



Field Notes
for the
Book Hangover

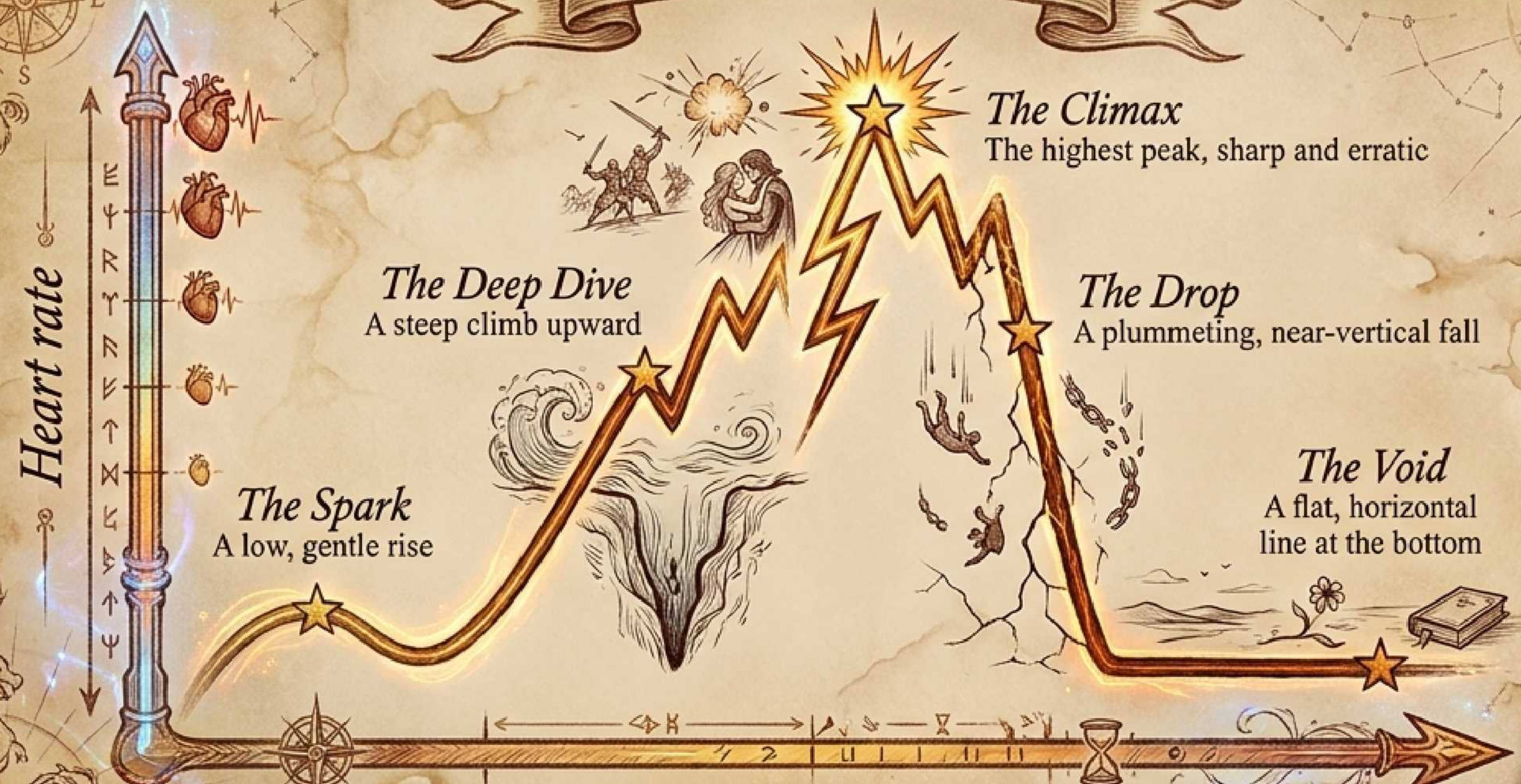
Life After Onyx Storm

The Empyrean Survival Guide.

You survived the war college, you survived the cliffhangers, and now you are staring into the abyss of the waiting period. This is your field guide to finding your next romantasy obsession.

