy mentions being on unspecified prescription drugs, alludes to the fact that his living arrangements with K and E will not be continuing, and says that he has a job lined up for after he moves. He also calls Brittany a friend again.

The same day, Andy posts again about the wrock album in his Tumblr and the DAYDverse
Facebook community. He repeats his claim that Brittany was enthusiastic about the project and was working hard on it before she was killed. This time, he offers original DAYD art to anyone who can help with arrangement, mixing, production, or providing a band. An interesting fact that Andy does not mention is that the art that he's offering is what Brittany won in the LJ community's art auctions to raise money to bring D and other international DAYDians to DAYDcon. He now says that the proceeds will go to "a fund set up in [Brittany's] name at the local domestic violence shelter."

March 23

Andy posts <u>REAL strong women are not runway models</u>, in which he dictates what a woman "should" look like. He criticizes female stars like Linda Hamilton and Sigourney Weaver for being too "masculine", and Angelina Jolie and Kate Beckinsale for having "the size-0-with-tits figure of a Victoria's Secret Angel." In contrast, he praises Brittany for having "not a man's body by any means, but a strong, fit woman's body," and goes on to describe her and Jennifer Lawrence's body parts in a way that is so creepy that I'm not comfortable quoting it here. The post is accompanied by a picture of Brittany that cuts off most of her head, which is dehumanizing.

March 25

Andy says that he is <u>unimpressed with the *Hunger Games*</u> trilogy and the first movie, as he has said of the canon for every fandom in which he has participated after *The Lord of the Rings*. In spite of this, he says that he wants "to do with Cinna in HG/CF what I did with Neville in DH," and that this could easily become another fan novel.

March 27

The day after <u>Turimel warns the Hunger Games fandom</u> about Andy (warning for transphobia at that link), he posts <u>Me/Hunger Games ain't a ship that's gonna sail</u>. Andy says that he is **"not really in fandom anymore"** and is not a *Hunger Games* fan because "it just doesn't zing [him]." He explains that the art and cosplay he's done and the fan novel that he mentioned don't mean that he's at all interested in the canon or fandom.

Later that day, he posts a summary of <u>his idea for a Cinna-centric novel</u> (cropped out of that image for tl;dr), saying that he's not going to write it because "After the DAYDverse, it really is going to be time for [him] to be more or less done with fandom."

March 29

Andy answers a meme question about <u>"your perfect girl/boy"</u> by saying that he and Brittany **"were perfect friends and had decided to be life partners"**. He also claims to have "lived just about everywhere...with the exception of Asia."

In another response to the same meme, he says that he is <u>"single by death, heart still taken."</u>

This is the first solid indication that he is claiming to have had a romantic relationship with

Brittany. The meme also asks about tattoos, and Andy says that he is "planning celtic knotwork on [his] left upper arm and shoulder."

Andy posts a <u>Tumblr giveaway for a Hunger Games commission</u>, accompanied by a picture of Finnick, and offers extra entries in the giveaway to people who pay to commission art from him. He also reposts his <u>Cinna novel summary</u>, which he has reworked into a fic, repeating the claim that he will be **done with fandom after the DAYDverse is finished.**

March 30

Andy writes about what makes women attractive to him. This includes "women who enjoy their femininity" (represented by a woman in a big, fluffy dress) and "women with curves" (e.g., women whose body shape conforms to a particular societal notion of attractiveness, regardless of size). He says that the models in some pictures that he posted earlier for L look as if "they don't seem confident in themselves as much as in their ability to be something someone else wants." Again, he is criticizing something that a woman enjoys and telling her that he knows better about what's good for women.

April 1

Andy announces that he has been corresponding with an agent and a publisher and <u>plans to submit his DAYDverse works for publication</u>. He later redacts this as an <u>April Fool's joke</u> and says that he "almost [feels] bad" because people took it seriously. This includes Abbey and

Turimel, who are furious and feel that they've been scammed by Andy yet again. In a comment on <u>Turimel's post</u> (warning for transphobia at that link), Abbey says:

"Andy, if you read this: I will not keep any of your secrets any longer. No victim is beholden by honor to keep their promise of silence TO AN ABUSER. Real honor is something you very literally know nothing about. Enjoy your pranks now, you dishonorable, cowardly, pathetic excuse for a human being."

April 5

On the Facebook community, Andy mentions that he will soon be <u>moving to South Dakota</u> with L.

April 18

Andy posts a <u>thank-you to the DAYDians</u>, enumerating everything that he's created for the 'verse and claiming that "over 300 [other] people" have also contributed. He pats himself on the back for "at least two weddings and a baby from people who met as DAYDians" and says that the DAYDverse *is* the DAYDians. It is worth noting that <u>E told Aja</u> that Andy brought him and K together "in the same way that Delta Airlines brought [them] together".

April 23

Andy's grandfather dies. Although Andy has repeatedly claimed that he was Irish, spoke with an accent that he passed on to Andy, had old scores to settle regarding the Troubles, etc., his obituary reveals that he was born and raised in Iowa, US.

April 26

In honor of the anniversaries of the Battle of Hogwarts and Brittany's murder, Andy announces a <u>giveaway</u> of sorts. He names several tasks that people can do to earn "points" toward art commissions. The tasks include volunteer work, raising or donating money for charity, and blogging or writing fic about **domestic violence or child soldiers**.

End of April

Andy and L move to South Dakota.

May 2

Andy <u>posts on Facebook</u> for the anniversary of the Battle of Hogwarts. He asks people to "think of those [they] love...and what [they] would regret if they were lost to [them] without warning," because such sudden loss can happen to anyone, of any age, anywhere. He says that they should already understand this because they've read the DAYDverse stories.

May 8-10

Andy travels to Virginia for his grandfather's funeral.

May 10

Andy posts a "fairy tale" that seems to portray the great and noble things that he claims he does for women. The maiden in the story is depressed and has no self-esteem, traits that Andy claims to find unattractive, but specifically looks for in his targets. Naturally, all Andy's self-insert knight wants is to help her overcome these problems. Andy has the knight dismiss "what the maiden [wants] to be" as "what others [want] her to be," as if a woman isn't capable of determining what she wants for herself. He also says that he has only brotherly feelings for her, something that many women have heard from Andy after weeks or months of deeply personal conversation, flirting, and boundary-straining physical contact. It is also telling that the knight feels that an extravagant gesture on his part should be enough to overcome feelings that the woman's had for years, as if his opinion naturally ought to hold enormous weight with a person he's just met. The maiden's rejection of the gesture (which he accompanies with a declaration of everything he's done "for her") is framed as if it could only be an act of cruelty or further self-hatred; the idea that the knight's actions might be excessive and inappropriate isn't considered. Finally, another character has to suggest to the knight that maybe he should just try being friends with this person—although he frames it with, "you did all a man can do," rather than, "calm the fuck down and stop making this about you and your feelings." Andy says that he's going to post an essay to accompany the fairy tale, but it never materializes.

May 11

While preparing for his grandfather's funeral, Andy pauses to write about turning his father into a Gleek. He posts a picture of himself in some vintage clothing of his grandfather's, accompanied by a picture of Chris Colfer as Kurt Hummel in a similar outfit, and says that **this is a "sign"** that he was right to introduce his father to *Glee*.

Andy reblogs a <u>photoset of Karen Gillan</u>, who played Amy Pond in *Doctor Who*, and adds a horrifying caption stating that the fact that, in Rory's absence, the Doctor didn't use his "complete control over time and space" to "TAP SOMMA THIS" is proof that the Doctor is a good man.

May 12

Andy says that he will be living in a tiny room in rural South Dakota for the next several months. If he still had the plans he'd made before the murders, he'd have "an apartment in San Francisco with Brittany and a walk in closet and places to look awesome and people who would appreciate it." (Capslock eliminated.) This is consistent with his eulogy to Brittany, in which he said that after the New Zealand hike, they'd planned to work for a while in a Napa Valley vineyard and then get an apartment in the Bay Area.

May 20

Andy explains that the reason he is in rural South Dakota is to work at a summer camp. He also has a potential job as an online "art consultant" for a company in Africa. If it goes well, he says he'll be relocating to Nairobi, Kenya. He never mentions this job again, but someone on the Facebook community suggests that it is probably a scam.

May 21

Andy posts his "I speak fandom" image for the first time, demonstrating that although he's said he's "done with fandom", he still sees no problem with using it as a quick and easy way to get close to people.

June 3

Andy has officially started working at the summer camp by this date.

June 24

A little over a year after the murders, Andy shares a picture of his <u>memorial tattoo</u> for Brittany. He also mentions plans to bring T (who is one of the PotterFicWeekly hosts from <u>the infamous interview</u>, and a DAYDian who came to help Andy after Brittany's murder) to South Dakota for a visit, and for himself to see a Broadway show in August.

July

This the month in which Andy will later claim that he "got [his] mind and life back" (10/27/2014).

This month, Andy starts posting a lot more about **rape and rape culture**. For some reason, he tends to make quote-style Tumblr posts about it that feature his own writing (and not even things he's posted before). Some of these are reworded quotations by prominent feminists; others are ideas that have been generally accepted by feminists for years. None of them can truly be said to be original to Andy. **Please bear in mind that Andy is an admitted rapist, though he has not yet admitted it at this point in the timeline, and both Abbey and Diamond say that he has done worse things to them than he has confessed.**

July 1

Andy allegedly is fired from his job at the summer camp when his supervisor becomes aware of his history. He returns home to live with his parents, who put him into therapy again. This is the point at which he becomes extremely prolific (both in terms of original posts and reblogs) on Tumblr.

July 6

Beneath a quotation from the Dalai Lama, Andy posts an <u>implausible story</u> about meeting an elderly Buddhist monk at Union Station, while on his way back to Virginia from South Dakota. Supposedly the monk buys him dinner, brings over a younger monk to haul Andy's luggage to the appropriate train platform, and has tea with him. At the end of the encounter, the monk (who has heretofore communicated only with smiles and gestures) allegedly speaks to Andy for the first and only time, "carefully and slowly enunciating" the word, "com-pa-shun." Like many of Andy's stories, there may be a grain of truth to it (e.g., he may have spotted a Buddhist monk during his travels), but this account of a person of color conveniently placed to assist a white man and teach him a valuable lesson reads like a page from Andy's fanfiction.

