



Epitaph

Andrea Speed

[Download now](#)

[Read Online](#) ➔

Epitaph

Andrea Speed

Epitaph Andrea Speed

In a world where a werecat virus has changed society, Roan McKichan, a born infected and ex-cop, works as a private detective solving crimes involving other infecteds.

Tiger strain infections start showing up all over Seattle, much to Roan's dismay, and worse yet, they may have a personal connection. Meanwhile, Roan gets hired to look into the puzzling death of Dee's former lover. Then the FBI wants him to investigate a new apocalypse cult of infecteds pushing for a violent revolution against normals. All around Roan, events are spiraling out of control. Just when his singular abilities are needed most, Roan develops new symptoms that might signify dire consequences if he doesn't stop shifting at will. Roan finds himself at a crossroads and must make a difficult decision about his future.

Epitaph Details

Date : Published November 18th 2014 by DSP Publications

ISBN : 9781627988629

Author : Andrea Speed

Format : ebook 330 pages

Genre : Romance, M M Romance, Fantasy, Paranormal, Shapeshifters, Urban Fantasy, Mystery

 [Download Epitaph ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Epitaph ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online Epitaph Andrea Speed

From Reader Review Epitaph for online ebook

Christy says

I'll admit to a lot of nervous trepidation before reading 'Epitaph', the eighth, and final, book in Andrea Speed's 'Infected' series. If this is, truly, the final book featuring Roan, then there are several options for how the author plans on ending this amazing series revolving around a born infected. Needless to say, one of the possible options that occurred to me isn't where I want this to go. Hence my nervousness.

As always, Roan and Holden are involved in more than one private investigation at a time. Roan's ex asks him to look into a suicide. The police warn Roan about a tiger strain in town, apparently infecting young adults. And a woman hires Roan to find her sixteen-year-old daughter who ran away from home to meet a man at the Church of Divine Transformation. Better known as the bane of Roan's life. With Holden as his trusty sidekick, they get started doing what they do best. Pissing people off.

As is modus operandi for this series, the author doesn't leave these investigations so black and white as to be too obvious, but she also doesn't make them so convoluted as to be tiring. Combine Roan and Holden racing around Seattle investigating, with Roan's increasingly unstable lion virus, and there's a recipe for potential disaster. Roan is having a harder and harder time making the lion go back inside once it comes out, even with just partial changes. He continues to have brain tumors, which takes an additional toll on his health, and the constant risk of another aneurysm isn't helping. And frankly, if he doesn't stop, he'll probably end up dead.

You'd think with all of this craziness going on, that Roan's life couldn't get any worse. Well, you'd be wrong. Agent Flores from the FBI, remember her? She wants Roan to be the Feds' consultant on all cat based cases. Keep wishing, honey. It figures that the first thing she wants him to do is infiltrate some apocalypse cult by the name of Omega, down in Oregon. Seems Omega's leader believes that the more normals they kill, will allow Infecteds to rise up, breed, and produce the perfect combination of cat virus and human. A child that isn't physically or mentally damaged, as all the others born so far have been. Good thing they don't already know that Roan is that perfect combination.

If you've read any of my reviews for previous books in this series, then you know that I've struggled a little in terms of Dylan. Well, not anymore. *"The hell with Buddhism. The next person who tried to kill Roan, Dylan was going to rip their dick off and shove it down their throat before they died. Nobody fucked with his husband or with him, not anymore."* This was what I was waiting for. I wanted Dylan to stand up and make his presence known, to not come across as such a milquetoast. Looks like my wish was granted.

I shouldn't have been nervous about reading this final book. The author did a remarkable job tying up the ends and leaving Roan and Dylan, plus their friends, exactly where they needed to be. I've heard that this is the final book, but I'm kind of hoping the author will check back in with them from time to time, and let me know how they're doing. 'Infected' is one of my favorite series and definitely one I'll reread over and over again. Thank you, Andrea, for 'Epitaph' - it's remarkable.

NOTE: This book was provided by the author for the purpose of a review on Rainbow Book Reviews.

Otila says

Honestly, this was not the ending to this series that I was expecting. There were issues that were mentioned in previous books that I was sure were leading up to certain outcomes that were never even addressed in this book. Not only were questions left unanswered but new issues were brought up in this book that also didn't have satisfying conclusions.

Yet, I still really liked this book. I understand that not everything can be wrapped up in a neat package. Roan is completely different from every other infected and there was no way that we, or he, could have answers to everything. I'm also used to the fact that Speed has the tendency to start storylines and then completely forget about them or bring them to abrupt and unsatisfying conclusions. So even though I wasn't completely happy with how it ended, it didn't take away from my enjoyment of the book.