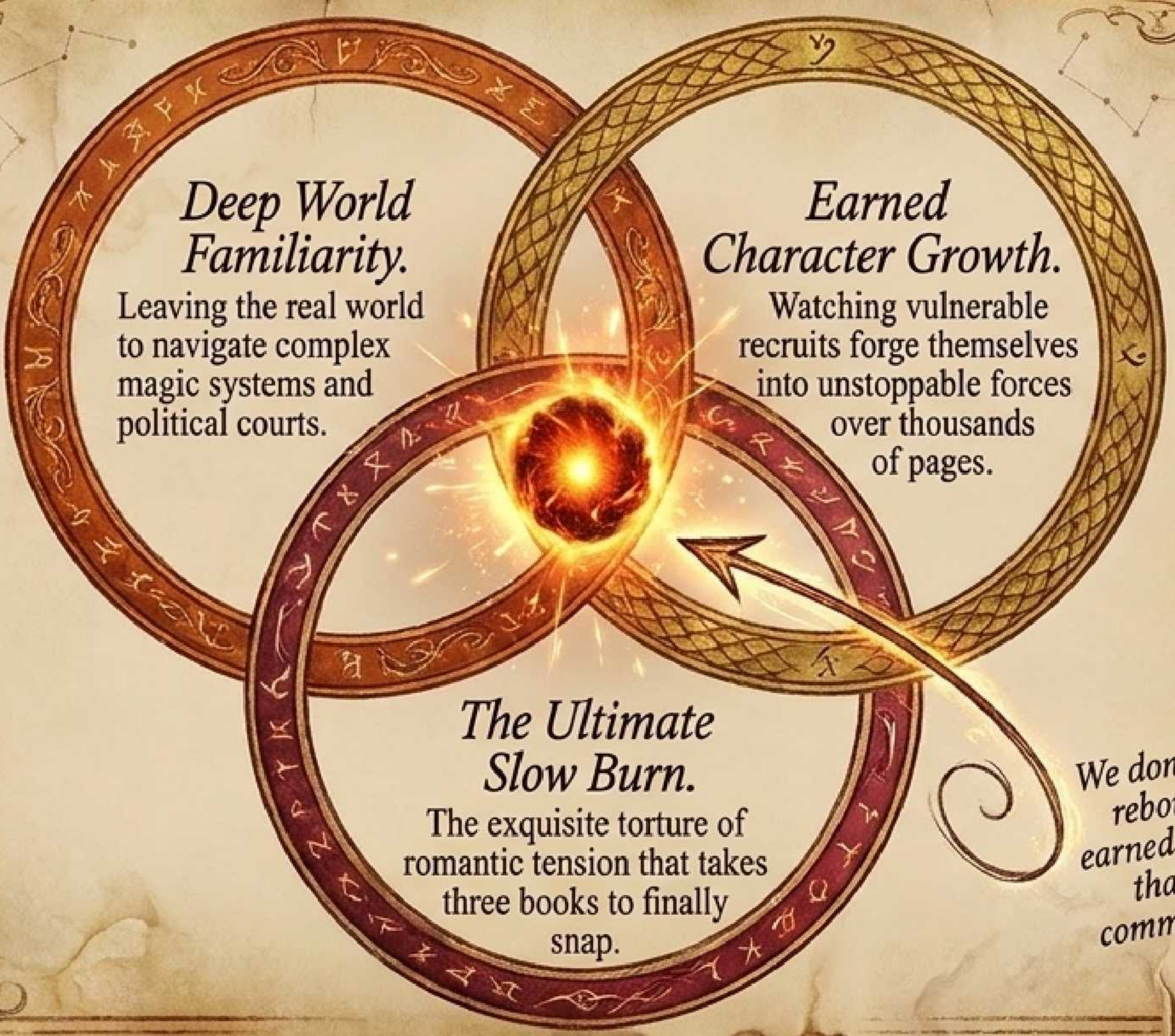
Diagnosing the Basgiath Hangover

The Romantasy Emotion Curve



We know the symptoms: staring blankly at your bookshelf, randomly thinking about shadow-wielders, and feeling like no other universe will ever compare. You need a transition plan.

The Magic of the Long Con



Deep World Familiarity.

Leaving the real world to navigate complex magic systems and political courts.

Earned Character Growth.

Watching vulnerable recruits forge themselves into unstoppable forces over thousands of pages.

The Ultimate Slow Burn.

The exquisite torture of romantic tension that takes three books to finally snap.

We don't just want a quick rebound. We want the earned emotional crescendo that only comes from committing to the journey.

Mapping Your Emphyrean Cravings

Loved the shadow-daddy angst?



Fae & Alchemy

Loved the found family and squad banter?



Kingdom of Lies

Loved the dragons and intricate lore?



Moonfall

Loved the brutal magical trials?