Later that day, Andy asks people to **point him at <u>new (to him) fandoms</u> that they think he'll enjoy**. He promises to give a "thorough try" to the one that he finds most interesting and one that is far outside his usual interests. Again, this is despite saying more than once that he is done with fandom.

July 7

Andy <u>responds publicly</u> to an anon message that he claims to have received from someone who is being abused. He mentions having run It's About Power as if that makes him some kind of authority on abuse. He brings up the possibility that the abuser doesn't know they're being abusive and provides several excuses for male abusers based on societal expectations of men. He goes on to explain gaslighting, a practice in which he himself has engaged many times, and reiterates that the abuser may have been "taught" by society to do this. Even as he assures the anon that they aren't obligated to "fix" their abuser, he refers to the abuser as "infected", as if he can't help what he does, and reinforces that he might not have known any better than to be abusive. He closes with a series of affirmations.

In another post, Andy addresses <u>people who have just read DAYD</u>. He directs them to the rest of his DAYDverse writings, the wiki, his YouTube channel, his DeviantArt, and the LJ and Facebook communities. He also **posts his phone number** so they can call him about it.

July 8

In a post that is ostensibly about <u>not making judgmental assumptions</u> about people using food stamps, Andy veers off into self-aggrandizing territory. He says that he's "been on his own since he was a teenager," when the truth is that he went off to college at 16 (a little early, but not out of the ordinary for a homeschooled student) and lived with a cousin for a while, failed a bunch of classes and switched schools, and then moved to Oregon, where he started a cult and faked his own suicide in hopes that his parents would leave him alone. He repeats his claims about speaking French, Spanish, Classical Greek, Latin, and "Gaelic", and pats himself on the back for

doing a number of things that are very common, including keeping rice and lentils in the pantry and buying and modifying thrift store clothing.

July 9

Andy <u>gets angry</u> at the idea that his DAYDverse writings are "just" fanfiction, and compares himself to Shakespeare, Homer, and Tennyson.

Later, he lists many of the <u>female DAYD characters</u> along with their interests, professions, personality traits, and major accomplishments. He says that he's tempted to "take up Goddess worship, because DAYUM!" and tags the post, "sexy sexy ladies".

July 10

Andy posts a lot of ways that he wishes his and Brittany's relationship had ended, rather than with her murder. Up to this point, he has described their relationship as a friendship, and sometimes as such a close non-romantic friendship that they had decided to become life partners. Only once, in a response to a meme, has he implied that it was romantic. The list includes, "I wish you'd cheated on me," "I wish you'd found someone better," and "I wish you'd come out as a lesbian." He says, "...we didn't decide that it wasn't going to work out or just to be friends," (emphasis mine) and says several times that he loves her. Andy is now openly claiming to have been romantically and perhaps sexually involved with Brittany. Incidentally, this post is also the first time that he acknowledges that anyone else has been affected by Brittany's murder. Previously, he has focused on his own loss, and once or twice on the DAYDians' when he wanted them to help organize a hike or work on the wrock album.

July 11

Andy makes a post to the effect that <u>people are undefinable</u> and that any attempt to label a person in any way is both futile and unnecessary. This is accompanied by another recitation of his seemingly contradictory traits, such as living on next to nothing and having expensive taste.

July 13

Andy announces that <u>he loves literally every other human</u>. "I may not know your name, but we are already in this together, and I already love and value you."

July 14

Andy receives an anonymous ask saying, "you love all those 7 billion strong puzzle pieces. then you get to know them and don't love them as much anymore." He responds first as if the anon is a former friend with whom he has "some kind of unfortunate history", and then as if the anon is sending the message out of self-hatred. His former-friend response can be summed up as follows:

- 1. Andy has changed, with a reminder of Brittany to tug at the anon's heartstrings. Even if this anon isn't a former DAYDian, many of whom were friends of Brittany, Andy's exploiting her memory in this way is still unacceptable.
- 2. Andy loves and forgives the anon—but because he doesn't even know who they are, these are empty words. Note that he does not bring up the possibility that they aren't friends anymore because he hurt the anon; it's all about how they may have hurt Andy and how he can magnanimously forgive them, no matter what. Since he mentions Brittany's killer as someone that he forgives, please see this post of mine for a recap of Andy's opinions on him over the years.
- 3. Although he loves the anon, Andy isn't going to look for them. He implies that **he's** watching a number of former friends on social media, and that he knows enough about their lives that he can determine whether they would benefit from talking to him again. He also raises the possibility, again, that the anon has hurt him.
- 4. Andy needs to know that the anon has changed—because again, they probably hurt him.
- 5. The anon has probably done some things that Andy doesn't approve of and that would make him angry.
- 6. Andy doesn't think the anon should kill themselves; he just thinks they need to change.
- 7. Andy wishes he could help the anon, but he's not convinced that they really want help.
- 8. Andy would never hurt the anon.

His self-hatred response indicates that **the present is all that matters**, and contradicts what he's said earlier by suggesting that the anon might be a former friend and that **he might be willing to give them another chance if they let him into their life now.** He says that he's had to forgive himself and others for terrible things, but makes no mention of atoning or apologizing for past wrongs, or seeking forgiveness from others.

July 16

Andy expresses shock that so many of the people he's been "hanging out with" on Tumblr are "babies who are all talking about their sexual fantasies" (capslock eliminated). By "babies" he seems to mean junior high and high school students. He asks people over 25 to reblog, but expresses no intention of unfollowing younger people or asking them to unfollow him, despite supposedly being disturbed by their ages.

The same day, <u>Andy posts about suicide</u>. He says that he has tried to kill himself multiple times, which may or may not be true, but **omits the fact that he faked his own suicide twice in 2003**: once by sending a suicide note and a box of his belongings to his parents, and again after his deception regarding Tentmoot was revealed. His technique for discouraging people from committing suicide is not exactly sound: he tells them that the afterlife might be an eternity of horror, that they might face "cosmic punishment", and that the people they're trying to punish

with their death might not care or might be *happy*. After this **litany of fearmongering**, Andy suggests that although life is terrible, suicidal people may as well take a gamble and keep on living because "better the devil you know." **In stark contrast to the message of the Trevor Project, which he has previously espoused, he says, "I can't promise it will get better." It is neither acceptable nor appropriate to inflict further psychological trauma on someone who is contemplating suicide, even if you claim to be doing so as a means of "saving" them.**

Later that day, he <u>reposts his phone number</u> and other contact information, saying, "I'm here. I care. I'll listen. I won't judge. I won't tell. You can talk to me." Again, despite knowing that many of his followers are minors, he is encouraging them to give him their personal contact information and confide in him.

July 17

Andy posts <u>Colored Children May Not Play Here</u>, an **obviously fictional account of an encounter with a child** at the amusement park (most likely Busch Gardens) where he is working as a caricature artist. Allegedly, the child displays **self-loathing and internalized racism**, which Andy heavily implies have been passed on by his mother. Andy the Enlightened White Man resolves this with an inspiring speech, and the child is happy again. To drive the message further home, Andy writes that the child decides to be portrayed as **Captain America**, the ultimate embodiment of what the US is supposed to be. **This is the first time that Andy mentions the MCU on Tumblr.**

July 19

Andy offers <u>cheap Avengers commissions</u>, saying that he needs to get used to drawing them for work (he is a caricature artist at Busch Gardens). He posts <u>his first Captain America art</u> the next day.

July 20

Andy hears about the Aurora, CO shootings at the *Batman* premiere and asks his followers to help him confirm that several people, including two of his former roommates, are all right. He <u>publicly shares these people's full names</u>. Andy <u>posts about this</u> several times, saying that he is <u>"rapidly decompensating"</u> and retelling the story of his **"dear friend"** Brittany's murder in a <u>brief and oddly flippant manner</u>. Luckily, <u>all of his former friends are fine</u>.

July 21

In <u>a post addressed to his new followers</u>, Andy makes a number of claims about himself, including that he is an **advocate** for human rights, for LGBTQIA rights, and against rape and domestic violence. He also repeats that he "isn't 'into' any fandom" and mentions that he's "done things [he's] not proud of," but is "doing things [he is] proud of now."

July 22

Just as he used to do on LJ, Andy has been answering, in-character, questions addressed to the **DAYDverse characters on Tumblr.** There are too many for it to be worth noting each one individually. This is the date on which he compiles the questions and responses and posts them to Facebook and the LJ community.

Andy posts <u>Fuck the Gender Police</u>, the latest of many assertions that he is in some way transgressive with regard to traditional gender roles, and that other people are threatened by this. He says that he is currently working on a One Direction art commission, which does not make him a girl or gay, but there's nothing wrong with being either of those things. He goes on to insult misogynists and homophobes in ways that call into question his claim to love literally every human being. No one was aware that Andy was doing anything related to One Direction until he mentioned it here, so no one has had a chance to say anything about it at all. That makes this entire post seem extremely defensive, which rather contradicts the point that he's trying to make.

July 23

This date marks the <u>first time that Andy watches Supernatural</u>, although he's only watching a single episode for an art commission.

This is also the day that Andy officially announces that a few of his friends will be conducting tea ceremonies in Brittany's memory. He lists the teas that he is sending them and why each has been included. I have written about this post and the tea ceremonies here and here (see last big paragraph), and also mentioned them here. I have read tea ceremony posts by three of Andy's friends. One of them, a DAYDian from the LJ community, writes in a fairly straightforward fashion, mostly describing her reaction to the taste of each tea. When she writes about Brittany, she acknowledges that they'd never met, but that they'd talked a little and she'd read a lot about her, and she could personally relate to Brittany's experience of abuse by a partner. CFC writes about her troubled relationship with Brittany, then describes Brittany as reaching out from beyond the grave to heal the rift between them, and to help her to be the person she wants to be. She describes Brittany as "one of many faiths [she has]" and specifically connects her with her religious journey. Tumblr-era DAYDian A, who never knew Brittany at all, writes about visualizing Andy and Brittany with them. With one cup, they "see" Andy and Brittany sitting on either side of them and holding hands behind their head. With another, they "see" Brittany at the table with them and ask her to help Andy (and them, if she can manage it) with her "healer's hands". "How deeply I understand you now," they write.

