

QUERY REPORT

Author	XXXXXXXXXX
Title	XXXXXXXXXX
Genre	Adult Romance
Initial Review	<p>Hi XXXXX</p> <p>Thank you for sharing your query with me and allowing me the chance to offer my opinion. I hope this will be of great help to you.</p> <p>Overall, I'd say this is a very strong, well-written query that shows you know what you're doing! I don't have a ton of suggestions, considering its quality, but below, I'll add a few tips to help you stand out even more!</p> <p>You want to ensure that what's holding Millie back from love is clear and find a few more places to sprinkle in voice. You can evoke a little more emotion with tone throughout your synopsis. And of course you'll need some personalization, comps, and a simple bio.</p> <p>Really well done. This is definitely a story I'd pick up and read!</p> <p>If you have any questions or need any clarification on the details and suggestions below, feel free to let me know.</p> <p>~Kim V</p>
Format	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• You hit the basic standards in format:<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ Single-spaced with 12-point, Times New Roman font. A space between paragraphs, 1-inch margins. Left alignment, not justified.• At 269 words, your query is at an excellent length. (Standard is typically 3-5 paragraphs, 300-500 words, so you have a little wiggle room if you need it. Great job!• Overall, grammar and punctuation are strong. I found a series of echoes in the intro to your synopsis. I noted those for you in the comments.



<h2>Intro / Personalization</h2>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The structure of your intro is clear and straight to the point. Some recommend saving metadata for the end, but I've seen it in the intro paragraph as well. • Since you haven't added any personalization (for obvious reasons) I can't speak on that. But here is an article that could help if you need any guidance.
<h2>Comp Titles</h2>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seeing that "alchemy" is the focus, I think it helps to specify whether there's a magic system or if we're focused more on chemistry. Reading the query in context, I'm thinking chemistry, but comps will help with this. • Here's a vid on how to find great comps.
<h2>Hook</h2>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I think it helps that you refer to this story as taking place in an "alternate" Victorian era. • The voicey mention of the fire in Millie's past draws attention to a sort of mystery (or at bare-minimum wound) that will add depth to the story. Try to apply some of this voice to your synopsis to show your mastery of storytelling. • Obviously, some good personalization will hook the agent even more. 😊
<h2>Synopsis</h2>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excellent and straight forward! I could easily identify your main character, her goal, her motivation, and the conflict. You even provided a hint at a wound or mystery in the setup. It's easy to identify that Arthur will be the love interest, and the stakes are fairly clear. • I think it might be worth reexamining the phrasing of this one part: "...leaving behind the chance at a kind of love she's never come so close to before." Why not? What was her personality or life like before which kept her from coming close to this type of love? Why does she have a "wall" up with Arthur? Could this be hinted at in the opening about the fire and/or her mothers? This would be great way to hint at how Millie will grow throughout the narrative. Think, "What does she need to learn?" What's Millie's problem?
<h2>Metadata</h2>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As I mentioned, it's fine that you placed your metadata at the top of your letter. I believe 63k words is within range for a Victorian Era romance, but some agents may see it as being a little on the short side. You can check for popular titles in the same genre to compare lengths. • I would add comp titles, as mentioned above.
<h2>Bio</h2>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Give the agent a sentence or 2 about who you are! Even if you don't have much experience, you could hint at why only you can tell this story. • Here's an excellent vid on how to add a short bio.
<h2>Sendoff</h2>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short, sweet, and straight to the point. Perfect level of enthusiasm.
<h2>Final Thoughts</h2>	<p>Strong Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good length • Interesting hook • Clear goal, motivation, conflict, and stakes • Excellent structure • Perfect sendoff <p>Next Steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add personalization and comp titles



- Give synopsis a little more voice
- Clarify Millie's love for her mothers (mentioned below) and what's holding her back from love
- Proofread for "[echoes](#)"
- Ensure synopsis, one-sentence pitch, and first 10 pages are ready to go! (I'm available to help with any of this if you need it.)

Addressing Your Questions:

1. Why her mothers are so important that she would want to leave to return to them?
 - a. This seems okay to me, but perhaps we could add value in the setup. Is there something related to the fire that makes her mothers so important? Was she an orphan before? Did they take her in after the fire? Nothing too detailed, but something that shows her emotional tie to them would help.
2. Why is alchemy ill-regarded?
 - a. I think this is clear as well. The note of a previous disaster makes it understandable that they will be at odds with Millie.

Again, if you need any clarification or have any other questions, I happily welcome them. All the best on your publishing journey!

~Kim V.