Crowns of Nyaxia

Let your specific cravings dictate your next destination.
Every star on this map leads to a verified obsession.



The Commitment Trail Map

Camp 1: Short Treks (3 Books)
Perfect for a quick, intense rebound without losing a year of your life.

Camp 2: The Mid-Journey (4-5 Books)
A steady, immersive burn for those ready to invest in a completely new geopolitical landscape.

Camp 3: The Long Haul (7+ Books)
A total lifestyle change. Cancel your weekend plans for the foreseeable future.



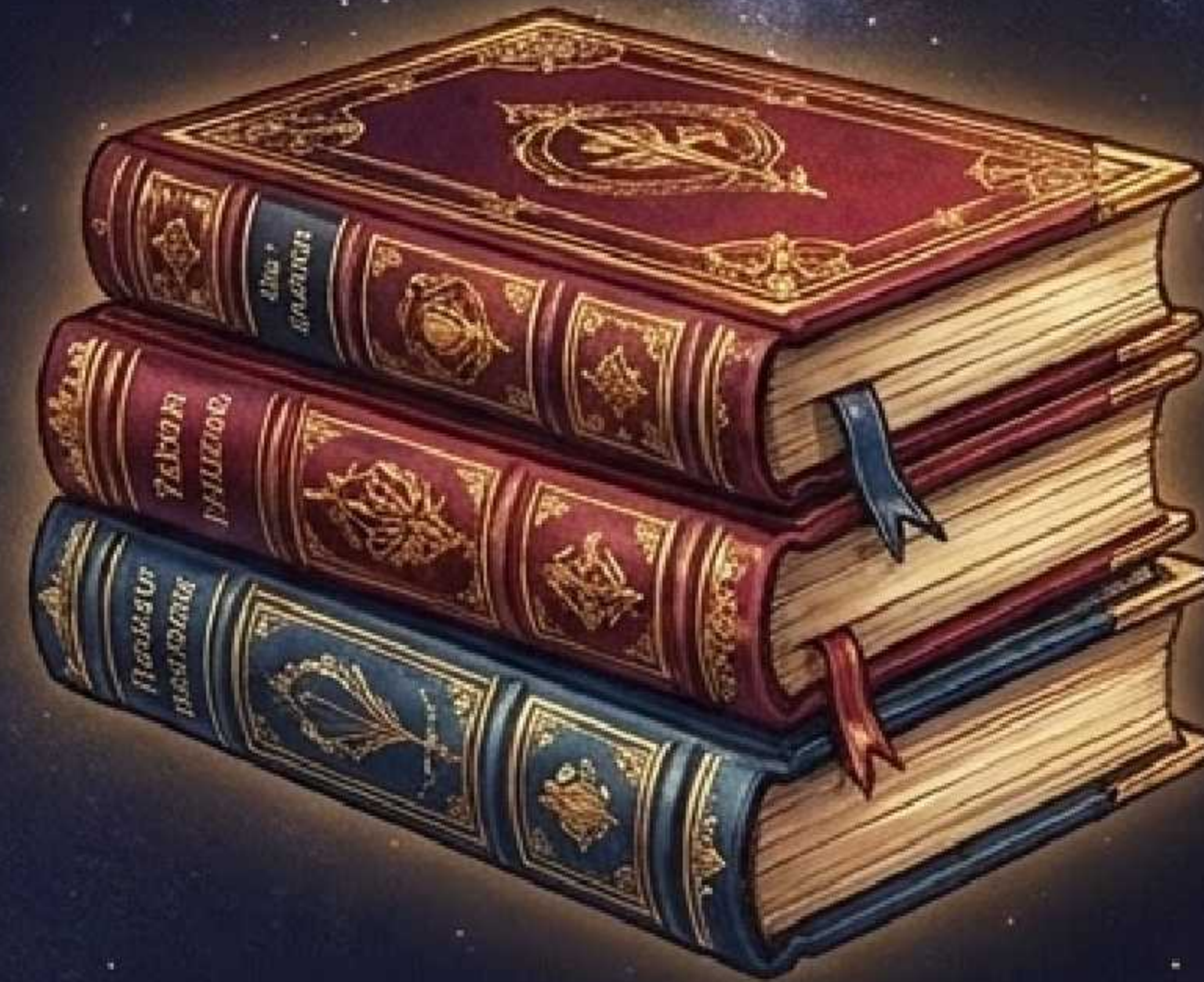
Pick your path based on your current emotional bandwidth.

