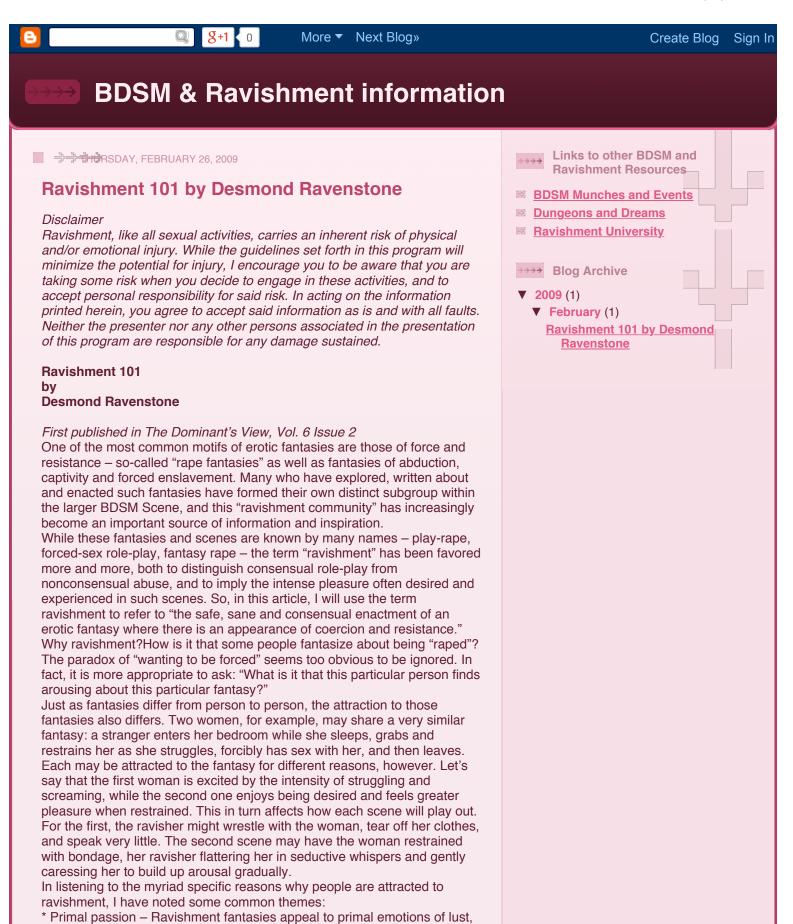
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aggression and fear, which are often intertwined with one another.

- * Physical intensity Many ravishment fantasies and scenes involve highly physical restraint and resistance. Sex is, after all, a physical act, and intense physicality often expresses and feeds into emotional intensity.
- * Paradox and contrast There is an innate paradox to fantasizing about being "forced" to do something you want done, not to mention the contrast of desire and pleasure with fear and aggression.
- *Sweet surrender For some, it is not resistance or struggle that is the turnon so much as submission. Being helpless and overpowered allows a "letting go" of anxiety, guilt and inhibition, and an opening to sensation, pleasure and trust.
- *Simply irresistible There is also the desire is to be desired oneself, of the ravishee seeming to overpower in terms of her or his allure, and the ravisher the one who "surrenders" to overwhelming passion.
- *Catharsis and closure Some survivors of sexual assault may find a sense of resolution or healing with a ravishment scene. Such cathartic release is not limited to survivors, however. A person who feels guilty about sexual pleasure, or is troubled by what they consider a "dark and dangerous" fantasy, may also experience this sense of release once their fantasy is made flesh.

Discussing, negotiating and planningRavishment fantasies vary greatly, from simple "grab-and-thrash" episodes to elaborate stories of abduction and seduction. Understanding the why behind a ravishment fantasy is essential in guiding how to act out that fantasy. Explore the predominant theme or themes as much as the storyline and setting. The ravisher should decide based on this whether to play a "brute" (mostly physical), "tormentor" (fear play) or "seducer" (pleasure).

Talk about any past history of sexual abuse for either of you. The last thing you should do is inadvertently trigger traumatic memories or emotions. If you have not dealt with abuse issues in therapy, consider doing so before doing any ravishment scene.

Discuss safewords, non-verbal signals and other codes to be used. Don't just rely on a simple "red" to stop everything. Think of a "startword" to signal the beginning of a surprise scene, or a "good-stop" safeword so that the ravishee can ask to stop without alarming the ravisher that something is wrong

Another major factor is how predictable a particular scene should be. Some people want a scene that is tightly scripted; others prefer a seemingly chaotic scene (albeit with limits respected, of course). Some people want to be ravished by a stranger, which requires great care to arrange, often with the help of a third party. Surprise scenes also require prior agreement about possible times and locations where the scene may begin.

Choose where to set the scene and what specific arrangements may need to be made. Will neighbors be disturbed by any noise? Any breakables or items that might fall on someone and injure them? Clothing - pulled off, torn or cut off, or none at all? Leave no detail to chance, and always put safety first. With resistance play and takedown maneuvers, take the time to learn martial arts and bondage techniques that are effective with a minimal risk for injury. Before doing the scene, consider having a written outline or a signed consent statement, especially including the safewords to be used. Aside from using this to review what you'll be doing, it could come in handy just in case the police come by.

Aftercare is important not only for the ravishee, but for the ravisher as well – especially a first-time ravisher. Take the time to rest, collect yourself, and talk over the impact of the experience which you've just shared. The physical and emotional intensity can be very different from other BDSM scenes, so expect unexpected reactions. For one thing, many ravishees often do not experience an endorphin high, but do experience an adrenaline rush.

Last but not least, clean up after yourselves, especially if you do your scene

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in a hotel room. Yes, hotels have maid service, but the last thing you want to do is give some unsuspecting employee the willies that "foul play" might have taken place. Cleaning up can also provide a sense of completion, and a reminder of the fantasy aspect of the scene.

Ravishment scenes are intense, powerful and edgy – but they need not be dangerous. Communicate openly about your desires, limits and expectations. Be creative, be smart, and above all, be safe!

FOR A COPY OF DESMOND'S BOOK RAVISHMENT: THE DARK SIDE OF EROTIC FANTASY, GO TO: LuLu.Com

For more Ravishment information, visit Ravishment University at www.RavishU.com

Posted by Lois at 3:55 PM

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