



Straight from the Pad

Monthly e-newsletter from Author K. R. Raye



January - February 2025 Edition

THIS MONTH'S RECAP

Based on my January and February, it looks like 2025 will be a jam-packed year! My son and I started off making the edits and changes to our manuscript that our agents requested. We finalized them in January and are looking forward to April when our agents plan on submitting our work to traditional publishers!

In the meantime, I'm keeping busy honing my craft and learning everything I can about the publishing industry in preparation for us hopefully getting a book deal. I took four classes in January regarding book deals, book launches, and marketing. This month I signed up for seven additional classes/webinars taking place now through April.

Education is excellent, and I like to supplement learning with events where I can interact with readers and other authors. In 2024, I only attended 9 public events. So far this year, I've already booked 8 public events and I'm deciding between a few others.



In February, I was interviewed by The Howard County Poetry & Literature Society (HoCoPoLitSo) in their blog feature, [Wilde Readers of February: Michael Ratcliffe & K.R. Raye « HoCoPoLitSo](#)

On February 11th, I was one of two authors showcased during Wilde Readings Season 9, where I had the opportunity to read from my books for 20 minutes. Listeners were in for a treat as for the first time ever, I read a snippet from our upcoming Young Adult Fantasy book, 22:10! If you missed it, here's the link, https://fb.watch/x_c7uhWzjf/.

That's it for now, buckle up and let's see what blessings 2025 brings!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Here's where you can find me next month for book events, speaking presentations, or interviews:

03/05-08: Women in Publishing Conference - Author Attendee

03/08: Bay to Ocean Conference - Author Attendee

03/22 Middletown Comic Con 2025 - Author Attendee

04/04: Awesome Con - Author Attendee

04/26: Art Fest at Whitehall - Artist Vendor

08/01-03: National Book Club Conference - Author Attendee

09/19-21: Creatures, Crime, and Creativity Conference - Author Attendee

BOOK REVIEWS

One of the things that jumpstarted my writing career was reading. Since “sharing is caring,” I’m sharing short reviews of two books I read. Hopefully, you can find your next reads. Enjoy two fantastic entries for Black History Month!

Yellow Wife by Sadequa Johnson

★★★★★ (5.0 of 5 Stars)

Heart-wrenching Historical Fiction!

A heart wrenchingly beautiful, completely moving, and breathtakingly vivid piece of historical fiction. Revealing a glimpse of an important time during slavery. Another hit from one of my favorite authors!

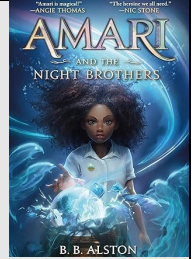


Amari and the Blood Brothers by B. B. Alston

★★★★★ (5.0 of 5 Stars)

Magical Middle Grade!

Loved it! Beautiful story of Amari, a young black girl navigating the disappearance of her brother as she's introduced to a magical world ala *Men In Black*.



To ensure you never miss one of my book reviews, [see past reviews on my website](#) and follow me on BookBub, Goodreads, and LibraryThing.

Happy Reading and catch you next month!

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