<u>A popular meme</u> makes light of annoying Tumblr stereotypes. In an effort to demonstrate his sensitivity and "protectiveness", Andy decides to take it absolutely seriously and responds as if the girl depicted were a real person whom he needs to save from some evil Tumblr hivemind. He assigns himself some over-the-top hypothetical dialogue and then says that he has "a saving people problem", but that this is absolutely something that he would do in real life.

Finally, Andy posts about the wrock album again. This time, he claims that Brittany had been working on it for two years before her death (so from 2009-2011), that it was "THIS close to going somewhere when she was murdered," and that now it's finally going to be finished.

July 24

Andy informs us that <u>his emotions are not those of mere mortals</u>. Other people "cling to things, and they project that on [him]," so they think he's more unhappy than he really is. **"Emotion come, emotion go," says Andy.** "I don't cling to hurty things...it's like holding on to the blade of a knife."

July 25

Andy posts 10 Things I Want To Tell You About Your Rape, a piece that directly addresses rape survivors. As if he were an authority on sexual assault, he talks about things that other people or a nebulous "they" will tell rape survivors, but he won't—again, setting himself apart as exceptionally enlightened and sensitive. He also talks about potential motivations of rapists, as if there is any explanation or excuse that is adequate for their actions. One of the motivations that he lists is mental illness, which he has repeatedly attempted to use to excuse his own abusive actions. He says, "People who are truly ill like that are not truly responsible for their actions and need serious medical attention." He also specifies that rape is not a means of helping people "get past hangups", although that was one of his excuses when he raped someone in the Bagenders cult. Amidst a number of other points cribbed from literature written by actual advocates and experts, Andy goes on to say that a rapist may "genuinely be a good person who did something terribly wrong but might be able to be helped with education and therapy to never do it again." Again, Andrew Blake is an admitted rapist who has a vested interest in sending this message. Whether rapists can truly be rehabilitated or not isn't the point. Andy is not someone who should be speaking authoritatively on the matter, and especially not directly to rape survivors.

July 26

Andy's 29th birthday.

July 27

Having read about Kristen Stewart's cheating on Robert Pattinson and the ensuing fandom fall-out, Andy (who has previously taken every opportunity to mock *Twilight* and its fans) chastises his friends for being less compassionate and tolerant than he is. His friends have been laughing at the angry *Twilight* fans, but Andy says that he recognizes that those people (all of whom he seems to assume are children or young adolescents) have just had their entire worldview shattered, and he wants to support them. Like Jesus would, or Wil Wheaton. Fortunately, Andy is unaware that while you can use as many tags on a Tumblr post as you want, the post will only show up on the tag pages for the first five. He therefore fails to attract the attention of any young, emotionally vulnerable *Twilight* fans.

July 30

Andy lists a number of 'wrong reasons' to be in a relationship (some clearly legitimate, others debatable) and says that if any of them applies to the reader, they need to "seriously evaluate [their] situation." Some of these are things that he exploited to try to get Abbey to stay with him in 2007-2008.

July 31

Andy posts about Brittany again, saying that he misses having her as a friend because she was "a peer, an equal...and [not] Fraught With Drama." He says that he'd never had that before and doesn't think he'll ever have it again, thereby denigrating all of his past and current friends and partners and denying his own part in the drama that constantly surrounds him.

August

Andy starts posting art that crosses DAYDverse with <u>various other fandoms</u>, especially <u>Torchwood</u>, apparently in an effort to attract more readers. (This is aside from/in addition to the litany of fandoms that the Creevey brothers frequently reference.) He will eventually insert <u>Torchwood</u> and <u>Supernatural</u> cameos into "A Peccatis".

August 1

Andy reposts <u>10 Myths About Domestic Violence</u>, originally from the It's About Power website. Please read <u>this message</u>, from an actual domestic violence advocate, about IAP and this post in particular.

Despite his frequent complaints about being broke or poor, Andy posts about a day of <u>"retail therapy"</u> that includes:

...three bags from Wal-Mart, one from Target, two from Claires...one from Calvin Kline [sic], two from GAP, one from JC Penny [sic], one from Nautica, one from the Levi Store, one from Banana Republic, and one from Van Heusen.

August 3

Andy posts <u>another implausible story</u> from his job at Busch Gardens. Supposedly, a fifteen-year-old boy who "could seriously make a living impersonating Josh Hutcherson" (Peeta from *The Hunger Games*) appears and becomes "hysterical" when he thinks that Andy is going to comment on the resemblance. A "girl's middle school band camp" is at the park and apparently has been harassing him all day. **This is reminiscent of Andy's 2008 ranting about** "bubbleheaded shipperchibbies"—evidently, young *Hunger Games* fangirls are still fair game. Luckily, Andy is there to save the day by paying for the kid to get his face painted like a Marvel character.

August 5

Responding to an anon who asks what smaller-fandom canons interest Andy, he repeats that he is <u>not interested in any fandom but DAYDverse</u>. Although the vast majority of his posts concern some fandom in some way, he explains away his interest in every one of them as if he's above it all (e.g., "sociology fanboying" in *Glee*, having an attachment to *Star Trek* for "Father Reasons", saying that he watched XYZ shows because he had "roommates with addictions").

Sometime between August 6-9

Andy and his mother go to New York City and see *Wicked* on Broadway. Former roommate L was supposed to accompany him on this trip, but it is unclear whether she went.

August 10

Andy, who identifies as a cisgender, straight, white man, makes a lengthy post about the acceptability of <u>various forms of insult</u>. For some reason, he separates "religious, ethnic, and sexual insults" and "gendered insults" (both of which he says are sometimes acceptable), as well as "sexist insults/misgendering insults" (not acceptable), from slurs (which are "FUCK TO THE NEVER" acceptable). He says that this post came about because someone took exception to his calling a friend a cunt, and makes it clear that he believes that the problem was not that he used the word in the first place, but that he didn't realize that people would see it.

August 11

Andy answers a long list of <u>questions from an anon</u>. Of particular interest is his statement that even if he had a time machine, "[he'd] not want to go backwards because **there's nothing [he'd]** want to change." Also of note is that Andy says that if he had to pick any place outside the US to start a new life, he would choose Vancouver, BC, Canada. Vancouver just happens to be the shooting location for many movies and TV series.

He also posts some **DAYD/Supernatural crossover art.**

August 12

Andy starts the **DAYDverse** tumblr community.

August 13

In <u>That's what makes you beautiful</u>, Andy writes about many different ways in which he says a woman can be beautiful, regardless of body type, style, and sexuality. He sets this in contrast to how "They" say a woman should look. The problem with this post is that while Andy is purporting to send a positive message, what he is actually doing is **mansplaining and condescending to women, about themselves.** He is also making several enormous assumptions:

- 1. That he has any right to decide what makes women beautiful or not.
- 2. That women necessarily want him to think of them as beautiful.
- 3. That he knows more about what is good and healthy for women than women do.
- 4. That women should care about his opinion.

Also problematic is his suggestion that some women are not beautiful due to things beyond their control, such as symptoms of illness, aspects of the natural aging process, physical effects of hard work, and low self-esteem. Finally, Andy's use of the word "pussy" toward the end is very jarring, after all his efforts at gentle, non-threatening language and imagery. He has a habit of using slang terms, many of which are pejorative, for female genitalia.

August 16

An anon asks how Andy knows so much about the DAYD characters and how he keeps track of the stories. He repeats what he's said all along (emphasis mine): "I just DO. ... I just know it, the way I know things about anyone else I know IRL. ... The information comes with the exact same tone and feel from the exact same part of my brain. ... I don't think about it, I don't build it, I just know."

In a <u>related post</u>, he says that the DAYD characters are "shoving at the inside of [his] head," demanding to have their stories told. Andy implies that they are real people whom the rest of the world does not acknowledge as such, so only he understands how important they are. "As long as there is breath in [his] body," he says, he will keep telling their stories, although it impedes him from having a "normal" life. Abbey, Diamond, and former DAYDians have described how in both the Bagenders and DAYDverse cults, Andy gradually built up to the "channeling", never outright telling anyone of his so-called abilities, but dropping in bits of information and suggestions here and there until they "worked it out for themselves". These two posts look like the early stages of that process, as if perhaps Andy is hoping to build up a new DAYDverse cult among his Tumblr followers.

Andy makes the <u>ludicrous claim</u> that he once performed oral sex on a woman for six hours continuously, giving her 54 orgasms.

August 18

Andy complains that as "an articulate, educated, reasonably attractive guy", he cannot find a woman with whom to engage in a completely platonic friendship and have fun together. He makes a token acknowledgement that a guy would be fine, too, but might "get his masculinity in a twist about it." He insists that he isn't a Nice Guy and doesn't feel entitled to anything from women, and that he finds all of this hilarious. The implication seems to be either that there are no women anywhere near Andy that share his interests, or if there are, they all want him sexually.

August 22

In <u>another tale</u> of Fandom in Real Life, Andy says that someone at the doctor's office referred to him as "Mr. Anderson" (as in Blaine Anderson from *Glee*) because he had completely unintentionally dressed like him. The selfies that he posts indicate that at this point, he deliberately models his overall look on Blaine's on a regular basis, bowties, gelled hair, and all.

September

This is the month in which Andy will later claim that he had a "breakthrough" and fully integrated all of his "alters" after just two months of therapy. (From Aja Romano's article, "The Strange Lives of Andrew Blake," which I will not link here.)

September 4

Andy tells another unbelievable story from his work at Busch Gardens. This time, he claims to have encountered a guest who exhibits roughly equal numbers of stereotypically "male" and "female" gender markers, leading him to assume that they are nonbinary. Andy asks for their pronouns and is met with hostility and insults as the guest storms off, offended. The next guest to approach is "more or less the prototype for Burt Hummel" (Kurt's father and Finn's stepfather in Glee). Andy portrays him as not terribly bright, but full of folksy wisdom. While Andy draws his children's caricatures, this man pontificates in southern dialect about how people like the previous guest make things harder for the rest of the LGBTQIA community by throwing well-meaning people's efforts to be respectful back in their faces, "and that ain't right." He includes an example of "a lady at the station who used to be a guy" and a metaphor about peeling the labels off cans. This man sounds exactly like the sheriff's deputy in one of Andy's earlier posts. While the deputy served to lend Andy's words an air of legitimacy and authority, he seems to have created this character simply because he thought his message would get more attention if it came from someone who wouldn't ordinarily be expected to say such a thing—and from someone easily tied in to a fandom.

