

JD LACIEDE

*professional werewolf
Reconstruction Report*

Hello Patrons, it's JD!

2019 has gotten off to a rocky start, as I'm sure you've noticed. But I am back, and we need to talk.

For those not in the know, I had to move out of California due to having nowhere affordable to live, and ultimately hitting a monetary dead-end. Rather than go bankrupt, I moved back to the Midwest, which was a huge emotional drag, and expensive in itself. This happened on top of taxes, and fatigue, and never being treated for sleep apnea, and whatever other problems life decides to hit me with. I've been extremely burnt-out for the past month or so (since Midwest Fur Fest really), and I've found myself depressed, sometimes to the point of not wanting to make art ever again.

In short, I have not been doing well. I will keep going, but there are going to be changes. They are...

One, the Patreon's income goals have been removed. I do not know what monetary goals I want to set anymore. Perhaps when I know, they'll be back.

Two, I'm starting the monthly-comic plan I described in the 2018 Annual Report. It's not being phased in, or tested, it's happening. I'm going to make a 20-ish page issue every month or so, and you can follow along page-by-page on Patreon. Making 20+ pages a month, plus ATW posts, plus Patreon, will be a lot. And this means...

Three, the \$30 sketch tier will be cut, and not replaced. Patreon Sketches #39 will be the final round.

Four, I will not open commissions again for the foreseeable future.

My reason for cutting the \$30 tier is rather direct: it takes too long. Despite my sincerest efforts, it still takes me about 3 days to do 15 sketches on time, and if I plan to produce 20+ pages in a month, that can't happen. Besides, sketches only satisfy 15 Patrons out of about 400, and thinking on it, that doesn't jive with my ideals. I'm not really comfortable with the idea of a "premium club" anymore, though I deeply, greatly appreciate all of you, past and present. I know it's a drag to go back down to the \$10 tier, but 39 rounds of custom art is a LOT, and even if it stops, I think that's a collection to be proud of.



As for not commissioning: I've been doing three straight years with commissions at the center of my income, and I'm just plain **done**.

Even **without** living in the most expensive state in the country, commission income was only enough to break even, most months. You'll recall I needed donation drives three times last year, even with a full queue of customers every month. Also, like sketches, commissioning is a timesink that competes against other, bigger projects. It only satisfies a small group of high-price customers, and it takes so much time, it detracts from work that much larger crowds enjoy, like the blog and the comics. I'd rather attack my money problems from the other angle: low-price products, delivered to the widest audience possible.

Lastly (and this might be a petty reason, but I'm committed to transparency), I am **tired** of commissions. They don't build my portfolio of work beyond furry art, and they aren't part of the larger narrative pieces I want to make. They simply are not what I want to be doing, by this time next year.

This isn't to say it'll NEVER happen again. This could just be the burnout talking. Maybe I'm not charging enough. Maybe it's something in the equation I haven't figured out. But for the moment, for the rest of the year, no. No more commissions. Only comics.

I know some of you won't like these changes, and some don't care. I know some of you won't stick around, and some will. If you just got here, and want to turn away because of what you read - that's fine. Do what you want.

For everyone else - thank you. I am still here, and I am moving forward, come what may.

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