Path 1: Short Treks

Camp 1: Short Treks
(3 Books)



*High impact,
low time debt.*




Duologies and Trilogies.

You are emotionally fragile right now. These series offer complete arcs, devastating romance, and rich worlds, but wrap up before you have to dedicate your entire personality to them.

The Stonewater Kingdom by Rachel Gillig

Stat Block



Meters

Darkness Level:	
Spice Level:	<i>(Slow, agonizing burn)</i>
World-Building:	
Emotional Devastation:	


The Vibe: Moody, eerie gothic fantasy with an unlikely pack of allies.


The Hook:


A Diviner who has given up a decade of her life to a cathedral, forced to team up with a rude, heretical knight. Features the best gargoyle sidekick (Bartholomew) you will ever read.


Fae & Alchemy by Callie Hart


Stat Block



Darkness Level: 

Spice Level: 

World-Building: 

Emotional Devastation: 

The Vibe: Fast-paced, gritty magic colliding with an icy fae realm.

The Hook:
A heroine with strange alchemical powers and a talent for picking pockets gets transported to a deadly world, sparking an explosive enemies-to-lovers dynamic.

Moonfall by Sarah A. Parker

Stat Block



Darkness Level:



Spice Level:



World-Building:



Emotional Devastation:

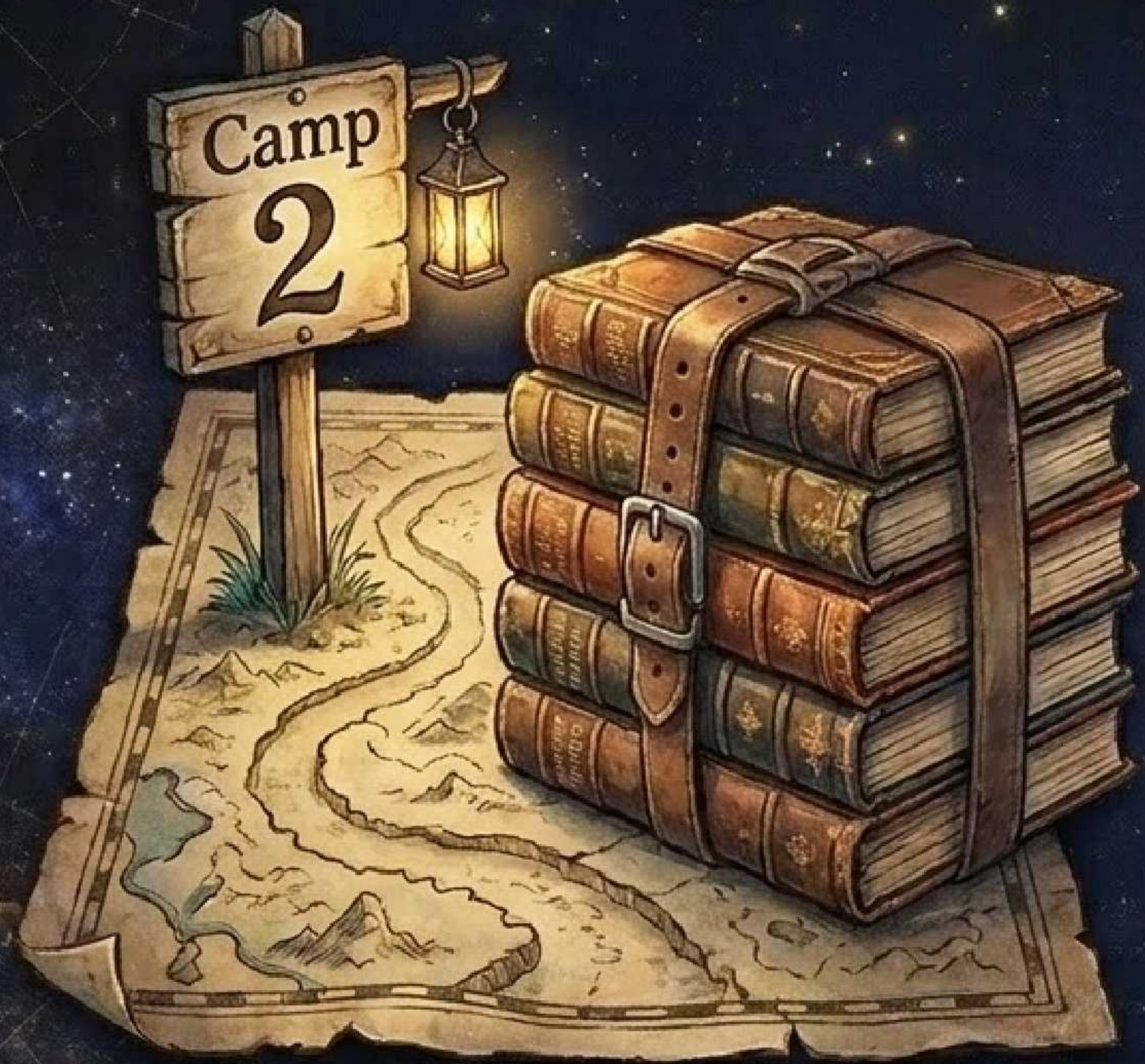


The Vibe: Epic, heavy angst with an incredibly complex lore system.

The Hook:

Dragons curling into moons upon their death, an assassin grappling with a dark past, and a king who stalks her like a shadow. Unrelenting tension and breathtaking prose.

Path 2: The Mid-Journey



The Steady Burn (4-5 Books).
You are ready to love again. These series offer sprawling political intrigue, massive character evolution, and shifting allegiances that require a bit more time to properly simmer.

Crowns of Nyaxia by Carissa Broadbent

Stat Block



The stat block is enclosed in a decorative frame of dark, thorny vines. At the top, the text "Stat Block" is written in a simple font. Below the text, two crossed swords (one silver, one red) are positioned over a glowing yellow crown. Four red crowns with blood dripping from them are arranged around the central crown. Below the illustrations are four rows of progress indicators, each consisting of four small glass vials:

- Darkness Level:** 4 vials, all filled with dark purple liquid.
- Spice Level:** 4 vials; the first two are filled with red liquid, the last two are empty.
- World-Building:** 4 vials; the first three are filled with yellow liquid, the last one is empty.
- Emotional Devastation:** 4 vials, all filled with blue liquid.

The Vibe: The Hunger Games meets Dante's Inferno with vampires.