September 5

After Andy complains about not having anyone with whom to attend Fashion's Night Out, an anon says that they'd love to go with him if he could get to Seattle. As he has done many times in the past, Andy responds with an "offer" to travel anywhere, "even if it's overseas", if someone else will pay for it.

September 10

Andy conflates fandom with activism and politics, writing that the existence and popularity of *Glee* mean that the Republican party has "lost the culture war". Regardless of whether Romney and Ryan win the 2012 Presidential election, he says, "it doesn't matter in the long run" because their brand of bigotry is on the way out. This waving away of very real problems and fears, and smug condescension about taking the long view with regard to politics and social issues in the US, will repeat themselves in 2016.

Andy repeats that he "[doesn't] really like the Harry Potter series much at all and [has] only read each book once".

September 11

Andy leaves for San Francisco to visit DAYDian A. A is a non-neurotypical person who has been uprooted from their life in the US and moved to a faraway country, amid a great deal of family turmoil. (Andy visits while they are back in the US for a very short time.) Since then, they have also experienced a traumatic end to a serious romantic relationship. A has recently turned 18 at the time of this visit, and for most of the time that they associate with Andy, they present and identify as female. All of these things make them especially vulnerable to Andy's usual forms of manipulation. At some point during this visit, A gives Andy a backrub and he tells A that they have "Brittany hands".

September 17

More than two months after he last saw L, Andy says that he has just learned that her stepmother has thrown away a box of "all [his] most precious belongings from [his] entire life", including childhood and family mementos and his correspondence with Brittany. He announces his intention of traveling to the city where L's family lives and digging through the landfill until he finds Brittany's stuffed gorilla—and he actually purchases a Greyhound ticket for this purpose. He says:

"I am, in a way, more heartbroken about this than about Brittany's actual physical death, because...this is the loss of everything I've saved that gave me succor from a lifetime of losses, including hers. Including the loss of everything that soothed in any way the loss OF her."

Despite the importance that he ascribes to this box, Andy apparently left it at L's family's house well before leaving South Dakota (possibly in May or June, when he started working at the camp) and has made no effort whatsoever to retrieve it in the meantime. There is also no indication that L had any idea prior to this date that the box had been thrown away.

In a later post, he adds that he also left with L's family a bag of all of his important (and in some cases irreplaceable) clothing, shoes, and a lot of other memorabilia. That bag is gone, too.

September 19

On Facebook, Andy says that he is being made to spend a three-hour counseling session **explaining and justifying his deep investment in the DAYDverse to his parents.** He **guilt trips the DAYDians** by mentioning that he's lost "family irreplaceable things" that he entrusted to them, spent a lot of money on them, and devoted an enormous amount of time to them that he could have spent on other things. Then he asks for fic and art reviews to make him feel better after the session.

In <u>another Facebook post</u>, Andy says that he may have to "choose between the 'verse and [his] family."

September 20

Andy receives a series of anonymous asks (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6) on Tumblr from someone who expresses loneliness, self-loathing, and suicidal thoughts. They say they have "lost the most precious thing in [their] life" because they hurt someone unintentionally. They don't want to go on living without this person. Andy is supportive and caring until he realizes who the anon is, at which point he says that they're not really suicidal and just want attention, although he'd asked them not to contact him again after they betrayed him. He refers to the anon as a "creeper" who has taken advantage of him. This anon is L, and the person she unintentionally hurt is Andy.

On Facebook, Andy posts about bad things that have happened within the last 24 hours, including, "[His] mother is trying to make [him] choose between the Daydverse and having a place to live." He describes the counseling session as being "trapped in an office being told the Daydverse was evil and exploiting [him]." He also mentions that the governor of South Dakota has officially banned him from entering the landfill to search for the missing box, and accuses L of deliberately ignoring messages from people trying to help him retrieve those of his possessions that she still has. Andy tells the DAYDians, "I am fighting for you guys. You are worth it. I won't let go."

Later, he posts A N00bs guide to the Daydverse, an attempt to attract new people to his "fandom family". He promises them immediate and complete love and acceptance by the group.

He also posts about <u>body image in the DAYDverse</u>, saying that someone on Facebook has called him out for repeatedly making a point of how trim and athletic everyone in his version of Dumbledore's Army is. Andy justifies this with talk of their military-style training, an unreliable narrator, changes in the characters' bodies after the war, and so forth. He also uses his long-standing obsession with curvy women as a defense. Andy ignores many other valid criticisms of his physical portrayals of the DAYD characters, including his constantly using models and Hollywood actors to represent them in his art, and in-text moments like the revelation that Hannah had a perfect hourglass figure and her robes had somehow made her "look fat".

September 22

Andy thanks several friends for contributing to have his remaining things shipped from L's house. He also thanks L for sending them, glossing over all of the hateful things that he said about her before. He claims that he had actually gone to catch the Greyhound to South Dakota when he heard about the box, and that some sacred or supernatural force kept the bus from coming. While his earlier post said that the state governor had banned him from the landfill, this one ascribes the ban to officials in two South Dakota cities.

Andy hijacks a post written by a person of color about racism in the Harry Potter series, in order to promote the DAYDverse. He talks about how much more diverse his work is than Rowling's, and suggests that he can "offer [the OP] a little bit of the magic back." He immediately lampshades this, saying that he's not trying "to play Great White Savior, to 'earn cookies', or to pretend that what [he] write[s] is 'post-racism' or beyond critique."

Later, he posts a list of DA members from the DAYDverse fics, accompanied by the "diversity bingo" labels that pertain to each of them.

Finally, Andy posts about a DAYDverse character who was very clearly inspired by Mengele. Andy even went so far as to name him Belsen, after a Nazi concentration camp. After recounting the character's backstory in graphic detail, he talks about A's having come across a sketch of Belsen when he visited them in San Francisco. A is Jewish and the grandchild of Holocaust survivors, and has other family members who did not survive, so they were very disturbed by the sketch and by Belsen's life story, which Andy recounted to them before sharing it in this post. Together, Andy says, they conducted a **religious ritual** that included burning the sketch, saying a prayer, and cursing the land on which they did it. He tries to justify this by suggesting that Belsen's story was about all the real criminals of the Holocaust who escaped justice, and

that the ritual was about all of the victims whose stories will never be told. I believe this is true from A's perspective. For Andy, I believe that Belsen was just another easy means of eliciting an extreme emotional response from his readers—as if having Nazi analogues in the Potterverse weren't enough, he added a literal Nazi. In creating the character in the first place, Andy knowingly and deliberately connected his fictional universe to real horrors that have been suffered by real people and continue to affect their descendants in profound ways. In conducting the ritual, he made that connection even more immediate and personal for A and invested it (and their relationship) with an element of the sacred.

September 23

Andy says that he is not doing well emotionally in the aftermath of losing the box, although he had previously been on the road to recovering from Brittany's murder. <u>He asks whether his followers think that medication might help.</u>

When an anon suggests that Andy ask a professional for help, Andy says that he is seeing a therapist, which his parents are paying for, but that the therapist "doesn't believe in meds unless it's a massive last resort thing." He says that he can't afford to see an actual psychiatrist.

September 24

Andy reveals that his visit with A involved extreme sleep deprivation as he gave them an enormous info-dump about their favorite DAYDverse character. At their request, he shares a lot of backstory about Li's family and a story from her life, which ends up revealing his vast and prideful ignorance about Chinese history and culture and his reliance on stereotypes.

September 27

Without a trace of irony, Andy—who has frequently retconned aspects of various DAYDverse characters when he realizes he's made a mistake—<u>criticizes Rowling</u> for "retconnbackpedaling" and engaging in "that's-not-what-I-meant-it's-just-what-I-wrote crap". He repeats that he doesn't actually like *Harry Potter*.

On Facebook, he says, "I see the entirety of DAYD/Sluagh/AP/Etc in my head like a film...but that's totally separate from the way I see it as a 'real thing' which is just very straightforward and not at all 'artistic.'" He clarifies that his fic writing is him seeing DAYDverse events as they play out and chronicling them, but that he also "sees" a more artistic version similar to a film adaptation. This seems to be **the first step in moving away from his former assertion that the DAYDverse was real**, which had been the basis for his second fandom cult. Andy still has some long-term DAYDians left, and if he comes right out and says it was nothing but fiction all along, he might lose them. He has to ease into it.

September 28

<u>Andy laments</u> that all the other *Glee* fans aren't as clever as he is and even his "favorite glee pundits" just aren't knowledgeable or 'deep' enough to write the meta that he thinks they should.

October

Sometime in late September or early October, A says that, **like Andy**, <u>they are starting to channel a DAYD character</u>:

...Andy appears to have, shall we say, infected me during his visit with one of the dozens of lives that coexist inside his head. I have the better part of a life cut short living in my own mind, and a Dubliner's accent whispering in my ears whenever I try to rest: Tell of me, tell of me...

The character is Icarus Utterson. A says that they are working on an essay/biography about Icarus, but they "see so much more of him in [their] mind than [they] could even begin to put into words", and they're afraid that only Andy will ever understand. They end by **directly addressing the character as if he were a real person**: "Russ, if you ever see this or the paper itself, I hope you're happy with what I've done."

October 1

Andy posts "Real-Sized Woman", allegedly in response to a fanmail that asked his opinion of that term. He uses his version of Luna Lovegood as an example and discusses her eating and exercise habits, which amount to moderation in diet and exercise and eating organic whole foods. He says that her resulting size and body shape are "the equilibrium reached by just being healthy...not by starvation dieting or working out like crazy, but also not by being sedentary and pouring crap into herself."

