

Rikke First Law



Rikke's First Law: Understanding the Unspoken Rules of Software Development

Have you ever felt that frustrating sense of impending doom when a seemingly simple software project explodes into a chaotic mess of unforeseen complications? This isn't just bad luck; it's often a direct consequence of ignoring unspoken rules and principles within software development. One such crucial, yet often overlooked, principle is Rikke's First Law. This post delves deep into the heart

of Rikke's First Law, exploring its meaning, implications, and how understanding it can significantly improve your software development process. We'll break down the core concepts, providing practical examples and actionable advice to help you avoid common pitfalls.

What is Rikke's First Law?

Rikke's First Law, while not a formally recognized law like Murphy's Law, is a widely acknowledged observation within the software development community. It essentially states: "Any sufficiently complex software contains a bug." This isn't about blaming developers for poor coding practices; rather, it highlights the inherent complexity of software systems and the near-impossibility of eliminating all bugs entirely. The law doesn't predict the type of bug or its severity, but simply acknowledges its inevitable presence.

Understanding the Implications of Rikke's First Law

This seemingly simple statement has profound implications for how we approach software development:

1. Embracing the Inevitable: Shifting from Prevention to Mitigation

Rikke's First Law doesn't advocate for sloppy coding. Instead, it encourages a shift in mindset from aiming for zero bugs (an unrealistic goal) to focusing on mitigating the impact of bugs. This means implementing robust testing procedures, employing defensive programming techniques, and building systems that gracefully handle errors.

2. Prioritizing Testability and Maintainability

Code that's difficult to test is more likely to harbour undetected bugs. Rikke's First Law underscores the importance of writing clean, modular, and well-documented code. This improves testability, making it easier to identify and fix issues before they impact users. Maintainability is equally crucial; the ability to quickly understand and modify the code reduces the risk of introducing new bugs during maintenance.

3. The Importance of User Feedback and Iterative Development

No amount of testing can completely eliminate all bugs. Real-world usage often reveals issues that are impossible to predict during development. Rikke's First Law reinforces the need for iterative development, where feedback from users is continuously incorporated to improve the software's quality and stability.

4. Accepting Bugs as Opportunities for Improvement

Discovering a bug shouldn't be viewed as a failure. It's an opportunity to learn, improve the codebase, and enhance the software's overall robustness. By carefully analyzing bug reports and incorporating lessons learned, developers can proactively address potential weaknesses in the system.

Applying Rikke's First Law in Practice

Here are some actionable strategies to apply Rikke's First Law to your projects:

1. Implement Comprehensive Testing Strategies:

This includes unit testing, integration testing, system testing, and user acceptance testing (UAT). Automated testing is crucial for efficiency and repeatability.

2. Practice Defensive Programming:

Write code that anticipates potential errors and handles them gracefully, preventing unexpected crashes or data corruption. Input validation and error handling are essential aspects of defensive programming.

3. Embrace Version Control:

Utilize a version control system like Git to track changes, facilitate collaboration, and enable easy rollback to previous versions if necessary.

4. Utilize Code Reviews:

Peer review is invaluable for identifying potential bugs and improving code quality. Fresh eyes often spot errors that the original author may have overlooked.

5. Prioritize Documentation:

Clear and comprehensive documentation makes it easier for developers to understand, maintain, and debug the code.

Conclusion

Rikke's First Law, while seemingly pessimistic, serves as a valuable reminder of the inherent challenges in software development. By acknowledging the inevitability of bugs and focusing on mitigation strategies, developers can build more robust, reliable, and maintainable software. Embracing this principle allows for a more realistic and ultimately more successful approach to project management and code creation. Remember, understanding the limitations and inherent complexities of software is the first step towards building better software.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1. Is Rikke's First Law just another way of saying "Murphy's Law applies to software"? While both laws acknowledge the prevalence of unexpected problems, Rikke's First Law is specific to software development and focuses on the inherent complexity of software systems rather than general bad luck.
2. Does Rikke's First Law excuse poor coding practices? Absolutely not. It highlights the need for rigorous testing, robust error handling, and a focus on quality, but doesn't absolve developers from writing clean, efficient, and well-documented code.
3. How can I practically apply Rikke's First Law in my daily workflow? Start by integrating robust testing into your development process, using version control, and conducting regular code reviews. Pay attention to error handling and defensive programming techniques.
4. Is there a way to completely avoid bugs? No. The inherent complexity of software makes it impossible to eliminate all bugs entirely. The goal is to minimize their impact and frequency.
5. What's the best way to respond to bug reports? Treat bug reports as valuable feedback. Analyze the reported issue carefully, reproduce the bug if possible, and prioritize fixing it based on its severity and impact on users. Proper documentation of the bug and its resolution is crucial.

