

# Halloween is coming!



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## Hallowe'en, All-Hallows' Eve, Samhain

Whatever you call it, and however you celebrate it, this is the season of all things spooky. And quite possibly pumpkin-spiced.

Tracing its roots back to pagan harvest festivals, through early Gaelic and Celtic celebrations to the modern church's All Saints Day, the festival is most well known these days for trick-or-treat, costumes and ghost stories.

But be mindful! The true evils do not sleep at this time of year. In fact, often the fae use the cover of the celebrations to hide their nefarious activities. If you spot something strange creeping through a graveyard at the end of October, you're much more likely to assume it's someone in costume making a Tik-Tok than a ghoulish seeking the flesh of the recently deceased.

What's your favourite halloween tradition? Are you looking forward to the trick-or-treaters being able to show up at your front door in person again, after last year's lockdowns?



## Halloween 2020

With lockdowns still ongoing, this was how we had to set up our trick-or-treat station last year.

It worked remarkably well!

## Writing Update

Still carrying on with my War of the Worlds sequels, and shopping around 'The Fairies Want Me Dead'.

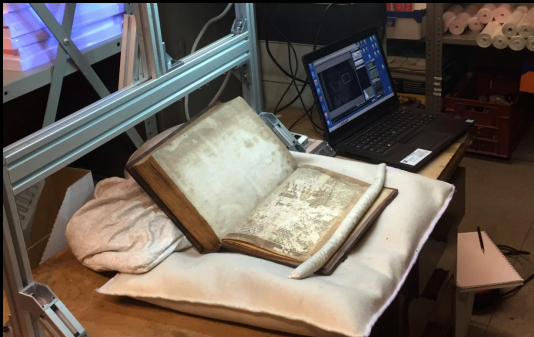
I've been challenging myself to write every day, even as little as 200 words, and I've reached over 660 consecutive days without breaking the streak!

In fact, this month I'm going to be interviewed on the podcast that inspired that challenge, the [Bestseller Experiment](#). Two guys who wrote and published a novel in a year have grown it into a veritable hub of writing excellence, even branching out into an online Academy! I'm very excited about chatting with them about my own writing, and there should be more about that in the next newsletter.

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## Fae News

Recent updates from the unusual world that surrounds us



### Medieval Manuscript Fragments Discovered in Bristol Tell of Merlin the Magician From Arthurian Legend

Medieval manuscript fragments discovered in Bristol that tell part of the story of Merlin the magician, one of the most famous characters from Arthurian legend, have been identified by academics from the Universities of Bristol and Durham as some of the earliest surviving examples of that section of the narrative.



### Some Haunted Trees in the United States

According to folklore, people are advised to touch wood when threatened by evil. What should one do when the wood itself is the source of evil? Hopefully, we won't have to find out (Knock on wood! Sorry.). For now, we can explore haunted trees from the safety of our own computers.

[View more](#)

Marlin, one of the hardest working members of the Fae Defence Society, recommends some of his favourite books, music or movies.

## Marlin's Media

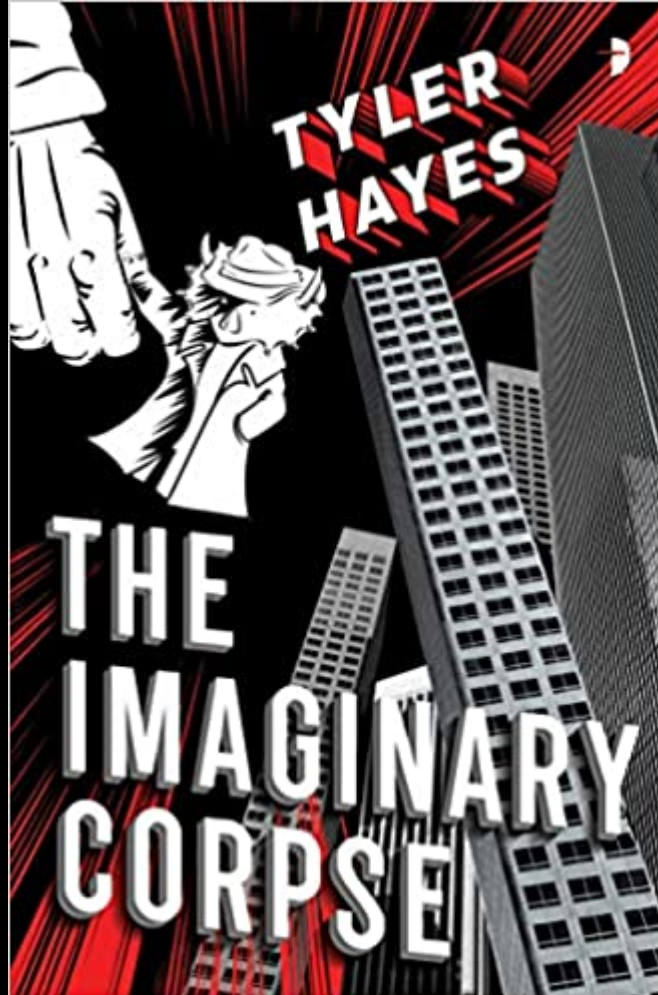


A classic, and for good reason. But is it a halloween movie, or a Christmas movie?

Why not both! Tim Burton's design sensibilities are definitely more scary than cosy, but at its heart this is a tale about embracing differences and knowing who you are at heart.

Henry Selick directs this masterpiece, the first full length motion picture created entirely via stop-motion animation.

[Watch it now!](#)



Like hard boiled, film-noir style detective stories?

Or do you prefer a kids story, with imaginary friends and lots of bright colours?

Why not both?

"The Imaginary Corpse" is set in the StillReal, a place where kids' imaginary friends go when they are no longer needed. Tippy the Triceratops has become a detective, still reeling from the loss of his human. And now someone is killing his friends.

Wickedly inventive, brilliantly funny and frighteningly dark at times, this is the sort of book where as an author I'm at a loss to see how they did it, and as a reader I just don't care because it's so good.

It's not for kids!

[Read it now!](#)

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## Stay Alert

**Have you spotted anything  
unusual or unnatural?**





You can contact us at any time by replying to this email.

Please report any sightings immediately, as vigilance is essential against the ever-growing Fae threat.

# Newsletter Archive

## Missed anything?

All of our newsletters are archived for you!

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