In a comment on the above post, <u>someone points out</u> that this implies that **female athletes** can't be "real-sized" because they work out all the time, and that women who are wheelchair bound and gain weight as a result can't be "real-sized" either. Andy's response is notably defensive. He says that this person is correct, but that he's not making a value judgment or saying that "real-sized" means "beautiful, sexy, desirable, worthwhile, responsible, virtuous, healthy, intelligent, [or] valuable." He actually *did* say that it was healthy, and some of those other adjectives (particularly "responsible" and "virtuous") were clearly implied in his post and the accompanying illustration.

An anon tells Andy that <u>his post upset her</u> and that there's no such thing as a "real body type". She talks about the unfairness of classifying people based on weight. Andy gets defensive again and **apologizes for her being upset—but not for the fact that his words caused that feeling.** He

ignores the issue at hand (that it's ridiculous and offensive to talk about "real" body types/sizes) and focuses instead on the phrase "real woman" that the anon used. He assures her that she is a "real woman" if she identifies as female and that this has nothing to do with her size, and repeats what he's already said about "real-sized" not meaning "beautiful". He piles on the affirmations, not only assuring the anon that he finds women of all sizes to be beautiful, but telling her that she is "valuable...[and] worthy of respect and appreciation and attention," and may describe herself however she wishes. None of this addresses what the anon was actually saying.

Another anon <u>expresses doubt</u> that Luna can weigh what Andy says she does, at her height, with the diet and exercise habits that he describes. Andy responds that Luna's height, weight, figure, and lifestyle correspond to DAYDian A's. Given that he had not previously described these attributes of Luna's in his DAYDverse writings, it seems likely that **he deliberately based them on A both to flatter them and to have a "gotcha" answer** in case he got a response like this. He closes with a comment about **how A looked in the stockings and corset top** that they wore to an event that they attended together. **Again, A is just over 18 and Andy is 29.**

Andy also makes a lengthy post about what racism really is and white people's responsibilities in dealing with it, and gets extremely defensive when an anon calls him out for his never-ending self-congratulations on the diversity of the DAYDverse. His response includes the obvious falsehood that he's "never accused JKR of anything" (see September 27 above for one example) and another reminder that he doesn't like or care about Harry Potter at all. What the anon misses, and what Andy doesn't address in his litany of justifications, is that half of his PoC characters die in DAYD and two more are severely maimed. These are not canonical deaths and injuries. Andy himself decided that every one of the 50 unnamed Battle of Hogwarts casualties was a student (although faculty, Aurors, Order of the Phoenix members, Hogsmeade villagers, and residents of the Forbidden Forest were also fighting), and he decided exactly which ones should die. When you break down Andy's DA by other minority categories, as Andy has done on several occasions, the numbers are even more striking. For example, 3/4 of his LGBTQIA characters die, and the survivors' sexualities and gender identifications are informed-only: that is, they are never evident in the main texts or side stories, and are only mentioned in "20 Random Facts" lists (or in one case, a Tumblr post) because Andy decided to squeeze in a little more diversity after the fact.

October 3

In a reblog of a post linking to videos of the *Avengers* cast singing, Andy writes a couple of <u>song</u> <u>parodies</u> about Joss Whedon and an *Avengers* musical.

October 4

Andy writes a rather condescending post about how his fanfiction fills in narrative gaps and fleshes out complete personalities from the limited information that canon provides about side characters. He says that most people who criticize his portrayals of *Harry Potter* characters in DAYD either don't understand this concept, or the concept of the unreliable narrator, or of limited viewpoint—or they're just plain unsettled and can't handle it. He also suggests that these readers lack curiosity and imagination and are more interested in *what* characters are than in *why* they are. Andy has said before that **he thinks that the vast majority of non-DAYDverse fic is shallow, facile shipper nonsense**, and he seems to be unaware that at least an equal proportion of fanfiction is written for the reasons that he's described in this post, and more.

October 5

Andy posts his <u>infamous response</u> to an anon ask that calls him "fucked in the head" because of "what [he] did to those people". As 1purp0se said in their <u>excellent breakdown</u> of this post and others by Andy:

Andy doesn't say he's ashamed of what he did, he doesn't say he's sorry. For every admission in this post, there's an accusation to cancel it out. He says he has "gotten past it", "sought help" and therefore he is now "proud". You know why? Because this overcoming-of-obstacles storyline is just another tale Andy is telling. Stories like that usually end in pride that a person has overcome their problems, and that's the story Andy wants us to believe. What he has not addressed here is that he was the problem that other people had to overcome. Abbey Stone has a right to be proud; Andy does not.

To this, I will add a healthy dose of skepticism about Andy's claims regarding therapy and medication. Since his return to Virginia from South Dakota in July 2012, Andy's parents have been making him see a therapist again; however, he said on September 23 that this therapist does not believe in medication and that he has not been seeing a psychiatrist. Even if his parents added a psychiatrist to his treatment roster between 9/23 and 10/5, and that psychiatrist prescribed him medication, he cannot have attended more than a couple of sessions within those twelve days, and *definitely* cannot have been medicated long enough for it to make any difference. Moreover, Andy is still talking about the DAYD characters as if they are real people. He is still using the same manipulation techniques in his Tumblr posts that he used on the Bagenders and the DAYDians—love-bombing, breadcrumb trails of clues leading toward "revelations" of his so-called supernatural abilities, telling teenagers with psychological and emotional issues that he's "not like all the rest" and won't judge if they share deeply personal secrets with him, plying people with affirmations and unasked-for validation, and more. He is still lying about his past and his identity and—even in this very post—evading blame and mingling accusations with admissions.

This claim, and Andy's later claims that he overcame his past and his alleged mental health issues with medication and therapy by the end of September 2012, are obviously not true. Andy is setting up a redemption narrative for himself, but it is not a redemption that he has earned.

October 8

In response to an <u>anonymous ask</u>, Andy says that he has never read a comic book because he thinks they're boring, and that he is **not in the** *Avengers***/MCU fandom.**

October 10

Andy says that Brittany was his "perfect soulmate", that they had "perfect chemistry" and all the same hopes and ambitions and interests, and that he was "madly in love" with her and she loved him, too. He calls Jason (her ex and murderer) a "twisted selfish cowardly motherfucker" and says, "I like the idea of hell just fine as long as he's in it." (Again, please see this post of mine regarding the way Andy writes about Jason.)

In the midst of an otherwise unremarkable <u>recipe for hot chocolate</u>, Andy drops a **creepy simile**: "...start gradually adding the milk in a slow, smooth, steady stream as thin as the white silk ribbon edge of a girl's knickers."

October 11

Andy draws and posts an **unsolicited pin-up style picture** of G, a much-younger female follower of his, wearing lingerie.

October 12

One of Andy's followers asks for advice on writing. In his response, Andy says that he has no training at all in writing and has "never properly gone to school." (He did attend college at Christopher Newport University and George Mason University during the early 2000s.) He repeats that he sees everything happen in his head and just transcribes it, and that he doesn't edit. This is also the point at which Andy starts acknowledging that the way he's described his relationship to the DAYDverse and his fixation on writing in it is unhealthy. He says, "I'm not inspired, I'm obsessed. ... I am quite aware that it's probably closer to a form of mental illness than an artistic thing, but I can't give it up." He briefly touched on this idea on September 19, but this is the first time that Andy has expressed it as his own opinion rather than an argument that he is trying to refute. Finally, he reiterates that he doesn't like *Harry Potter*, and in fact, only skimmed the books before writing DAYD.

October 13

In <u>I have "Girl Problems"</u>, Andy writes at length about the many accusations of **sexism** that have been leveled at him and his DAYDverse writings. He comes up with several lists of questions to determine whether he as a writer and/or his work in the DAYDverse really is sexist, and mostly concludes that the answer is "no". He does point out that he gives female characters substantially less "screen time" than male characters, but then provides himself with a number of **justifications and mitigating factors that make it not really his fault** (e.g., the novels are written from Neville's POV, the women just aren't as popular, he's scared to write women because he's seen so many women write men poorly, he loves women so much that he has trouble portraying them with flaws, people will complain about female characters no matter what you do, etc.). His lists ignore many specific issues that have been pointed out that have absolutely nothing to do with the POV character and everything to do with Andy's misogyny and gender essentialism.

Later, Andy <u>calls out some female DAYDians</u> for responding to the previous post by telling him that they don't think he's sexist.

October 14

Andy posts a <u>brief analytical response</u> to a post about *Supernatural*, although he is not yet watching the show at this time.

Andy posts a picture of his ass and <u>claims</u> that a "random shopper" at the GAP compared it to Blaine Anderson's.

October 15

An anon calls Andy out for pretending to be a "Super SJ Warrior" and hoping that people will just forget about his homophobic and misogynist words and actions on LJ. Andy turns it around on the anon, accusing them of ignoring the fact that he's changed, of discouraging others from changing, and of being ignorant about the "progressive movement". He also claims that all of the problematic behavior that the anon cited happened "in 2008 within six months of [his] joining this space". Since Andy has only been on Tumblr since November 2011, "this space" presumably refers to fandom. He apparently thinks that no one realizes that he has been involved in one fandom or another since at least 1998.

October 16

An anon asks whether <u>Andy believes that he's a better writer than J. K. Rowling</u>, or believes that he represents her characters in DAYD better than she does in canon. Andy **lampshades his many previous criticisms of Rowling** by saying that they're writing in different genres ("children's fantasy" vs." supernatural realism"), so they're not really comparable—also, that he doesn't like *Harry Potter* specifically because he doesn't like the genre.

October 20

Andy defends himself against an anon who <u>calls him out</u> for sharing, unprompted, two female characters' bra sizes and discussing another's breasts in detail, but refusing to disclose who has the biggest penis in DAYDverse. Andy says that talking about female characters' breasts is perfectly acceptable because breasts are "readily visible in our culture", while penises are not. He talks about "invasiveness", as if the DAYD characters are real people who would be embarrassed by having such information shared. He later adds that the initial question was obviously asked out of a "ridiculous hyuck-hyuck 12 year old gotcha mentality" and that it would have been harmful to answer it. He says that talking about the female characters' breasts addressed "valid characterization issues", but talking about a male character's penis size wouldn't.