rikke first law: *A Little Hatred* Joe Abercrombie, 2019-09-17 The New York Times bestselling first book in Joe Abercrombie's The Age of Madness Trilogy where the age of the machine dawns, but the age of magic refuses to die. The chimneys of industry rise over Adua and the world seethes with new opportunities. But old scores run deep as ever. On the blood-soaked borders of Angland, Leo dan Brock struggles to win fame on the battlefield, and defeat the marauding armies of Stour Nightfall. He hopes for help from the crown. But King Jezal's son, the feckless Prince Orso, is a man who specializes in disappointments. Savine dan Glokta -- socialite, investor, and daughter of the most feared man in the Union -- plans to claw her way to the top of the slag-heap of society by any means necessary. But the slums boil over with a rage that all the money in the world cannot control. The age of the machine dawns, but the age of magic refuses to die. With the help of the mad hillwoman Isern-i-Phail, Rikke struggles to control the blessing, or the curse, of the Long Eye. Glimpsing the future is one thing, but with the guiding hand of the First of the Magi still pulling the strings, changing it will be quite another . . . For more from Joe Abercrombie, check out: The First Law Series The Blade Itself Before They Are Hanged Last Argument of Kings Best Served Cold The Heroes Red Country The Shattered Sea Trilogy Half a King Half a World Half a War

rikke first law: The Trouble with Peace Joe Abercrombie, 2020-09-15 A fragile peace gives way to conspiracy, betrayal, and rebellion in this sequel to the New York Times bestselling *A Little Hatred* from epic fantasy master Joe Abercrombie. A master of his craft. —Forbes No one writes with the seismic scope or primal intensity of Joe Abercrombie. —Pierce Brown Peace is just another kind of battlefield . . . Savine dan Glokta, once Adua's most powerful investor, finds her judgement, fortune and reputation in tatters. But she still has all her ambitions, and no scruple will be permitted to stand in her way. For heroes like Leo dan Brock and Stour Nightfall, only happy with swords drawn, peace is an ordeal to end as soon as possible. But grievances must be nursed, power seized, and allies gathered first, while Rikke must master the power of the Long Eye . . . before it kills her. Unrest worms into every layer of society. The Breakers still lurk in the shadows, plotting to free the common man from his shackles, while noblemen bicker for their own advantage. Orso struggles to find a safe path through the maze of knives that is politics, only for his enemies, and his debts, to multiply. The old ways are swept aside, and the old leaders with them, but those who would seize the reins of power will find no alliance, no friendship, and no peace lasts forever. For more from Joe Abercrombie, check out: The Age of Madness A Little Hatred The Trouble With Peace The Wisdom of

Crowds The First Law Trilogy The Blade Itself Before They Are Hanged Last Argument of Kings Best Served Cold The Heroes Red Country The Shattered Sea Trilogy Half a King Half a World Half a War

