



# RORY MICHAELSON

THEY/THEM

Author of LGBTQ+ Fiction

Rory Michaelson is always doing too many things, and rarely the ones that they ought to be. Born and raised in the UK, Rory is non-binary, queer, and autistic, and loves writing stories featuring LGBTQ+ and neurodivergent characters on exciting adventures. If you ever happen to need anything, they are easily bribed with cookies.

## Genres and Keywords:

LGBTQ+, fantasy, urban fantasy, adventure, found family, horror, romance, comedy

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Represented by: [Moe Ferrara](#), Triada US

OVER

**15k**

FOLLOWERS

MORE THAN

**10K**

COPIES SOLD

AVERAGES

**4.4 stars**

2K+ RATINGS

ALMOST

**1.5 MILLION**

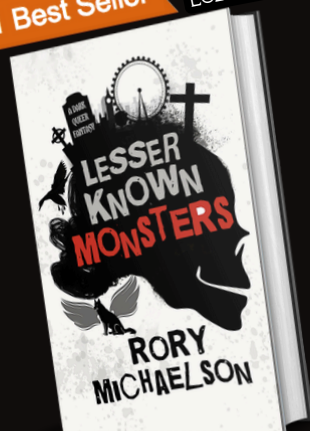
KU PAGES READ

## PRAISE FOR THE LESSER KNOWN MONSTERS SERIES

Amazon.com

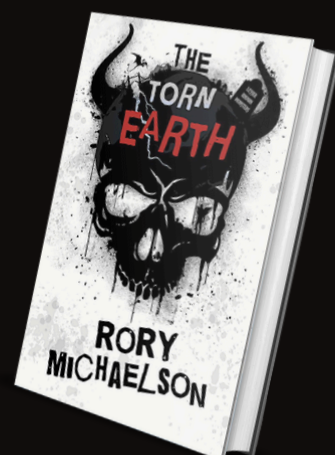
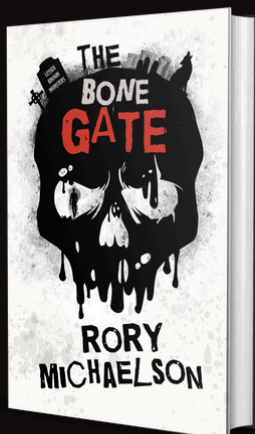
#1 Best Seller

LGBTQ+ Fantasy  
LGBTQ+ Action & Adventure  
LGBTQ+ Horror



"Sparkling, innovative, and most importantly, fun. Everything you could want in a vast, twisty feat of characters and dark fantasy."

Adam Sass, award-winning author of  
*Surrender Your Sons*

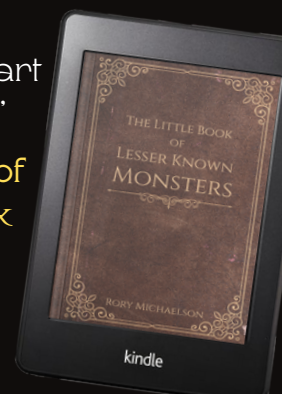


"Dreamy prose, fully realised characters I couldn't help but fall in love with, and a storyline that is both thrilling and tender."

Jonny Garza Villa, author of  
*Fifteen Hundred Miles from the Sun*

"Good twists, good monsters, and all the heart of a true found family."

David Slayton, author of  
*White Trash Warlock*



# THE LESSER KNOWN MONSTERS

SERIES

BY RORY MICHAELSON

## GENRE & ABOUT THE BOOK

A dark queer fantasy and found family adventure set in London.

## REPRESENTATION AND DIVERSITY

Includes identities shared by the author: Queer (gay/pan/bi), ADHD, mental health (anxiety and depression), non-binary/agender. Additional representation: trans man, lesbian, and BIPOC characters.

## SYNOPSIS

Being the chosen one isn't always a good thing.

Oscar Tundale is not a hero. Anxious, indecisive, and awkward, he can barely get through a normal day. Now he's about to find out monsters are real. Oscar's friends: brave, stubborn Zara, and hyperactive, paranoid Marcus, might help discover what hunts him, and unravel the truth about the handsome doctor he pines for. But only heroes can save the world, so maybe the best Oscar can hope for is to not end it by accident.

## FORMATS & AVAILABILITY

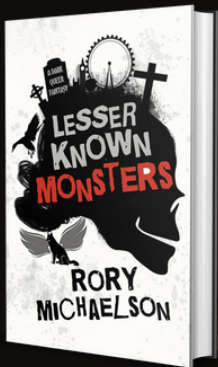
Available in ebook, paperback, and hardcover worldwide everywhere books are sold. Distributor copies available direct from author and publisher at **40% trade discount** [here](#). Book crates with merch available [here](#).