October 22

Andy somehow manages to <u>read Clive Barker's "The Forbidden"</u> (the basis for the *Candyman* movies) without realizing that it is set in Liverpool, England, rather than Chicago (as in the movies). He is extremely offended and chastises Barker for whitewashing, erasure, and "OTT self-aggrandizing purple prose", something for which Andy himself has repeatedly been criticized. In a <u>separate post</u>, he complains about the many Briticisms in Barker's story and asks if these sort of "common fanfic mistakes" are also common in pro fiction.

In It's A Cold And It's A Broken Hallelujah, Andy says that other than some technical issues, the only real problem with DAYD is the tone. By imitating Rowling's tone, he made his readers perceive the world of DAYD as a fairytale world, as he says the Potterverse is, and people's problems with the story stem from their trying to apply Rowling's fairytale rules to his gritty realism. That, he says, is why people believe that Neville's thoughts and words echo Andy's beliefs, that his portrayal of Lavender's rape is inappropriate and offensive, that her rape and the extreme violence of the story were used for shock value, etc. Andy isn't saying anything new here: it's the same old, defensive protest that "you're reading it wrong!" recast as "I made you read it wrong." It has been less than a month since he criticized Rowling for "that's-not-what-I-meant-it's-just-what-I-wrote crap".

October 23

Andy follows up the previous post by <u>explaining at great length</u> why his portrayal of Lavender's sexual assault was perfectly fine. He starts by once again blaming all of the objections that people have raised on the tone of the story, then lists ten of said objections and dismisses each in turn. Most of it comes down to his old excuses of gritty realism, the harsh facts of war, third-person-limited narration, and oops-I-got-the-tone-wrong.

In response to his post blaming DAYD's issues on its tone, an anon sends a <u>four-part series</u> of <u>asks</u> that take Andy to task for his depiction of Lavender's and Hermione's rapes in DAYD and "Sluagh", respectively. Andy has repeatedly talked about how (he says) he was unwittingly misogynist, gender essentialist, homophobic, and generally unenlightened when he wrote DAYD, but has since changed. In marked contrast to those claims, his dismissal of every one of this anon's complaints revolves around the idea that when Andy wrote DAYD, he was extremely aware of stereotypes and tropes surrounding rape and rape survivors, and deliberately chose to invoke them for reasons. Regarding Lavender's rape, Andy shifts some of the blame to Rowling and "half of [his] readers" for "slut-shaming" her, because apparently ascribing problematic elements in fiction to the POV character and the effects of third-person-limited narration is only acceptable when Andy does it. His defense of the level of graphic detail in Hermione's rape scene, despite the fact that his POV character was in mid-battle at the time, includes "[rape] kinda gets your attention". In the fourth part, he accuses the anon of not even having read his work and then digresses into an explanation of how he doesn't want to humanize the Diabhal Dubh.

In Age is just a number, Andy offers some condescending advice to teenagers and young adults. He tells them that no matter how grown-up they feel, and regardless of the fact that they do currently have a broader perspective on the world than they ever have before, no one is ever really done growing and learning. He emphasizes that he isn't trying to deny them anything or to be parental and that he isn't so old that he's "forgotten how to dream", but also says that he knows they're only going to ignore his sage advice. Andy tells them that he can tell them all of this because "[he was] that ridiculously intelligent, so mature for [his] age, been through so much already so old for [his] years seventeeneighteennineteen year old." This echoes the 2007 Amypology—and just as in that LJ post, Andy says here that the reason he caused "[himself] and a lot of other people a tremendous amount of pain" was that he was brilliant and advanced and couldn't accept that he "still had a lot to learn".

October 24

An anon comments on Andy's having said that <u>all of DAYDverse is "perfectly set out in [his] head"</u>, and suggests that DAYD's problems are due to his being a "developing writer" who sometimes forgot that he needed to explain everything clearly to the reader. Andy agrees with this, and adds another call-back to the "genre issues". He also suggests that **people who take issue with the fics subsequent to DAYD do so because they "have made decisions about what kind of person [he is] and they read towards that."**

October 25

Andy finishes a <u>YouTube video</u> in which he makes breakfast for his parents by saying, "...you see why I get to live here for free." The truth is that he lives there for free because that way, his parents can keep an eye on him and keep him in therapy.

October 26

Andy offers advice on safety when <u>meeting online people for the first time</u>. Most of what he says is common sense and fairly standard; however, he closes with this:

Being underage and meeting someone way older than you (double points if they're married, triple points if you're queer, neuroatypical, or anything else that fucks your self esteem and makes you feel lonely and othered, all the points in ever if you think you're already a couple based off of things online and/or it's been sexual) who says they love you and want to be with you because you're a special snowflake and/or make them feel like a special snowflake is still INCREDIBLY stupid. ... You have no idea how badly I and uncountable others have been burned by that last one.

While he doesn't name names in this post, this is exactly how Andy has reframed his relationship with Abbey, first for the DAYDians and now for Tumblr. He has already lied to Carlanime (and everyone else who received a version of his November 2011 email) by saying that he was underage when he and Abbey met, exaggerating their age difference, claiming that Abbey was the abusive one in the relationship, and blaming most of what he did on trying to satisfy her "whims". He has also specifically said (again, in the aforementioned email) that Abbey "must at all times be Special" and forced him to switch from one alter to another as she pleased, while he was incapable of fighting back.

October 27

Andy posts what he says is a transcript of a **conversation with a friend of his grandfather's, regarding Steve Rogers's sexuality.** Like the sheriff's deputy from a previous post, **this man's speech reads very much like dialogue from Andy's own writing.** The phrase, "less understanding of sex than a five year old who's seen a Britney Spears video," is especially odd. For some reason, this WWII vet is unaware that as early as 1940, throughout the Armed Forces, educational films on sex and "venereal disease" were mandatory viewing, and pamphlets and posters on the same topics were heavily circulated.

He follows this with an offer: "...if anyone wants to know something in particular about Cap and his era from someone who fought in that war and remembers the original comic books coming out," Andy will relay their questions to his grandfather's friend. The closing quotation, again, reads like a line from Andy's fanfiction. While I realize that not everyone is the same and that anecdotes are not evidence, I feel that it is relevant to mention that both of my grandfathers and most of my great-uncles served in WWII (Army and Navy), and not one of them was ever willing to talk about it beyond the most general information about where they

served, even on the many occasions on which I visited military museums with my grandfathers. Even my grandmother, who worked with German POWs on a stateside Army base, shuts down when people mention the war—I'm 35 and until last year, I had no idea she'd done that. It seems extremely unlikely to me that a WWII veteran would make an open offer to answer questions about his wartime experience from random people on the internet.

A <u>skeptical anon</u> questions the veracity of these two posts. Andy gets defensive and tells a ridiculously long version of the story behind them. He seems to be trying to **bury the anon in a million details** that he thinks will make him appear to be truthful beyond question; however, the massive amount of **unnecessary and unasked-for information** has the opposite effect.

October 28

In <u>another post about the MCU</u>, Andy shares an excerpt from a chat with a friend about **Steve Rogers and Tony Stark**.

Andy writes that he is "sobbing with rage and hurt and incredulity" that some younger people are saying that they wished they lived in the '40s or '50s. Most of these people are likely expressing a love for the fashions, music, and movies of that era, but Andy takes them absolutely literally. He lists a number of negative aspects about life during those two decades that he says these people are ignoring. He then takes to task any women, people of color, LGBTQIA people, people with disabilities, neuroatypical people, and non-Christians who feel nostalgia for the '40s and '50s, saying that they are "spitting on" everyone who has ever fought for their rights. Meanwhile, Andy is "slam[ming his] hands into the wall with tears running down [his] face" in response to their shallowness.

An anon says, "People have a right to know if ur trans," and Andy responds that no one has a right to any information about anyone's body. Echoing a post from 11/21/11, he adds that he is not outing himself by omission, but "standing up for the rights of everyone to have ownership about their bodies".

After recounting a number of movies, books, and TV series that he has or has not enjoyed, Andy asks his followers, "Do you think I'd like Supernatural?" Of particular note is that he says that he doesn't like Harry Potter (again) and that LotR "makes [him] want to vomit [him]self to sleep". With regard to Doctor Who, he says that he felt for Rose and the Tenth Doctor specifically because of "[his] own issues about losing a companion". He says that his interest in The Hunger Games is long since over and repeats that he watches Glee "for cultural relevance".

October 30

Andy says that he loves all of the non-DAYDians who follow him, as well as all the DAYDians, everyone who talks to him, and everyone who doesn't. Essentially, <u>Andy loves everyone</u>. He notes at the end that this is a drunk post.

Later, Andy says that if his followers were present with him, he "would probably make out with most of [them]." He acknowledges that many of them are underage, "so there would be jail." He says that he would even make out with some of his male followers, because "you don't have to be sexually attracted to someone for making out to be fun". This is the sort of ambiguity that some of Andy's former friends have cited with regard to sexual behavior and attraction, and which he uses to keep people on an uncertain emotional footing that he can turn to his advantage.

November 2

In a long post analyzing <u>anonymous Tumblr bullies</u> and what their nasty comments reveal about them, Andy makes an off-hand allusion that reveals something about him:

Like the gentle, lulling shrieks of dingos vomiting the tough bits of the neighbor's toddler into the magnificent vastness of the Australian night (those light-up bits on the shoes are hell on the digestion)...

This refers to the death of Azaria Chamberlain, a two-month-old baby who in 1980 was dragged away from her family's campsite at Uluru by a dingo, which subsequently ate her. Azaria's mother Lindy (who actually saw the dingo take her) was blamed, convicted for her murder, and imprisoned for over three years before additional evidence was revealed that substantiated her story of what happened. Most people our age are familiar with the case because it almost immediately became a "joke" that to this day continues to recur in pop culture, which has to be awful for the family. It was just five months before this post that the case was finally, completely resolved. And here's Andy, Mr. Sensitive, glibly mocking the very real and horrific death of an infant just to make himself seem clever and witty.

This is also the date on which <u>Andy starts watching Supernatural</u>. He immediately starts <u>making connections between SPN and DAYD</u>.

November 3

Complaining about a <u>terrible haircut</u> he's received, Andy says:

I love expressing myself with my appearance, I love making statements with clothing and fashion and costuming, but I rarely actually like the way I look; I like what I perform.