rikke first law: The Wisdom of Crowds Joe Abercrombie, 2021-09-14 The New York Times bestselling finale to the Age of Madness trilogy finds the world in an unstoppable revolution where heroes have nothing left to lose as darkness and destruction overtake everything. Chaos. Fury. Destruction. The Great Change is upon us . . . Some say that to change the world you must first burn it down. Now that belief will be tested in the crucible of revolution: the Breakers and Burners have seized the levers of power, the smoke of riots has replaced the smog of industry, and all must submit to the wisdom of crowds. With nothing left to lose, Citizen Brock is determined to become a new hero for the new age, while Citizeness Savine must turn her talents from profit to survival before she can claw her way to redemption. Orso will find that when the world is turned upside down, no one is lower than a monarch. And in the bloody North, Rikke and her fragile Protectorate are running out of allies . . . while Black Calder gathers his forces and plots his vengeance. The banks have fallen, the sun of the Union has been torn down, and in the darkness behind the scenes, the threads of the Weaver's ruthless plan are slowly being drawn together . . . No one writes with the seismic scope or primal intensity of Joe Abercrombie. —Pierce Brown For more from Joe Abercrombie, check out: The Age of Madness A Little Hatred The Trouble With Peace The Wisdom of Crowds The First Law Trilogy The Blade Itself Before They Are Hanged Last Argument of Kings Best Served Cold The Heroes Red Country The Shattered Sea Trilogy Half a King Half a World Half a War

rikke first law: Before They Are Hanged Joe Abercrombie, 2015-09-08 The second novel in the wildly popular First Law Trilogy from New York Times bestseller Joe Abercrombie. Superior Glokta has a problem. How do you defend a city surrounded by enemies and riddled with traitors, when your allies can by no means be trusted, and your predecessor vanished without a trace? It's enough to make a torturer want to run -- if he could even walk without a stick. Northmen have spilled over the border of Angland and are spreading fire and death across the frozen country. Crown Prince Ladisla is poised to drive them back and win undying glory. There is only one problem -- he commands the worst-armed, worst-trained, worst-led army in the world. And Bayaz, the First of the Magi, is leading a party of bold adventurers on a perilous mission through the ruins of the past. The most hated woman in the South, the most feared man in the North, and the most selfish boy in the Union make a strange alliance, but a deadly one. They might even stand a chance of saving mankind from the Eaters -- if they didn't hate each other quite so much. Ancient secrets will be uncovered. Bloody battles will be won and lost. Bitter enemies will be forgiven -- but not before they are hanged. First Law Trilogy The Blade Itself Before They Are Hanged Last Argument of Kings For more from Joe Abercrombie, check out: Novels in the First Law world Best Served Cold The Heroes Red Country

rikke first law: Best Served Cold Joe Abercrombie, 2009-06-01 Springtime in Styria. And that means war. There have been nineteen years of blood. The ruthless Grand Duke Orso is locked in a vicious struggle with the squabbling League of Eight, and between them they have bled the land white. While armies march, heads roll and cities burn, behind the scenes bankers, priests and older, darker powers play a deadly game to choose who will be king. War may be hell but for Monza Murcatto, the Snake of Talins, the most feared and famous mercenary in Duke Orso's employ, it's a damn good way of making money too. Her victories have made her popular - a shade too popular for her employer's taste. Betrayed, thrown down a mountain and left for dead, Murcatto's reward is a broken body and a burning hunger for vengeance. Whatever the cost, seven men must die. Her allies include Styria's least reliable drunkard, Styria's most treacherous poisoner, a mass-murderer obsessed with numbers and a Northman who just wants to do the right thing. Her enemies number the better half of the nation. And that's all before the most dangerous man in the world is dispatched to hunt her down and finish the job Duke Orso started... Springtime in Styria. And that means revenge.

rikke first law: The Blade Itself Joe Abercrombie, 2015-09-08 The first novel in the First Law Trilogy and debut fantasy novel from New York Times bestseller, Joe Abercrombie. Logen

Ninefingers, infamous barbarian, has finally run out of luck. Caught in one feud too many, he's on the verge of becoming a dead barbarian -- leaving nothing behind him but bad songs, dead friends, and a lot of happy enemies. Nobleman, dashing officer, and paragon of selfishness, Captain Jezal dan Luthar has nothing more dangerous in mind than fleecing his friends at cards and dreaming of glory in the fencing circle. But war is brewing, and on the battlefields of the frozen North they fight by altogether bloodier rules. Inquisitor Glokta, cripple turned torturer, would like nothing better than to see Jezal come home in a box. But then Glokta hates everyone: cutting treason out of the Union one confession at a time leaves little room for friendship. His latest trail of corpses may lead him right to the rotten heart of government, if he can stay alive long enough to follow it. Enter the wizard, Bayaz. A bald old man with a terrible temper and a pathetic assistant, he could be the First of the Magi, he could be a spectacular fraud, but whatever he is, he's about to make the lives of Logen, Jezal, and Glokta a whole lot more difficult. Murderous conspiracies rise to the surface, old scores are ready to be settled, and the line between hero and villain is sharp enough to draw blood. Unpredictable, compelling, wickedly funny, and packed with unforgettable characters, *The Blade Itself* is noir fantasy with a real cutting edge.

