



Step Into Summer!

Happy June, friends! It's time for another update. This one is full of victories that may **seem** small, but bring a huge amount of joy to a debut author like me. I hope you'll celebrate with me!

IN THIS ISSUE:

- We're in a physical bookstore!
- New review!
- New website content!
- I'm a Finalist!
- New interview!
- A sneak peek...

A new home!

Something I think every author, trad or indie, dreams of is seeing their book in a physical bookstore. That dream is often even farther out of reach for indie authors [for several reasons](#).

...Which is why I'm so thrilled to have made that leap! With huge thanks to the generosity and enthusiasm of James, Tere, and the whole lovely team at [Red Stick Reads](#) in Baton Rouge, *Stone and Flesh* has found its first brick-and-mortar home away from home!

If you're local, I heartily encourage you to stop by! Not only can you grab this **signed** copy of *Stone and Flesh*, but you can treat yourself to their numerous other offerings!

(And they **are** numerous.)

Farther afield? [You can also buy from them online!](#)



Look at those shelf-mates!

'Award-winning'

Another author dream is to be able to add a very cool prefix to one's name: "Award-winning author".

Competitions have been somewhat low on my priority list, but I've submitted to a few here and there. It's something to tick away in the background while I write, market, and generally live my life.

So it was the most pleasant of surprises to receive an email telling me I am the **Finalist** for the 'Best Epic Fantasy' category of the **2026 Pacific Book Awards**! You can view the list of winner and finalists for each category [here](#).

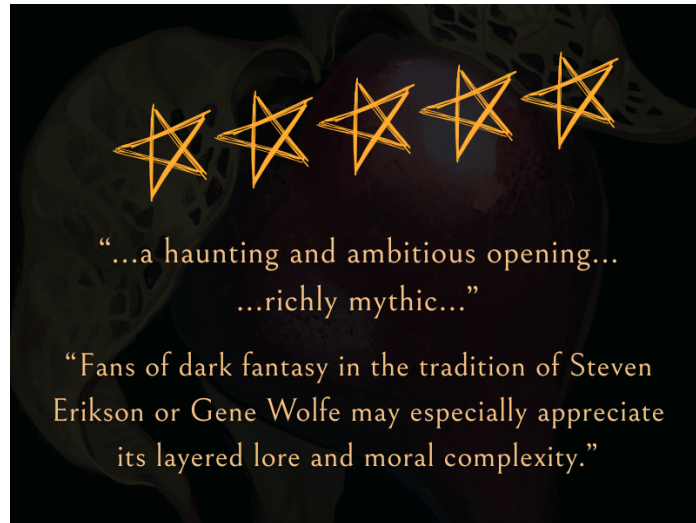


New five-star review!

I rounded up May with another review! You can find it in full [here on Goodreads](#). Thank you, Dimi!

Stone and Flesh is now sitting at **nine five-star** reviews and **three four-star** reviews, which is amazing! I'm under no illusion that there will only be four- or five-star reviews in my future – and I'll always be grateful for any review that's honest – but this is a wonderful start.

Thank you for taking the time to write reviews, even if it's just a few words! I hope you know I reread them often to keep me going.



New website offerings!

It's always been important to me to have my website be the hub around which my virtual authorly life revolves. My site and this newsletter are the places I can speak to you directly, without noise, and offer you the very best. I'm constantly working on ways for them both to better-serve that dialogue.

Suggestions are always welcome, and I've got a few things in the long-term pipeline, but here's what I've been working on this month!



New Indie Author Interview!



New Blog Entry!

I talk with urban fantasy author Mark Engels about his *Forest Exiles* saga, the unexpected turns a publishing journey can take, and the challenges and rewards of working with artists.

Let's talk about how an epic fantasy like *Stone and Flesh* fits into a long history of gothic literature! (And peer perhaps too closely at my influences...)

[Read Now!](#)

[Read Now!](#)



Comprehensive Content Warnings Guide

I believe in accessibility, so out of respect and love for my readers, I created a [detailed content warnings guide](#) for those that'd like it.



Resources to Support Indie Authors

[My list of ways you can support indie authors](#) has grown so much I had to separate it from my ["Manifesto for Independence"](#)!



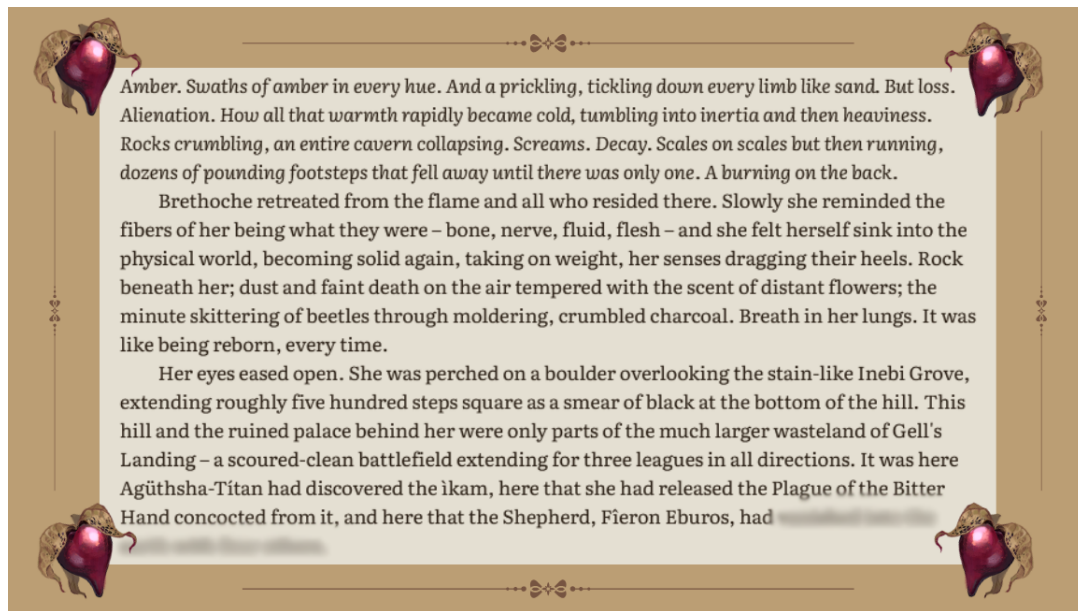
Glossary Improvements

[Tabbed segmentation](#), a [dramatis personae](#) quick-ref, and convenient downloadable PDFs!

I also did a little reorganization to help folks find what they want: The Trading Post has been split in two, **with the map and glossaries going into their own, new section called 'Codex'**. My storefront has stayed where it is, with that menu ribbon tab now reading 'Mercantile' instead! This will allow me more room and a more organized way to grow in the future.

That's all for now!

It's time for me to round up! Thank you as always for reading, reviewing, clicking, and otherwise keeping me in your thoughts. As a treat for reading this through to the end, here's a cheeky sneak-peek at the opening for Chapter 1 of *Nectar for Wasps*!



(Common-sense disclaimer that what's written here could change between now and final publication, and a gentle request not to share.)

Uushbaht ru'onrel – be safe as you go. With love and gratitude,

Tamara S. Harker

*PS – Don't forget to click [here](#) to download your **free** copy of The Hidden, a prequel novella focusing on the infamous Hidden Company led by Iknaïs, set some eighteen years before the events of Stone and Flesh.*

Want to do a little extra to support me?
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