## MENTIONS

Books in the Lesser Known Monsters series have been mentioned in lists from [Lambda Literary](#), [BookRiot](#), [Goodreads](#), and [bookshop.org](#)



## BOOK ONE



### Paperback

Price: £8.99/\$10.99/€10.99

Pages: 304

ISBN: 978-1-8381660-1-4

### Hardcover

Price: £18.99/\$21.99/€21.99

Pages: 300

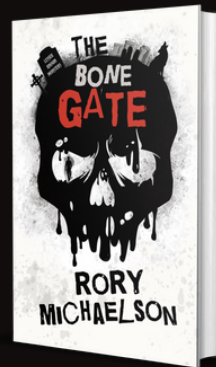
ISBN: 978-1-8381660-2-1

### Ebook

Price: £3.99/\$4.99/€4.99

ISBN: 978-1-8381660-0-7

## BOOK TWO



### Paperback

Price: £8.99/\$10.99/€10.99

Pages: 334

ISBN: 978-1-8381660-6-9

### Hardcover

Price: £18.99/\$21.99/€21.99

Pages: 330

ISBN: 978-1-8381660-7-6

### Ebook

Price: £3.99/\$4.99/€4.99

ISBN: 978-1-8381660-5-2

## SHORT STORY COLLECTION

RECOMMENDED TO BE READ ANY TIME BEFORE BOOK THREE



### Hardcover

Price: £13.00/\$13.00/€13.00

Pages: 122

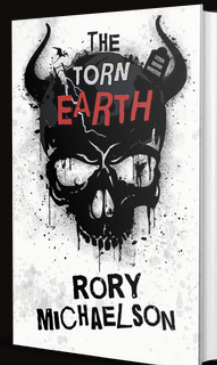
ISBN: 978-1-8381660-8-3

### Ebook

Price: £1.99/\$2.99/€2.99

ISBN: 978-1-8381660-4-5

## BOOK THREE



### Paperback

Price: £14.99/\$16.99/€16.99

Pages: 504

ISBN: 978-1-7397775-0-0

### Hardcover

Price: £21.99/\$24.99/€24.99

Pages: 504

ISBN: 978-1-7397775-1-7

### Ebook

Price: £4.99/\$5.99/€5.99

ISBN: 978-1-8381660-9-0



## EXCITARE

It is the eleventh of October, at four twenty-three in the morning. The weather in **London** is overcast with a temperature of nine degrees Celsius (forty-eight point two degrees Fahrenheit if you're into that sort of thing.) There has been mild precipitation; this is **England**, after all.

Oh, and **the world is ending.**

The world is ending, and it is due to the choices of a young man named **Oscar Tundale**. He is entirely average in many ways and less than average in more. This is the story of why the world is ending.

And how Oscar let it happen.

RORY MICHAELSON

"And Oscar?"

"Yes?"

"Pay the bloody electricity bill."

"I will." The words were still leaving his mouth when the line disconnected with a blip in his ear. Oscar sighed, pushing his phone into his pocket, and looked up at the night sky.

So far as the London autumn sky was willing to disclose, it could have been seven at night or in the morning. As far as Oscar's bones and brain were willing to share, it was definitely around four o'clock in the morning. That was the point when the night shift always started to drag into monotonous delirium.

He took a moment, burying cold fingers into the hungry pockets of his threadbare pea coat. His old jacket had seen better days, but Oscar had a habit of wearing things until they fell apart. Besides, this jacket was perfect year-round if he added or subtracted layers underneath. What more could he ask for?

His breath misted the night.

Paige had been gone for three months. Finally living the life she'd always dreamed of. He was happy for her, she'd worked hard, and when the offer for an internship at a big magazine in New York came through, her bags were half-packed before she even put the phone down. It meant Oscar had the apartment they shared all to himself. It was a little lonely sometimes, but he did have much more time to spend with Zara and Marcus, and he definitely spent a lot less time being scolded.

His phone buzzed in his pocket, and he inched it out carefully, just enough to peer at the screen but still protect his now warming fingers from the night's nipping chill.

Come back in Booboo. We got a new patient.

— ZARA

THE BLANKET MONSTER

"Oh, Oscar," Paige groaned. "You're about as much use as tits on a teapot."

*A bodgebog in a condom factory.*

*A fart in a colander.*

*A cock flavoured lollipop.*

If Oscar had learned one thing from Paige, it was how many interesting but not very useful things he was the human equivalent of. Though the last one didn't sound bad at all in his opinion.

"I'm sorry," Oscar rubbed at his eyes with his free hand. "I'll do it when I get back. Promise."

His sister sighed, her breath rasping in the earpiece of his phone. "Make sure you do. If they cut the electricity off, I'm not there to warm a bath up for you with the fucking kettle again."

"Sorry, Paige."

"Don't be sorry. You're always sorry! Just sort it out this time," she snapped. The hum of voices in the background was making it difficult to hear her now; he heard someone call her name. "Listen, Oscar, I've got to go. Some shit's kicking off. I'll call you later. We need to talk about something."