rikke first law: *The Girl and the Mountain (Book of the Ice, Book 2)* Mark Lawrence, 2021-04-29 Second novel in the chilling and epic new fantasy series from the bestselling and critically-acclaimed author of *PRINCE OF THORNS* and *RED SISTER*. 'If you like dark you will love Mark Lawrence. And when the light breaks through and it all makes sense, the contrast is gorgeous' ROBIN HOBB

rikke first law: *Last Argument Of Kings* Joe Abercrombie, 2009-06-18 The end is coming. Logen Ninefingers might only have one more fight in him - but it's going to be a big one. Battle rages across the North, the King of the Northmen still stands firm, and there's only one man who can stop him. His oldest friend, and his oldest enemy. It's past time for the Bloody-Nine to come home. With too many masters and too little time, Superior Glokta is fighting a different kind of war. A secret struggle in which no-one is safe, and no-one can be trusted. His days with a sword are far behind him. It's a good thing blackmail, threats and torture still work well enough. Jezal dan Luthar has decided that winning glory is far too painful, and turned his back on soldiering for a simple life with the woman he loves. But love can be painful too, and glory has a nasty habit of creeping up on a man when he least expects it. While the King of the Union lies on his deathbed, the peasants revolt and the nobles scramble to steal his crown. No-one believes that the shadow of war is falling across the very heart of the Union. The First of the Magi has a plan to save the world, as he always does. But there are risks. There is no risk more terrible, after all, than to break the First Law...

rikke first law: *Sharp Ends* Joe Abercrombie, 2016-04-26 *Sharp Ends* is the ultimate collection of award winning tales and exclusive new short stories from the master of grimdark fantasy, Joe Abercrombie. Violence explodes, treachery abounds, and the words are as deadly as the weapons in this rogue's gallery of side-shows, back-stories, and sharp endings from the world of the First Law. The Union army may be full of bastards, but there's only one who thinks he can save the day single-handed when the Gurmish come calling: the incomparable Colonel Sand dan Glokta. Curnden Craw and his dozen are out to recover a mysterious item from beyond the Crinna. Only one small problem: no one seems to know what the item is. Shevedieh, the self-styled best thief in Styria, lurches from disaster to catastrophe alongside her best friend and greatest enemy, Javre, Lioness of Hoskopp. And after years of bloodshed, the idealistic chieftain Bethod is desperate to bring peace to the North. There's only one obstacle left -- his own lunatic champion, the most feared man in the North: the Bloody-Nine . . .

rikke first law: *Red Country* Joe Abercrombie, 2012-11-13 A New York Times bestseller! They burned her home. They stole her brother and sister. But vengeance is following. Shy South hoped to bury her bloody past and ride away smiling, but she'll have to sharpen up some bad old ways to get her family back, and she's not a woman to flinch from what needs doing. She sets off in pursuit with only a pair of oxen and her cowardly old step father Lamb for company. But it turns out Lamb's buried a bloody past of his own. And out in the lawless Far Country the past never stays buried.

