

Enabling: the Master arayti
(too many to mention, so some that went the other way)



Kralalien: a surprise enabling package she sent me to learn to do French knot embroidery. We were chatting about it in the monthly Rav thread and I said I loved the French knot embroidery that she showed that month so much. She was a wonderful enabling enabler.

UnplannedCauli lamented making a shawl that came out too small. arati immediately called dibs.

It was perfect.

Jay frequently joked about how much her friends loved her, and how jealous this made him.





Fiber arayti
sent to
Swadlow

From Swadlow:

In July 2018, a woman I met with respect to the DFW Yarn Crawl loaned me some spindles, so I could experiment and see if I *really* wanted to spin. She also gave me some wool; I didn't know what it was, only that it had been cleaned and carded. I played with them a bit, then put them aside.

I *did* find it enjoyable, however, so I bought a Schacht Hi-Lo at DFW Fiber Fest in April 2019. Some time during TdF 2019, inspired by the (other) Weaponized Mangos, I got the Hi-Lo and the unknown wool out, and was able to make a little yarn. I questioningly asked if it would count, and got the following replies:

arayti:

No question mark. You spun during the tour, you're a participant of the thread, you're a MAN-GO. A baby spinner mango and we all love baby-spinner-mangoes (we do, right? co-captains AmaraStargazer and ImpudentOtter?)

AmaraStargazer:

arayti is right, you're a mango, baby spinners of all kinds (me included!) are taking part in this. You're a mango, accept it <3 We love all our spinners of all skills. I mean, come on, I've barely posted pictures despite taking part in the whole tour off thread, and don't be discouraged! You're learning. Also, drafting is hard yo, I feel like I completely unlearned it and retaught myself in the last few days. You're officially a spinner now, welcome to the cult.

ImpudentOtter

DAMN STRAIGHT that is spinning and damn fine spinning! Next thing you know you have a battalion of spindles and an armada of wheels, swadlow

And then the following conversation took place:

Me (in reply to ImpudentOtter):

Thanks! And to arayti and AmaraStargazer as well. I'm no longer questioning my mango status, and have removed the question mark from my post to demonstrate that. :slightly_smiling_face:

Now, I don't know about a battalion of spindles, although I think my little Hi-Lo might appreciate a friend or two once I get more spinning experience. And it's possible that even one wheel won't fit into my budget, let alone an entire armada of them. But it's really, *really* fun to make my own yarn, so I'll probably acquire some more fiber at some point. The North Texas Yarn Crawl is coming up in the middle of September, and I know some of the shops carry fiber, so

I think baby-spinner-friendly fiber recommendations would be really helpful right now. What I have is something I was given, and I have no idea what it is; just that it was cleaned and carded. At the moment, I'm finding drafting a bit awkward, and I suspect that the fiber might be contributing to my difficulty there, as it's a bit, um sticky. So any advice from you experienced spinners on what to look for in September would be greatly appreciated.

arayti:

I've been told BFL or Corriedale in roving form are good for beginners. But what do I know, I started with North Ronaldsay - seaweed-eating sheep FTW!

My recommendation is to try different preps in addition to different breeds/types of fiber. So get a batt, some roving, some top, some rolags (or make your own fauxlags to try). Or you know....PM me. ;)

Me:

Thanks for the suggestions! Your post has been favourited, for when I start a list to take with me in September.

Or you know....PM me. ;)

Er, huh? But what would I say? Or Are you enabling again? With me? :slightly_smiling_face: / playing-dumb

arayti

LOL I'd be happy to send you bits and bobs of different things to try out so you can start to have an idea of the differences between fibers and preps.

Me

::innocent-face:: Oh so you want my address or something?

lol OK, I'll stop now. Your offer is greatly appreciated, and I'll take you up on your enabling. Plus, I've seen that you're pretty organized, so anything you send will be labelled, and the learning experience will be just that much more valuable. PM coming your way.

arayti

:rolling_on_the_floor_laughing: "organized" Buhahhahaaaa

Let me know if you have any allergies to any fibers. I've got a wide range of fibers from different

species (sheep to alpaca to ...beaver), so I want to make sure I don't send you anything that'll make you sneeze.

Then there was a short conversation in PMs, in which I sent her my mailing address, and she reassured me that I wouldn't get an exploding box (she had been sending fiber out to other people; those boxes were pretty stuffed and tended to, um, greatly expand when opened). A couple of weeks later, I got a nice padded envelope with a lovely variety to experiment with.



Amara offered to knit up some of Arayti's hand spun and designed this shawl for her. It was delivered in a box of various other crafting supplies, much like Arayti always sent out.



The Perpetual Jacob, from Amara



Lace, etc. from Carol Kimball