

To Die For

Background

Set in the world of the massively multiplayer online (MMO) game of City of Heroes (CoH) where players take on the role of heroes, flying around fighting the bad guys and saving the ordinary people.

For more detailed information have a look at the web site for the game: <http://uk.cityofheroes.com/>

Kings Row is one of the areas of Paragon city where the game takes place. In the game The Circle of Thorns who are a group of mystics who do undertake experiments on citizens and can be found on the rooftops of buildings in Kings Row.

The Story

Some of the missions in the game get the heroes to save people who are caught in the spells The Circle have cast and I thought it would be interesting if those caught in such magic didn't actually want saving.

Other Notes

There are a couple of nods to other writers in this story:

I was aiming for the same overall feel HP Lovecraft manages in many of his stories and so I mentioned the main character moving to New England where some of Lovecraft's tales take place. It is also where Stephen King sets a lot of his books so there was a slight hint there that maybe she isn't going to somewhere as safe as she might think it is.

In one of the first drafts I also put the phrase 'lonesome October night' which is a nod to Roger Zelazny. Unfortunately I felt the phrase sounded far too poetic and dropped the 'lonesome' bit.