

August Newsletter



Welcome back again!

If you're a bit like me and wondering where summer has gone when you weren't looking, an especially big welcome. Don't get me wrong, I'm looking forward to spooky season (not only because of the upcoming release of *Echo* – see what I did there) but also because I'm in desperate need of some spooky stuff. So what's happened this month?

Quick Note for Newbies

I know it can all seem a bit overwhelming with so many series, but don't worry, I'm here to help. At the moment, there are three key threads to follow:

- The *Heroes & Demons* series is for mature and apocalyptic speculative fiction fans, which aren't always for the faint of heart – but take things deep. (For fans of *Sigma Force*, *The Laundry Files* and the character-driven queer fantasy of K.D. Edwards's *Tarot Sequence*.)
- The *New Knights Saga*, which is the more mythic fun spine – lots of individual novels with different subgenres and energies from Arthurian myth to tech-noir thriller; and all with a queer heart. (For fans of *The Rook* meets *The Avengers*, with a queer found-family heart)
- *'til the End of the World*, an episodic series of novellas done like a nostalgic YA supernatural TV show circa 2005 (For mature fans of shows like *Buffy*, *Supernatural*, *Being Human*)

Check out my site's [Where to Start](#) guide for some suggestions!

Where I Am in the Saga

Still between releases, but there's still a few develops to note:

- [The New Knights Saga](#)
[Echo](#) is now well underway – releasing on the 10th October. If you'd like to be part of the ARC

team for Echo (completely for free) you can sign up [here](#). It is completely standalone and therefore you don't have to worry about knowing any of the others!

- **[The 'til the End of the World Series](#)**

'til the End of the World continues to run monthly in beta form, with Episodes 1 to 8 available through the series link above and Episode 9 "Where Loyalty Lies" releasing this Friday (28th August). But if you're a fan of collections, the first ([New in Town: Volume I](#)) is available now, while the next ([Where Loyalty Lies: Volume II](#)) is scheduled for 4th December 2026.

- **[The Heroes & Demons Series](#)**

[Sinners & Saints](#) continues to be available – and if you've had a chance to pick it up please do rate or review. Things will be quiet for a little bit now on this series, but rest assured Fall & Flood is quietly coming together in the background ready to be the crown jewel next summer.

Behind the Curtain

So this month I'd like to spend some time chatting about first and third person perspectives. I generally tend to write close third person POV and past tense, with the narrator often taking on the flavour, cognitive pattern and fluidity of the person who is the main focus of the scene. It's probably my favourite way to write and allows me to practice rather a lot of empathy, getting into the minds of so many different people.

Of course, it's nice to shake things up occasionally. Those of you who read *Sinners & Saints* and *'til the End of the World* probably noticed a few "we" type POVs, which are deliberate (rather than a random slip into plural first person) – and will be explained in time. But my favourite new one can be found in the upcoming novel, *Echo*, in which one character's entire series of POV chapters are written exclusively in present tense first person.

The particular challenge was ensuring I didn't slip between them – unless intentional – and I have to say it was indeed a challenge. But of course, who are we if we don't push ourselves? Oh heck, there I go pluralising again!

Spotlight

Just one this month, but it's a doozy!

Character Spotlight: Michael Vale

I thought I'd introduce a new character this time around – one from the upcoming novel *Echo*. Within the first few pages we're introduced to a mystery. Michael Vale, co-founder of Vale Technologies, has gone missing for months. Of course, heading a big tech firm by itself should be a big red flag in this universe and I won't deny that's part of the fun – but strangely enough that's one of the less interesting things about him.

We see Michael the tech giant, sure. But we also see Michael the absent father. Michael the regretful husband. Michael, a proud Black British businessman. A friend. A genius. And perhaps most importantly of all, someone who changes.

Which makes someone who looks just like him, walking into a pub on a weekday afternoon, confused and amnesiac after being missing for nine months look rather suspicious, don't you think?

Current ARC Opportunities

ARC opportunities are finally open for *Echo*, woo woo! So you can sign up to be part of the ARC team for *Echo* [here](#), only requiring a first name and an email address – and if you're able to leave a review the book is released on 10th October 2026. So there's plenty of time to get involved. The ARC opportunity closes one week before release (3rd October) and there's limited copies, so pick up yours while you're able!

If you want to be the first to hear about ARC opportunities for any Rick Rawes novels – with absolutely no obligation to participate in any you don't fancy – please consider signing up to be part of the team through our [ARC Team page](#). Again, email address is really the only key detail – as well as what types of books/genres/series you'd be most interest in. You'll also be able to claim a free eBook copy of *Avalon* to boot (sent via BookFunnel shortly).

Something New For You

The following extract is a chapter from ***Echo***, coming in October. You can get a sense of the kind of first person narrative we're dealing with for big chunks of the novel – and maybe get a sense of what might be going on. But will I confirm? Doubt it.

[You can click the link here to get the full excerpt.](#)

Until Next Time

And that's all folks, for another summer of writing (and polishing and editing and marketing and everything else!). We're into the autumnal season now, when things grow a little more reflective. Hopefully you've had lovely summers too, and kept yourselves safe and content in this crazy world of ours. It'd be lovely to hear from you over on social media, while once again, I'm back to the writing desk.

Occasionally procrastinating looking for pumpkin stuff, but nonetheless there.

'til the End

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