Their journey will take them across the barren plains to a frontier town gripped by gold fever, through feud, duel and massacre, high into the unmapped mountains to a reckoning with the Ghosts. Even worse, it will force them into an alliance with Nicomo Cosca, infamous soldier of fortune, and his feckless lawyer Temple, two men no one should ever have to trust . . . Red Country takes place in the same world as the First Law trilogy, Best Served Cold, and The Heroes. This novel also represents the return of Logen Ninefingers, one of Abercrombie's most beloved characters.

rikke first law: Searching for a 'Principle of Humanity' in International Humanitarian Law Dr Kjetil Mujezinovic Larsen, Camilla Guldahl Cooper, Gro Nystuen, 2013 This book provides an examination of whether there is a legally independent 'principle of humanity' in international humanitarian law.

rikke first law: Research Handbook on Human Rights and Digital Technology Ben Wagner, Matthias C. Kettemann, Kilian Vieth, In a digitally connected world, the question of how to respect, protect and implement human rights has become unavoidable. This contemporary Research Handbook offers new insights into well-established debates by framing them in terms of human rights. It examines the issues posed by the management of key Internet resources, the governance of its architecture, the role of different stakeholders, the legitimacy of rule making and rule-enforcement, and the exercise of international public authority over users. Highly interdisciplinary, its contributions draw on law, political science, international relations and even computer science and science and technology studies.

rikke first law: New Technologies for Human Rights Law and Practice Molly K. Land, Jay D. Aronson, 2018-04-19 Provides a roadmap for understanding the relationship between technology and human rights law and practice. This title is also available as Open Access.

rikke first law: *Untitled Abercrombie 4 Of 4* Joe Abercrombie, 2021-09-14 Concluding the AGE OF MADNESS trilogy, THE WISDOM OF CROWDS brings the series which is revolutionising fantasy to its stunning conclusion. . . Chaos. Fury. Destruction. The Great Change is upon us . . . Some say that to change the world you must first burn it down. Now that belief will be tested in the crucible of revolution: the Breakers and Burners have seized the levers of power, the smoke of riots has replaced the smog of industry, and all must submit to the wisdom of crowds. With nothing left to lose, Citizen Brock is determined to become a new hero for the new age, while Citizeness Savine must turn her talents from profit to survival before she can claw her way to redemption. Orso will find that when the world is turned upside down, no one is lower than a monarch. And in the bloody North, Rikke and her fragile Protectorate are running out of allies . . . while Black Calder gathers his forces and plots his vengeance. The banks have fallen, the sun of the Union has been torn down, and in the darkness behind the scenes, the threads of the Weaver's ruthless plan are slowly being drawn together . . . Joe Abercrombie is doing some terrific work - George R. R. Martin 'No one writes with the seismic scope or primal intensity of Joe Abercrombie' Pierce Brown 'Delightfully twisted and evil' The Guardian 'Witty, Bloody and fun' Nicholas Eames 'A vivid and jolting tale' Robin Hobb

rikke first law: Researching Internet Governance Laura Denardis, Derrick Cogburn, Nanette S. Levinson, Francesca Musiani, 2020-09-08 Scholars from a range of disciplines discuss research methods, theories, and conceptual approaches in the study of internet governance. The design and governance of the internet has become one of the most pressing geopolitical issues of our era. The stability of the economy, democracy, and the public sphere are wholly dependent on the stability and security of the internet. Revelations about election hacking, facial recognition technology, and government surveillance have gotten the public's attention and made clear the need for scholarly research that examines internet governance both empirically and conceptually. In this volume, scholars from a range of disciplines consider research methods, theories, and conceptual approaches in the study of internet governance.

rikke first law: The NATO Intervention in Libya Kjell Engelbrekt, Marcus Mohlin, Charlotte Wagnsson, 2013-10-01 This book explores 'lessons learned' from the military intervention in Libya by examining key aspects of the 2011 NATO campaign. NATO's intervention in Libya had unique features, rendering it unlikely to serve as a model for action in other situations. There was an

explicit UN Security Council mandate to use military force, a strong European commitment to protect Libyan civilians, Arab League political endorsement and American engagement in the critical, initial phase of the air campaign. Although the seven-month intervention stretched NATO's ammunition stockpiles and political will almost to their respective breaking points, the definitive overthrow of the Gaddafi regime is universally regarded as a major accomplishment. With contributions from a range of key thinkers and analysts in the field, the book first explains the law and politics of the intervention, starting out with deliberations in NATO and at the UN Security Council, both noticeably influenced by the concept of a Responsibility to Protect (R2P). It then goes on to examine a wide set of military and auxiliary measures that governments and defence forces undertook in order to increasingly tilt the balance against the Gaddafi regime and to bring about an end to the conflict, as well as to the intervention proper, while striving to keep the number of NATO and civilian casualties to a minimum. This book will be of interest to students of strategic studies, history and war studies, and IR in general.

