

Rogue Submarine Newsletter

Volume 13

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1. Free Stuff (continued)

I still have coupons for Audible audiobooks. So, I'm making them free to you! I *think* I've automated this. So, click [here](#) for your free Audible coupon. Email me if it doesn't work.

2. Audio Books Update

[Paul Christy](#) finished *Rogue Justice*, which is the ACX 1-2 month publishing process. The [Rogue Invader Audiobook](#) is now available.

3. Rogue Kingdom

Book #11 joined its older siblings as a best seller. Thank you all who have already purchased it or borrowed it on Kindle Unlimited. If you enjoyed it, please review it with just a few kind words. It makes a difference.

4. Rogue L

Rogue Legion? Legends? Lazarus? I'm still playing with the title, but I've got the book mapped out. It should be ready for you by Christmas. It will embrace the basics you've enjoyed throughout the series... adversaries battling with ships, robots, and dolphins. I'll be going deeper into Iran in Rogue L, and I'll be exploring the US *Virginia*-class submarine and the use of Unmanned Undersea Vehicles.

5. Box Sets

Box sets of eBooks save you \$ when purchasing or simplify your life when borrowing.

[Books 1-3](#) [Books 4-6](#) [Books 7-9](#)

Each box set saves \$2 versus buying its three books individually. Kindle Unlimited subscribers can borrow the set of 3 books while using only 1 of your 10 borrowing slots.

6. US Navy Submarines (and UUV) Update

Congratulations to the USS *Colorado*, SSN-787. The latest *Virginia*-class submarine joined the fleet March 13. The USS *Indiana* should be commissioned Sept 29.

To get ready for Rogue L, let's review Unmanned Undersea Vehicles (UUV). UUVs reduce risks to sailors and save money, as their aerial brethren have demonstrated.

I've been liberal in using drones in the Rogue Submarine series to find enemy submarines. It's easy for me, since I'm just writing words. I don't need to design it, fund it, build it, test it, deploy it, or fix it. In reality, submarine-launched drones aren't widespread yet (per public sources), but they're coming with an eye on holding back China's growing forces. See [this article](#).

In other uses, how about mine countermeasures? That makes perfect sense. You're risking a robot instead of a human. I'm sure there will be concerns about false positives or missed targets, but that's inherent with any detection system. Check out the [Knifefish](#), intended for use with Littoral Combat Ships.

What about weapons delivery? In 2016, the [Secretary of Defense said](#) the Department of Defense would invest \$600M in UUVs. Payload delivery is one of the key mission areas published in the US Navy's master plan for UUVs since 2000. So, it's coming.

We already know that Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV) are releasing weapons. You can watch movies that bring home the humanity of UAV warfare, like "Drone" with Sean Bean and "Eye in the Sky" with Helen Mirren. UAVs launching weapons is engrained in warfare, as long as we use radio frequency communications to keep humans in the loop.

But you, the educated readers of submarine novels, know that water devours radio waves. So, what to do about UUVs? I see mention of [underwater communication networks](#), but I suspect that's like using trains—it only works where you've laid tracks. I'll believe it when I read about it from a credible source, which I hope to soon.

The most recent "call to arms" I've seen is a [request for information](#) to vendors from the Naval Undersea Warfare Center Division Newport to produce a UUV that can disable ships up to 50 meters in length, using either explosive or non-explosive technologies. Keep your eyes and ears open. Robots are getting geared up to fight underwater.

7. John Recommends

In my last newsletter, I started pointing you towards other good authors. As a rule, I'll only recommend books I've read cover to cover.

I recommend a military thriller by my friend, Jeff Edwards. Enemies in the wild (destroyer sonar chief vs. submarine junior officer), Jeff and I became friends over a decade ago through our writing. His latest book, [Steel Wind](#), is excellent. It's possibly his best, but don't force me to choose. A supercavitating North Korean submarine protects doomsday missiles in Cuba pointed at the USA. You can't make that up, but Jeff did!

Also, I'm applauding Ian Kharitonov for his thriller, [Kremlin Storm](#). This is #4 of the Sokolov brothers series which pairs a Russian rescue hero/killing machine with his historian genius brother in solving crimes and fighting evil. Ian's first three books were blends of action, intrigue, and culture. In book 4, he winds up the action and spins it nonstop, and he includes an American angle with CIA interests.

Thanks for reading! - John