I think this is true and probably explains (but doesn't excuse) a few things about Andy's history. Unfortunately, he also says that "no non-ephebophilic woman in [his] own age range would consider [him] a sexual being", which feels like another thinly-veiled jab at Abbey, as well as all the other women that he claims to have been with sexually. (Ephebophilia is an adult's sexual

attraction and preference for mid- to late-stage adolescents, so Andy is saying that only women who are primarily sexually attracted to 15- to 19-year-old boys would be interested in him sexually.)

November 7

Andy puts on some perfectly normal outdoor work clothes and decides that **Dean Winchester** has <u>taken over his fashion sense</u>. He says, "If I start scoping classic cars and downloading excessive mullet rock, I'm calling Imperius...or I guess you guys would call it **possession**."

November 8

Andy posts <u>another implausible story</u> of a fandom-related encounter, this time from Starbucks. The misogynist quotation appears to be something that Andy came up with himself, that he thought would get more attention on Tumblr if he attributed it to a seemingly unlikely person and threw in a fandom reference.

November 9

Andy writes about rape culture and how "someone can be a rapist without knowing it." One of the ways he says this can happen is, "...you can be so deep into...mental health issues that you don't remember or understand your own actions." This is a claim that Andy will make over a year and a half later, when he finally admits to being a rapist himself. In this post, he goes on to say that regardless of why someone doesn't know they're a rapist, they are still a rapist, what they did is not okay, and their friends have a responsibility to educate them about what consent is and why it's absolutely necessary. He also suggests that there is no obligation to contact law enforcement unless the person is caught "in the act of a violent crime", which is very bad advice.

Andy literally <u>draws a demon trap</u> around/under his laptop with Kosher salt because Tumblr has not responded to a *Glee* episode as he expected.

Andy posts his first Supernatural meta post, although he doesn't tag it as such. He compares Sam and Dean to Neville and Seamus in "Sluagh", and talks about why the audience/reader "should" like Sam and Neville the best, but Dean and Seamus are actually more popular. He also makes a couple of "what is DAYD" type posts on this day, one of which he will reblog and copy-paste many times in the future. That post includes the claim that DAYD was "written up favorably in the Atlantic Monthly as an example of good fanfic." Andy has repeated this over and over, and it is not accurate. Here is everything that Atlantic Monthly article had to say about DAYD:

Some stories remain faithful to the original material, choosing to carve out a niche in some unexplored territory. Dumbledore's Army and the Year of Darkness, for example, explores

the lives of Hogwarts forgotten B-list characters during the Deathly Hallows as they prepare a revolt against Voldemort.

That's it. Not a write-up, but a one-line mention in an article about *Harry Potter* fanfiction in general and how it's helped to keep the Potterverse alive and as popular as ever. The writer says far more about *Harry Potter and the Methods of Rationality* than about DAYD.

November 10

Andy gets a job at Yankee Candle. At some point, he will also get a seasonal job assisting a mall Santa.

November 12

Andy <u>reposts his DAYD/SPN crossover art</u> and announces that "A Peccatis" includes a brief <u>DAYDverse/SPN crossover</u>.

November 13

Andy announces that he is the DAYDverse equivalent of Misha Collins.

He also announces that he intends to write a "big SJ infomercial" on gaslighting, a tactic that both Bagenders and former DAYDians have reported Andy using against them.

Andy draws **Captain America** fighting alongside the internet-famous <u>Tiny Princess Captain</u> America.

November 14

When an anon asks whether <u>any of the DAYDverse characters' children are LGBT</u>, Andy responds as if they're talking about real people and it would be inappropriate and invasive for him to speculate. A <u>follow-up</u> asks whether this means that Andy thinks the DAYDverse is real. He says that he doesn't, but also that he "[doesn't] make a lot of conscious choices" about the content, that the 'verse's past and present are clear but the future is not, and that he would have to guess in order to answer any such questions. In response to a third ask, he talks about how he's okay with explicitly discussing DAYDverse characters' rape, abuse, self-harm, etc., because <u>they would be okay with bringing it up in a support group setting</u>. This is **another step away from his claim that the DAYDverse was real, while still leaving room for uncertainty.**

Andy has now decided that Sam and Dean are basically <u>the grown-up Creevey brothers</u> from DAYDverse. He creates a <u>poster</u> for a crossover called "Netherland".

This is <u>the first post that Andy actually tags</u>, "supernatural meta," although it has nothing directly to do with SPN.

After posting his Tiny Princess Captain America art, Andy had asked people to try to get it to the Tiny Princess herself. Someone did. In his <u>gleeful response</u>, Andy says, "...it's a sad yet funny thing when a guy my age has to amend, 'but not, you know, in a Nabokov way' when he says he's a total sucker for little girls. But I am." That is a really fucking creepy thing to bring up out of nowhere—and honestly, the situation is much sadder for little girls who are exploited by adult men. There's nothing funny about it.

November 16

Andy informs Tumblr that he "won't be fandoming" for Supernatural.

November 19

Andy repeats that he really does "just know" everything about the DAYD characters and names several friends whom he says will be happy to vouch for him. One of them later sends an anonymous ask to support this, and says, "...he'll sometimes do things w/out 100% realizing, while having a convo about something else. So crazy it can't be a lie." This echoes arguments that he, Abbey, and Diamond used when constructing the info packet for recruiting new people to the Bagenders cult.

November 20

Andy complains that "misogyny sucks for men" because society dictates that only women can acknowledge each other's "beauty and sexiness", and be physically affectionate with each other, while still being heterosexual. He also says that he "never 100% gets [physical affection without sexual desire] from a woman of reproductive age." In other words, literally every woman between puberty and menopause wants Andy sexually on some level.

November 21

In response to a meme question, Andy says that <u>his Tumblr crush is G</u>, the same much-younger woman of whom he posted an unsolicited pin-up on October 11.

November 23

Another <u>implausible fandom story</u> from Andy's job, this time at Yankee Candle. He claims that a woman in the store had toddler-age twins with her, named **River and Castiel** after the *Doctor Who* and *Supernatural* characters.

November 27

Andy says that <u>it's hard being "young and pretty"</u> because it causes people to treat him badly. He claims that highschool girls regularly give him their numbers, that women his own age lust

after him in a predatory way because they think he's much younger, and that "cougars" are constantly "pervprowling" him.

When an anon asks whether Andy ships Destiel, he responds by breaking their relationship down into five types of love: Storge, Eros, Philia, Agape, and Venus. He never actually says so, but he's cribbed this from C. S. Lewis; the inclusion of Venus makes it obvious. The first four are ancient Greek words for different types of love, and Lewis separates Venus—sexual desire or lust—from Eros—romantic love. Andy, who claims to be a scholar of Ancient Greek, doesn't seem to be aware that there is a Latin word on that list. He talked about these types of love a lot in discussions of DAYDverse Mike and Terry.

November 29

Andy maintains that he's <u>not that into Supernatural</u> and that he's "**not becoming a 'Destiel** Shipper' or whatever the term is for a Supernaturalian".

Andy <u>tells an anon</u> that if he could have anyone show up in his room at that moment, it would be Brittany, and he would **"find a way to get to Vegas and marry her like immediately."**

He starts talking about a "Daydwoodnatural" crossover (DAYD, Torchwood, and Supernatural), later saying that he intends only to outline it and write a few one-shots.

November 30

Much as he once did on the DAYDverse LJ community, Andy pretends not to understand what "shipping" means. He continues to discuss this while pretentiously using terminology that he picked up from Lewis's *The Four Loves*, without acknowledging his source.

The same day, he <u>informs Tumblr</u> that DAYDverse Mike/Terry, Johnlock, and Destiel are "pretty much the same relationship".

DAYDian A posts a picture of themself doing "Andy's signature head-tilt-pose-of-magical-attractiveness", which is evident in nearly all photos of him, and which Abbey has said he often does in real life as well. They seem to be seeking Andy's approval, but he does not respond.

December

At some point this month, Andy meets Winjennster. From her 2014 <u>Q&A</u>:

I met him in December of 2012. I had on an SPN shirt and we starting talking about the fandom. First time we hung out was about a week later and he spent the later half of the day telling me everything about Brittany. I went home that night and looked him up. My

brain said HEY THIS GUY IS TROUBLE WALK AWAY. But, my husband was in Afghanistan and I was stupid lonely, so I chalked it up to PEOPLE CAN CHANGE.

Also during December, A refers to Andy as "one of their best friends". When another DAYDian expresses guilt for living so near Andy, A says that <u>living close to him is a "blessing"</u> and that they are envious but happy for this DAYDian.

December 1

Andy shows a decent awareness of current MCU fanon in his reblog of <u>"avengers at the beach</u> headcanons".

A quotation that purports to be from an <u>"FTM friend"</u> of Andy's sounds exactly like Andy himself.

December 5

Andy posts about <u>Brittany and Brave</u> again, saying, "The fucking Glock factory doesn't have this many triggers." This seems like a pretty callous analogy, given that he's said that Jason killed Brittany, their other housemate, and himself with a Glock.

In an art post, Andy incorporates the MCU into his Daydwoodnatural crossover.

Once again, Andy "offers" to visit anyone who will pay for him to get there and back, and for his food and accommodations (which he stresses can be Spartan), and says that he will "belong" to that person as long as he's there, for almost anything that they want to do. He adds that he will not have sex with anyone, will not do drugs or get drunk with anyone (although he gets very drunk with and buys alcohol for at least one of the under-21 friends that he visits within the next couple of months, as well as her friends), will not commit a crime, and will not sleep or be alone with anyone under 18.

In his response to an anon who calls him a "total Bishonen", Andy says that he "would have said yes...in a heartbeat" if Brittany had wanted to marry him. He repeats that he is looking for a platonic relationship with a woman who will be his "shopping/cuddling buddy".

December 6

While asking for <u>fanfic porn recommendations</u>, Andy says, "my brain ships Destiel", but explains that he doesn't find it hot. He also says that he can't enjoy "conventional porn" because of his involvement in feminism, but unironically refers to women on *Supernatural* as "curvylittlethingoftheweek".