rikke first law: Keep Saying Their Names Simon Stranger, 2020-05-19 An extraordinary work of fiction, inspired by historical events--an exquisitely crafted double portrait of a Nazi war criminal and a family savaged by World War II, conjoined by an actual house of horrors they both called home On a street in modern-day Norway, a writer kneels with his son and tells him that according to Jewish tradition, a person dies twice: first when their heart stops beating, and then again the last time their name is read or thought or said. Before them is a stone engraved with the name Hirsch Komissar, the boy's great-great-grandfather who was murdered by Nazis. The man who sent Komissar to his death was one of Norway's vilest traitors, Henry Oliver Rinnan, a Nazi double agent who set up headquarters in an unspectacular suburban house and transformed the cellar into a torture chamber for resisters, a place to be avoided and feared. That is until Komissar's own son, Gerson, and his young wife, Ellen, take up residence in the house after the war. While their daughters spend a happy childhood playing in the same rooms where some of the most heinous acts of the occupation occurred, the weight of history threatens to pull the couple apart. In *Keep Saying Their Names*, Simon Stranger uses this unusual twist of fate to probe five generations of intimate and global history, seamlessly melding fact and fiction, creating a brilliant lexicon of light and dark. The resulting novel reveals how evil is born in some and courage in others--and seeks to keep alive the names of those lost.

rikke first law: Among the Hidden Margaret Peterson Haddix, 2002-06-12 In a future where the Population Police enforce the law limiting a family to only two children, Luke, an illegal third child, has lived all his twelve years in isolation and fear on his family's farm in this start to the *Shadow Children* series from Margaret Peterson Haddix. Luke has never been to school. He's never had a birthday party, or gone to a friend's house for an overnight. In fact, Luke has never had a friend. Luke is one of the shadow children, a third child forbidden by the Population Police. He's lived his entire life in hiding, and now, with a new housing development replacing the woods next to his family's farm, he is no longer even allowed to go outside. Then, one day Luke sees a girl's face in the window of a house where he knows two other children already live. Finally, he's met a shadow child like himself. Jen is willing to risk everything to come out of the shadows--does Luke dare to become involved in her dangerous plan? Can he afford not to?

rikke first law: Untitled Abercrombie 3 Of 4 Joe Abercrombie, 2020-09-17 Second in the AGE OF MADNESS trilogy, *THE TROUBLE WITH PEACE* is the next instalment of a series which is revolutionising fantasy . . . Conspiracy. Betrayal. Rebellion. Peace is just another kind of battlefield . . . Savine dan Glokta, once Adua's most powerful investor, finds her judgement, fortune and reputation in tatters. But she still has all her ambitions, and no scruple will be permitted to stand in her way. For heroes like Leo dan Brock and Stour Nightfall, only happy with swords drawn, peace is an ordeal to end as soon as possible. But grievances must be nursed, power seized and allies gathered first, while Rikke must master the power of the Long Eye . . . before it kills her. Unrest worms into every layer of society. The Breakers still lurk in the shadows, plotting to free the common man from his shackles, while noblemen bicker for their own advantage. Orso struggles to find a safe path

through the maze of knives that is politics, only for his enemies, and his debts, to multiply. The old ways are swept aside, and the old leaders with them, but those who would seize the reins of power will find no alliance, no friendship, and no peace, lasts forever.

rikke first law: Lawless Nicolas P. Suzor, 2019-07-18 Because social media and technology companies rule the Internet, only a digital constitution can protect our rights online.