What Speed excels at is creating a very interesting world and fascinating characters. I liked the world building and this different take on shifters. I especially loved Roan and everyone that made up his unusual makeshift family. From the loving husband(s) that kept Roan sane and grounded to the vigilante ex-hooker assistant to the crazy hockey guys, they all made this series one that I was happy to keep coming back to.

Another big part of my enjoyment of this series was being able to share the experience with my BR buddies. Thank you ladies, (Sofia, Rosa, R, Sheri, Desinka and Meep) for making reading and discussing these books so much fun.

Sofia says

Last of the series which despite its faults kept me reading because of:

Great characters, not just Roan but ALL the others. Speed has built characters bit by bit and made them real. My admiration for Speed's original vision about the Infected and how this plays out in various scenarios. Great wit, snark, social commentary, insights into us.

My memories of this series will forever be coloured by my buddy reading experience. Having read all of these with my Infected buddies, I cannot really separate the books from our comments, our gifs, our hand holding, teasing etc.

Something about this book in particular:

The last is always a tough one, to write, to read, to judge. I like that Speed found a way for Roan. I don't like the unanswered questions and loose ends. But all in all this was as per the norm in this series I liked reading it.

R * A Reader Obsessed * says

4.5 Stars

If you have not started this series or are waffling about finishing it, don't. It has everything you could want in a great story - action, love, devastation, redemption. Oh no doubt you'll have palpitations, you'll most likely cry, you'll definitely be angry and outraged and horrified. But as I've said before, this is also one of the smartest series I've ever read too. Rich story telling, grand love, gruesome violence, genius humor, and that ever so present harsh reality that never, *ever* pulled its punches.

Speed is amazing at such great snark, with insightful peeks into human nature and the psyches of all her characters - each having many layers for you to discover. Is it perfect? No. But this was so fucking full of cynical sarcasm and wit - the truth hurts but man does Speed make you think on it and see it in a new light.

So in reference to the title - this does commemorate the life and times of Roan. He's done what he can, he's reconciled quite a few issues, and he's definitely left his mark on all those having the honor, or misfortune, to come in contact with him. I admit I'm a bit lost, waffling between sadness and relief at this bittersweet ending. I only hope to come across this amazing character in future works, and of course see him being the ~~happiest~~ typical asshole, ex-batman, bastard that he is.

Thank you Otila, Rosa, Sheri and Sofia for this final round! Drinks on me!

Ami says

4.5 stars!!

First of all, this book is not a stand-alone. Coming in as book #8 in Andrea Speed's "*Infected*" urban fantasy series, you need to start from book #1 to keep up with what has been going on with Roan, Holden, Dylan, and the gang. Because of that this review will be spoiler-y (to the previous books) in nature, so I apologize in advance. Better back away if you don't want to be spoiled.

As in the previous books, *Epitaph* consists of two parts. Part 1 is entitled "*Epitaph*" – in here Roan is handling three cases (sort of) at the same time. His ex-lover, Dee, is requesting Roan take a further look into the death of one of Dee's hook-ups (the man committed suicide, but Dee wants to know the reason). Then a mother asks Roan to take a look into her missing daughter, who runs away with a 'perverted infected'. Last, there are tiger-infecteds on the loose (from Paris's blood) which makes Roan so angry.

Part 2 is entitled "*Revolution*" in which Roan is asked by a teenager to look for her missing sister, requested by the FBI to investigate Omega – a new apocalypse cult, while at the same time dealing with further progress of his downward-spiraling health. The verdict from Dr. Rosenberg is that Roan needs to stop shifting so much in order to control his lion from taking over his human part.

Okay, now, review ... gosh, how can I sum up my feelings?? This book has been said to be the final one of this series. There IS a Holden spin-off in the horizon ... and Andrea won't confirmed whether Roan may or

may not have a cameo there (that woman is such a tease!). So for me, I may or may not see Roan again, but this is still an end of an arc.

It has been a long and winded road for me as a reader – and Roan as character – to reach the end. We had the ups and downs, the joy and the heartbreak, losing loved one, but then gaining another one to love as well as dedicated-loyal-weirdo friends along the way (Roan was probably the only anti-hero I know that had his own hockey team as groupies *lol*). Some story-lines might not have been perfect, there were times that I felt the mysteries became over-shadowed by Roan's health issues. Then Roan's health problems and Holden's penchant for nudging Roan to become the superhero might be repetitive in some books. But overall, this series has been solid from the start and it always felt like coming home to great casts whenever I read a new "Infected" story.

And this last book is just near perfect!