The Hook:

Starts with a human adopted by a vampire king entering a deadly tournament, and evolves into a massive, underworld-spanning epic of divine politics and unquestioning loyalty.

Kingdom of Lies by Stacia Stark

Stat Block



Darkness Level:



Spice Level:

(Increases each book)



World-Building:



Emotional
Devastation:



The Vibe: Ultimate found family, mercenaries, and a heroine finally owning her power.

The Hook:

A weary girl with forbidden magic teams up with a brooding, morally gray mercenary. Perfect grumpy-meets-sunshine tension built over an expertly paced slow burn.

Silver Elite by Dani Francis

Stat Block



Darkness Level: 

Spice Level: 

World-Building: 

Emotional Devastation: 

The Vibe: Dystopian rebellion, secret identities, and high-stakes espionage.

The Hook:
A Mod infiltrates the elite Silver Block, navigating explosive chemistry with her ruthless commanding officer while trying to tear the system down from the inside.

Path 3: The Long Haul



The Lifestyle Change (7+ Books).

You want a universe to live in. These are the titans of the genre. They demand your absolute attention, shatter your heart repeatedly, and reward you with payoffs thousands of pages in the making.



The Maas-Verse by Sarah J. Maas

Stat Block



(Averaged across the universe)

Darkness Level:



Spice Level:



World-Building:



Emotional Devastation:



The Vibe: The masterclasses in emotional payoff.

The Hook:

Whether it's the beautiful, intricate Fae politics of *A Court of Thorns and Roses* or the epic, assassin-to-queen journey of *Throne of Glass*, this is the foundational lore of the romantasy genre.

Blood and Ash by Jennifer L. Armentrout

Stat Block



(Averaged across the universe)

Darkness Level: 

Spice Level: 

World-Building: 

Emotional Devastation: 

The Vibe: Shifting allegiances, hidden identities, and divine escalation.

The Hook:
A Maiden forbidden from experiencing pleasure discovers the truth about her realm, sparking a massive, steamy, multi-book conflict between mortals, vampires, and gods.

The Romantasy Radar

Spice Level
(Low Burn to Inferno)



*Find your exact coordinates.
Want dense lore but lower spice?
Head left.
Want high heat and fast plots?
Head top right.*

X-Axis
World-Building Density
(Straightforward to Encyclopedia Required)





The worst part of finishing a masterpiece is the void it leaves behind.
But the best part of the void is deciding which universe gets to fill it next.

Safe travels on the trail. We will see you back at Basgiath when the time comes.