rikke first law: *The Great Leveller* Joe Abercrombie, 2015-04-23 Collected together for the first time, here are the three hard-hitting standalone novels set in the world of Joe Abercrombie's bestselling FIRST LAW trilogy. BEST SERVED COLD: War may be hell but for Monza Murcatto, the Snake of Talins, the most feared and famous mercenary in Duke Orso's employ, it's a damn good way of making money too. Her victories have made her popular - a shade too popular for her employer's taste. Betrayed, thrown down a mountain and left for dead, Murcatto's reward is a broken body and a burning hunger for vengeance. Whatever the cost, seven men must die. THE HEROES: Over three bloody days of battle, the fate of the North will be decided. But with both sides riddled by intrigues, follies, feuds and petty jealousies, it is unlikely to be the noblest hearts, or even the strongest arms that prevail. Three men. One battle. No Heroes. RED COUNTRY: Shy South hoped to bury her bloody past and ride away smiling, but she'll have to sharpen up some bad old ways to get her family back, and she's not a woman to flinch from what needs doing. She sets off in pursuit of her family's killers with only a pair of oxen and her cowardly old stepfather Lamb for company. But it turns out Lamb's buried a bloody past of his own, and out in the lawless Far Country, the past never stays buried.

rikke first law: The Blink of an Eye: A Memoir of Dying - and Learning How to Live
Again Rikke Schmidt Kjaergaard, 2019-05-14 "A highly personal, deeply affecting account of what it is to be yanked from a happy, well-ordered life and thrust into a sudden, unimaginable, terrifying darkness. Rikke Schmidt Kjaergaard has done the impossible of putting into words an experience that would seem to be beyond expressing."—from the foreword by Bill Bryson It was New Year's Day. Rikke Schmidt Kjaergaard, a young mother and scientist, was celebrating with family and friends when she was struck down with a sudden fever. Within hours, she'd suffered multiple organ failure and was clinically dead. Then, brought back to the edge of life—trapped in a near-death coma—she was given a 5 percent chance of survival. She awoke to find herself completely paralyzed, with blinking as her sole means of communicating with the outside world. The Blink of an Eye is Rikke's gripping account of being locked inside her own body, and what it took to painstakingly relearn every basic life skill—from breathing and swallowing, speaking and walking, to truly living again. Much more than an account of recovery against all odds—this is, at its heart, a celebration of love, family, and every little thing that matters when life hangs in the balance.

rikke first law: *The Heroes* Joe Abercrombie, 2012-05-10 This enhanced eBook contains: # An introduction from Joe Abercrombie # The full text of THE HEROES # THE HEROES Audio edition # A critical afterword from the editor Plus: # THE FOOL JOBS short story, featuring characters from THE HEROES # A 20,000 word 'planning' document which contains all of Joe's behind-the-scenes notes, plans and timeline for THE HEROES # A before-and-after chapter showing the first draft, the last draft, and many stages in between of one of the most critical chapters of the book # A full behind-the-scenes interview with Joe Abercrombie covering the writing process, the importance of maps, the genesis of and influences on the novel, the six main characters and their story arcs, and the cover . . . amongst other things! # 'Blog archive' - all of Joe's blog posts from the period when he was writing THE HEROES. This is half-diary, half book progress updates, and includes illustrations, links to interviews, events, award ceremonies and reviews of games and books from Joe as well as incidents from his life # Cover file: view the several elements of the cover in all their final and rough stages, plus the different stages the cover itself went through during the design process. Comes with commentary from Joe Abercrombie, Dave Senior, Didier Graffet and Laura Brett - the design team that won a publically-voted design award for the cover of BEST SERVED COLD # A full author biography, and an author photo gallery

rikke first law: White Crow Marcus Sedgwick, 2011-07-05 One of School Library Journal's

Best Fiction Books of 2011 Some secrets are better left buried; some secrets are so frightening they might make angels weep and the devil cry. Thought provoking as well as intensely scary, Marcus Sedgwick's *White Crow* unfolds in three voices. There's Rebecca, who has come to a small, seaside village to spend the summer, and there's Ferelith, who offers to show Rebecca the secrets of the town...but at a price. Finally, there's a priest whose descent into darkness illuminates the girls' frightening story. *White Crow* is as beautifully written as it is horrifically gripping. This title has Common Core connections.