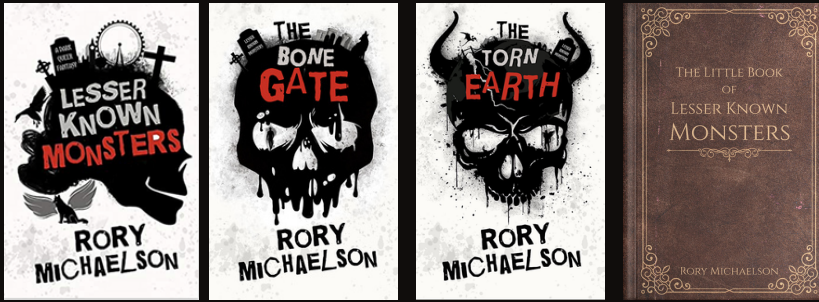
"Okay."

TAXONOMY OF MONSTERS: THE  
SOOTERKIN  
(UMBRA INFANS)

*"There are places and times that the veil grows thin; this is when its influence is most apparent. The Sooterkin is spawned after a short gestative period from humans who have come into close contact with the breach, indiscriminate of sex. Sooterkins often mimic their influencing sire's characteristics, and typically flee and rapidly perish on this barely habitable planet."*

— EXCERPT: THE REVENANT'S ARCANUM

## BOOK COVERS



[Lesser Known Monsters high res](#)

[Lesser Known Monsters low res](#)

[The Bone Gate high res](#)

[The Bone Gate low res](#)

[The Torn Earth high res](#)

[The Torn Earth low res](#)

[The Little Book high res](#)

[The Little Book low res](#)

[Series with background](#)

[Series with no background](#)

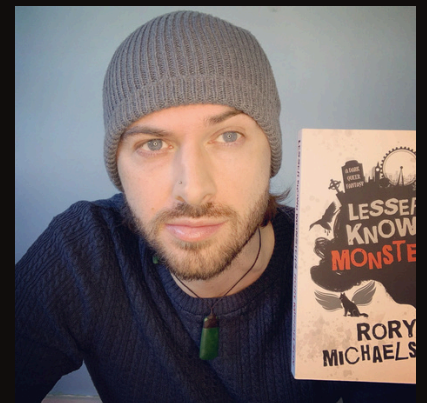


Image courtesy of Johnee Pixels

## AUTHOR PHOTOGRAPHS



[Author Portrait](#)



[Author 2 high res](#)

[Author 2 low res](#)

[Author 2 high res no background](#)

[Author 2 low res no background](#)

[Book Crate high res](#)

[Book Crate low res](#)

For Any Additional Photographs,  
Please Contact Rory Michaelson



## ENGAGEMENTS & BOOKINGS

Rory is available for events and speaking engagements both in person and remotely. Please note that some reasonable accommodations may be required. For more information, contact Rory directly [here](#).

### SUGGESTED AREAS OF DISCUSSION...

Queer representation in books, queer trauma and joy, writing gender diverse characters, neurodivergence and the creative process, allyship and writing identities that are not your own, queer fiction, world building, magic systems, writing process, self-publishing process, social media engagement, personal branding, self marketing.

### SAMPLE Q&A

**Q:** You describe your main character, Oscar, as 'not a hero'. What made you want to write a main character that was 'average'?

I wanted to make Oscar profoundly human. That way, when I drop him into a world of terrible and powerful monsters, it gives me an opportunity to explore how it changes him. Having a main character who's vulnerable, anxious, cowardly, and indecisive really let me give him room to grow. It was also interesting to see how his presence impacted and changed ancient and powerful monsters, and maybe got them to show some vulnerability, too. Lesser Known Monsters is about Oscar's growth as a person as much as it is things that go bump in the night, and I hope that kind of humanity grounds the journey and helps people invest and relate to the story.

**Q:** What made you decide to self-publish the Lesser Known Monsters series rather than seek a more traditional route?

A: I'm a practical learner, and because this was the beginning of my writing and publishing journey, I wanted to take a hands on approach in all the creative decisions. I wanted involvement in the cover, the illustrations, and everything else, so that I could make sure I understood everything that not only went into writing a book, but creating the finished product. I was incredibly lucky to work with amazing editors, proof-readers, and artists throughout, and have learned even more than I ever thought I would. It's been one of the most incredible experiences of my life. I would love to traditionally publish in the future, especially now that I have a better understanding of how everything works!

**Q:** You describe your writing almost as a kind of therapy. This is a common thread for many authors I've interviewed. What kind of advice would you give to someone who's struggling that may want to try writing as a way to process their emotions?

A: Writing is nourishing in a way I don't get access to anywhere else in my life. Creating something from nothing is incredibly rewarding. There's also the fact you often share your trauma with your characters, then the narrative tends to be you guiding them (and yourself) through to resolution. You might pull threads that unravel things that are difficult to handle, so it's important to have support systems in place, but it can be a highly cathartic and liberating process. But remember that it's important to keep some things for yourself if you need to.