

Spin Questing

I'm in the mood for handspun, whether it is knitting handspun, or the making of it.

First, the knitting of it. As I mentioned in the last couple of posts, I used up bits of handspun for charity knitting, which is a good thing. That means I can now spin more, quite happily! But there was some yarn to knit - this lovely BFL from Into the Whirled.



It is nice, but it didn't come out how I planned to spin it - I wanted to try Fractal Spinning, which means taking a hand-dyed top, splitting it in half, and then with one of the halves, you split it lengthwise *again*. Then you spin each half, and the thinner quarters are spun end to end, and it turns out really cool. So I did the splitting and the spinning, but my labels came off the spun singles, and I was left with a mess, so I just spun it any old way, and the result was two different hanks:

With the new show *Outlander* on Starz taking up more of my time than is reasonable to admit (I was a reader of the books back in the early 90's, so not a surprise), I got hooked on the idea of handspun fingerless mittens. So I knit one fingerless mitten - and it looked great:

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and then I knit the second one:



And they didn't match at all. In fact I kinda think no one would say to themselves - hey, they were part of the same colorway (see what I mean when I said the plying was a mess?). What to do? I decided to knit a third one:

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and now I could pick which ones matched the best.



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I picked the last photo. And now the unloved third mitten will be frogged and with the other yarn, become either a cowl or a hat to match...



The other spin-related work is the lovely Targhee wool from my on-line friend Suzanne - I had spun the warmer tones, now it was time to play with the greyish-taupes. The yarn I'm shooting for will be a 2-ply light fingering/lace weight with a mostly worsted style of spinning. The light color is done, and I'm half-way through the darker color. I'm hoping to do a tone-on-tone shawl of my own pattern devising. Should be fun!

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In the meantime, I knit a chemo-cap for one gal in my high school class

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It's the Zelda Cloche ([rav link](#)), which works well for chemo gals because it has a bit of style, but fits well. Now it appears *another classmate* will need one now. I am beyond sad and frustrated that our exposure to chemicals is systematically underplayed as a cause of cancer. Too many good folks are getting it!

Now onto some secret knitting and a sweater for my little cousin Rachel. I'm knitting Hitofude in Shibui Linen ([rav link](#)) - a fun pattern done all in one piece and the yarn will have some serious drape to it!

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