Andy offers free art to anyone who is <u>"a somebody in Destiel"</u> and is willing to promote his work.

December 7

Andy posts that while he is heterosexual, he has "a rampaging crush on Castiel" (although not on Misha Collins).

In a post purporting to educate an anon about sex, gender, and sexual orientation, Andy displays stunning ignorance and prejudice about transgender identities. For example, he suggests that there is some extent to which genitals determine one's gender, and specifically states that transgender women have "male bod[ies]". He goes on to say that as a heterosexual man, he is "only sexually attracted to those [women] who are sexually women"—again saying that transgender women have male bodies. Further, he says that he is aroused by "the bodies of transmen who are still physically feminine"—stopping just short of saying that transgender men have female bodies, perhaps because he was AFAB himself. He then tries to mitigate this by assuring the reader that he "still fully back[s] [trans people's] gender identity". Finally, Andy talks about his crush on Castiel in what amounts to a verbose and circumlocutory "no homo" disclaimer. This leads me to suspect that this is one of Andy's trademark fake anons that pop up whenever he wants to discuss something without appearing to introduce the subject himself.

Ten days after his latest insistence that he isn't a *Supernatural* fan, Andy **announces that** he is a *Supernatural* fan and "sincerely shipping Destiel". He assures the DAYDians that the DAYDverse "remains my baby and my love and my heart's devotion" and says that he intends to try to convert some SPN fans into DAYDians.

This is the date on which the later-infamous <u>"Scotty's last convention"</u> is first mentioned: Andy says that when he was "very young" his father took him to see "Jimmy Doohan's last appearance". (He also claims that this is the first time since then that he's wanted to go to a con, which is obviously a lie because of Tentmoot.) Given the existence of this post, I believe it is *possible* that Andy and/or his father really thought that long-ago convention was Doohan's last. But given the evidence that an anon presented three years ago when the controversy arose, I also believe that Andy fabricated text messages in 2014 to support that assertion.

This is also the date on which Andy introduces CFC to Supernatural.

December 8

Despite just having made two separate posts insisting that he is straight and therefore doesn't find Destiel sexy at all, Andy asks for <u>Destiel fic recommendations</u> and says that smut is okay.

Someone asks Andy which SPN character he would be, if he could choose any of them. Andy claims not to understand the concept of "being a character". This person follows up with a clarification, and Andy says that he'd like to body-switch temporarily with Dean, adding that he "could easily survive his life" but that Dean might have trouble surviving Andy's. Although Andy will later claim that he was only about three months out of his complete and unprecedented recovery from DID at this point, this somehow is not triggering to him at all.

December 9

When <u>asked if he wants to finish "A Peccatis"</u>, Andy says that he does, and that he feels guilty about it, but that he is busy and also doesn't get as much feedback on it as he wants. Also, SPN is shiny.

December 10

Andy announces that he is <u>backing off DAYDverse in favor of SPN</u>, but that his doing so actually increases the chances that he will finish "A Peccatis" because he feels less pressure and gets more interaction in that fandom.

Later, he gets drunk and <u>asks Destiel fans to love him</u>. He says, "I present myself to you with less shame than a truck stop waitress writing her phone number in chocolate sauce next to a slice of free pie for the green-eyed bad boy in the classic car." <u>In response to an ask</u>, he states, "I cant believe that this fandom hasnt jumped me like a cheap hooker yet. I'm splayed all over their otp and I'm a damned good arist [sic]."

December 11

Although he is new to the fandom and admits that he's only read a few fics, **Andy informs SPN** fandom that everyone is writing Castiel wrong.

He also <u>writes at length</u> about how sleep deprivation enables him to see through Castiel's eyes.

Andy announces that he is **writing a SPN fic** and <u>asks a few questions</u> about writing in the fandom.

Responding to <u>an anon who says that he is "perfect"</u> and questions his reality, Andy mentions that he has "a Winchesteresque list of traumatic shit that [he's] been through" and that he has "a dead life partner [he's] still not over".

December 13

Andy gets defensive when an anon <u>chastises him</u> for suggesting that he's become the Bobby of the SPN fandom. He also receives an anon telling him to <u>get out of the fandom</u>.

Andy says that <u>it doesn't matter whether Destiel can be "proven"</u> and that it is wrong to try to force people to see it as canon. In spite of this, he will later write many meta posts claiming to present evidence that Destiel is "canon endgame".

An anon tells Andy to "ignore the haters". His response is very telling: he mentions going through "10,000 levels of personae" (an allusion to his previous online and real life identities) and says, "You'll be hated for 10,000 things that aren't true and 10 things that are" (a claim that he has repeatedly made about himself). This is immediately followed by, "You'll be loved for the same. The latter will be worse," which seems to refer to Abbey. He closes by stating that he learned to "ignore the haters" and just live his life entirely because of Brittany, both directly and indirectly.

December 19

Andy receives an anonymous ask chastising him for using the term "life partners" to describe his relationship with Brittany. He says that the term is not exclusively for use by LGBTQIA people, and adds that his relationship with Brittany was "beyond best friends" and was going to be a lifetime arrangement, but they hadn't decided whether that would include marriage or sex. He implies that it was somewhere between "just friends" and an engagement, and that most people wouldn't understand.

At the beginning of a <u>post about gun control</u>, Andy claims that he is "familiar with everything from a matchlock musket to a Glock 17" and has "protected [him]self and loved ones with a gun."

December 20

In <u>Boundaries</u>, <u>we can has?</u> Andy announces that he is not only not interested in having sex with anyone, but that he's also unavailable for "emotional intimacy" and not interested in getting close to much younger people, married people, people with mental illness, or other potentially vulnerable people—in other words, the (female) populations that he generally targets. He goes on to say that he isn't perfect and doesn't want to be anywhere near anyone who believes that he is. He says that his teens and early 20s were fucked up because he got too close to fans and people who admired him instead of letting them "sob out [their] crush from a safe distance". He is now writing off everyone he's hurt in the past as a crazed fangirl who hurt *him*, and saying that he needs to establish boundaries to protect *himself*.

An anon lavishes Andy with praise, telling him that he is "an incredible, incredible person" and that Brittany would be proud of him. He subsequently receives an anon telling him to stop praising himself on anon. In response, Andy suggests that his 'haters' are tinhats who think he's "a Disney villain of evil vile evilness" and that nothing will ever convince them otherwise because of confirmation bias.

Another hostile anon tells Andy to <u>leave Destiel fans alone</u>. He tells them they're welcome to stop reading his blog and that they have boundary issues.

A third hostile anon calls Andy "a creep and a con-artist" who manipulates young women. Andy laughs this off, describing what he says is the innocuous content of his tumblr, telling them they don't have to engage with him if they don't want to, and assuring them that he is "harmless".

A follower of Andy's sends him an ask expressing anger toward the aforementioned anons, accusing them of cowardice and "mindless hate". Andy acknowledges that he's "done some amazingly shitty things in the past" but immediately excuses that by saying that he was "young, stupid, and mentally ill" at the time. He also says, however, that the vast majority of the reason people don't like him has to do with "the rumor mill" spreading "stratospheric levels of bullshit", generalized hostility and rudeness on the internet, anon bullies, and especially the fact that "fiction is comforting...and social fandom gossip is, for many of them one of their fandoms." He adds his tagline, "Truth IS stranger than fiction," and talks about how "complicated" and "messy" the truth is.

In another <u>ridiculous tale</u> of fandom in the workplace, Andy recounts a conversation that he allegedly had with a four-year-old girl at his job as an "elf" working with a mall Santa. Andy claims that the little girl makes reference to **"fighty elves like Legolas"**, then talks about how the Elf on the Shelf seems to be just a toy but could still move around because "there's **Buzz** [**Lightyear**]". When Andy explains that "toys can only move when you're not watching," the little girl immediately leaps to the conclusion that they're **weeping angels (from** *Doctor Who***)**. For some reason, he tags this as "supernatural meta".

December 22

This is the point at which Andy starts <u>claiming to have been a sex worker</u>. When an anon expresses <u>extreme skepticism</u>, he says that he's "done a couple of photoshoots that didn't involve clothes or art" and worked on gay and straight phone sex lines. "And that, fucktard, is as far as you're getting into invading my privacy," he says, implying that there's more. He responds to <u>a few more anons</u>, mostly regarding <u>phone sex</u>, and when one of them says that he makes phone sex sound "pretty dubcon", he <u>equates himself with actors performing sex or full/partial nude scenes.</u>

Once again, Andy claims to have had a <u>fandom encounter at work</u>, this time in Yankee Candle. He posts a picture of "Santa's Workshop", which includes a binder set up as a naughty and nice list, on which people can write their names. Supposedly, he discovers that someone has written "[Jimmy] Page" and "[Robert] Plant" on the naughty list, and placed **Castiel's sigil** halfway between naughty and nice. Aside from being extremely famous musicians, **Page and Plant are aliases that Sam and Dean have used in SPN**. The ways in which "Page" and "Plant" are written look very much like some of the handwriting styles that Andy used to represent various "Others" when writing to Abbey. Andy obviously wrote their names on the list and drew the sigil as well. His post includes a short fic about Sam, Dean, and Castiel browsing in Yankee Candle, and Castiel adding their aliases and sigil to the list.

December 25

Andy indicates that he can tell what the SPN actors are thinking and feeling.

Andy says that <u>his sister has ruined his Christmas</u> with a combination of temper tantrums and bizarre accusations, and that his parents have enabled her to do so.

December 30

Andy mentions "effemephobia" for the first time in a response to an ask about Dean. When someone asks him to define the word, he says that it is "a strong, irrational fear of or negative reaction towards things designated as feminine, or of being perceived as feminine." Andy says that this often manifests as homophobic behavior, but is actually neither homophobia or misogyny. Effemephobia (or effeminiphobia, or femmephobia) is a term that originated in the LGBTQIA community to describe cisgender gay men who are strongly prejudiced against other gay men who behave in a manner that they consider to be effeminate. It is *far* less commonly applied to people outside the community, and when it is, "misogyny" or "internalized misogyny" is usually more appropriate. Andy's rejection of effemephobia's roots in misogyny, and his insistence that they are completely separate and different, are incorrect and inappropriate.