rikke first law: *Women of Ice and Fire* Anne Gjelsvik, Rikke Schubart, 2016-04-07 George R.R. Martin's acclaimed seven-book fantasy series *A Song of Ice and Fire* is unique for its strong and multi-faceted female protagonists, from teen queen Daenerys, scheming Queen Cersei, child avenger Arya, knight Brienne, Red Witch Melisandre, and many more. The *Game of Thrones* universe challenges, exploits, yet also changes how we think of women and gender, not only in fantasy, but in Western culture in general. Divided into three sections addressing questions of adaptation from novel to television, female characters, and politics and female audience engagement within the GoT universe, the interdisciplinary and international lineup of contributors analyze gender in relation to female characters and topics such as genre, sex, violence, adaptation, as well as fan reviews. The genre of fantasy was once considered a primarily male territory with male heroes. *Women of Ice and Fire* shows how the GoT universe challenges, exploits, and reimagines gender and why it holds strong appeal to female readers, audiences, and online participants.

rikke first law: *Seven Blades in Black* Sam Sykes, 2019-04-09 Acclaimed author Sam Sykes returns with a brilliant new epic fantasy that introduces an unforgettable outcast mage caught between two warring empires. Her magic was stolen. She was left for dead. Betrayed by those she trusts most and her magic ripped from her, all Sal the Cacophony has left is her name, her story, and the weapon she used to carve both. But she has a will stronger than magic, and knows exactly where to go. The Scar, a land torn between powerful empires, where rogue mages go to disappear, disgraced soldiers go to die and Sal went with a blade, a gun, and a list of seven names. Revenge will be its own reward.

rikke first law: *Sam Gunn Jr.* Ben Bova, 2022-03-08 The final completed novel by Ben Bova Intergalactic explorer, venture capitalist, and Casanova Sam Gunn may be gone, but his legacy lives on in his son, Sam Gunn Jr. In his first-ever adventure, Sam Gunn Jr. sets off to fulfill his father's left-behind mission of interplanetary enterprising. He soon learns his father's shoes are tough to fill, but he is up for the task. Junior takes a journey through the stars, falling in love with beautiful women and leaving his unique mark everywhere he ventures. Soon, however, this trip through the universe takes a dangerous turn when Junior lands on Saturn and learns about a recent scientific discovery that will change everything, possibly forever. Will he be able to save the universe and live up to his father's name? Take an unforgettable ride through space in master sci-fi author Ben Bova's exciting novel!

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oath." Prince Yarvi has vowed to regain a throne he never wanted. But first he must survive cruelty, chains, and the bitter waters of the Shattered Sea. And he must do it all with only one good hand. The deceived will become the deceiver. Born a weakling in the eyes of his father, Yarvi is alone in a world where a strong arm and a cold heart rule. He cannot grip a shield or swing an axe, so he must sharpen his mind to a deadly edge. The betrayed will become the betrayer. Gathering a strange fellowship of the outcast and the lost, he finds they can do more to help him become the man he needs to be than any court of nobles could. Will the usurped become the usurper? But even with loyal friends at his side, Yarvi finds that his path may end as it began—in twists, and traps, and tragedy. **BONUS:** This edition includes an excerpt from Joe Abercrombie's *Half the World*.

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magical charade to save her younger sisters' futures. However, even the most brilliant scholars of 1817 England still haven't ferreted out all the lurking secrets of rediscovered dragonkind...and even the most sensible of heroines can still make a reckless wish or two when she's pushed. Now Elinor will have to find out just how rash and resourceful she can be when she sets aside all common sense. Maybe, just maybe, she'll even be impractical enough to win her own true love and a happily ever after...with the unpredictable and dangerous help of the magical creature who has adopted her. A frothy Regency rom-com full of pet dragons and magical misadventures, *Scales and Sensibility* is a full-length novel and the first in a new series of standalone romantic comedies.

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field of military operations, sharing mobile uploads in real-time. Official Israeli military spokesmen announce wars on Twitter. And civilians encounter state violence first on their newsfeeds and mobile screens. Across the globe, the ordinary tools of social networking have become indispensable instruments of warfare and violent conflict. This book traces the rise of Israeli digital militarism in this global context—both the reach of social media into Israeli military theaters and the occupation's impact on everyday Israeli social media culture. Today, social media functions as a crucial theater in which the Israeli military occupation is supported and sustained.

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