I thought the second part – "Revolution" – was stronger than part 1 (I still gave part 1 a solid 4* but I loved the second part better – thus the near perfect rating). Andrea masterfully foreshadowed what would be the answer to Roan's health issues and what would happen to Roan and Dylan at the end of the book. To me, the way that Andrea ended this book was satisfying because it gave closure to Roan's adventure, but at the same time opened a big door for Holden, his vigilante cause, his denial over his "relationship" with Scott, and well, Holden's own spin-off story.

So in the end, until a new adventure is written, I can only raise my glass and toast Andrea Speed and her "Infected" gang. Here's to you, Roan McKichan ... thanks for the adventure, you awesome bastard! I sure as hell am going to miss you a lot.

PS: This edition offers a glimpse of the prequel coming in February 2015, about Paris (Roan's first tiger husband). But I refused to read it because I wanted to savor that prequel in all its glory without 'tasting the sample' first.

Tamika♥RBF MOOD♥ says

You guys, I've made it to the end! I'm not celebrating because its over. I'm celebrating because I DID NOT CRY. Not once. I expected heart wrenching tears while reading this. I expected to be in pain by the end of this series. I was okay. It might have been because I waited 9 months between book 7 and this to read it. I couldn't take the pain that I was feeling while reading this. I don't know if I'm okay with everything overall. No scratch that, I'm okay with it. I just would have liked to see the ending spread out over 50 more pages. Its

just me wanting more Roan.

I really liked the mysteries in both parts of the book. I think everything came full circle with Roan. It has been an emotional journey with these characters. It bothered me when I started reading it that it was no physical sex on page. After book 2 trust me, you won't even need it. I've had a range of emotions and I can say Roan is one of my most favorite characters ever. He is flawed, loyal, funny, smart, and heart breakingly sacrificial. That last one might not my a pro for more, but for me it is. He's real in every sense of the word. At best he's amazing with the skill set and life he is given, at worst he is an idiot. That's the easiest way for me to put it. I hated those moments of the pain for everyone around him. Everyone around him suffers and is in pain because of his pain. It takes him a long time to realize that people love and care for him. I mean only Roan can find a bunch of misfits and they move the earth for him.

I guess feeling melancholy is normal after reading this. I don't know quite how to review this. So many thoughts and feelings are swirling in my head. I can say, Dylan has definitely grown on me. I was one of those fans who didn't want him in the picture. Not because he wasn't a good person, but because Paris left such a huge impact on my heart. For the short time he was here, he was amazing in the very short time that I've read about him. Its not me not wanting Roan to be happy, but the departure of such a character stings for quite a while. Dylan doesn't compare. Its not something I want to do, but Dylan paves the way for himself. He creates his own lane, he requires his own respect and is flayed open just as much as the rest of us when it comes to Roan.

Its so nice to see a lot of people show up in the final book. I'm happy with Roan's peace. I can say that without reservations. I'd like to point out that I wanted to see Kevin. Yes, his minor role was missed to me. Hopefully I'll see him in spin offs or such. I don't know about Holden. We all know his issues. I'm trying to figure out if I can read a series featuring Holden without Roan. I feel like with all his cynicism, I'd be able to. This series should be read in order, and favored. One of the best urban fantasy series ever!

Paul says

WOW, just read them, like OK ;-)

5 STARS FOR THE ENTIRE SERIES

Sheri says

blink

Is it over?

sniff

I can't believe it's over.

Well...it's been one hell of a ride. An unforgettable series that I will hold close to my heart. Characters that I will cherish forevermore.

Speed finished with strong, emotional, and of course, action-packed finale.

Gotta love Roan and his snarky stubborn sexy ass. Bless Dylan for accomplishing the impossible and surviving. Holden...Ha! I finally see the light. Yep, it took me long enough...but he won me over. I needed to see him crack and Scott found the secret weapon to do exactly that. I couldn't get enough of the hockey boys. Every single one of them brighten the pages. Dr. Rosenberg is the ultimate fearless doctor, I don't think there is a soul brave enough to try and fill her shoes. Dee deserves a bit of sunshine, I hope he gets some in any future tidbits we may be lucky enough to get. I wish Matt's candle still flickered, I miss him. **sniffs again** I'm going to miss ALL of them.

Tears.

Pain.

Love.

Hero.

Love you Ro.

***extra hugs to my girls for tugging me along, helping me through that devastating speed bump that almost threw me off the track for good. I wasn't sure I was going to recover from the debilitating loss early on. Couldn't have made it without you (or at least it would have taken me a decade!) You girls are da best! *muah**

Linda ~ chock full of hoot, just a little bit of nanny ~ says

[He gets to live. And just move up to Canada and buy property up there without having to worry about immigration laws. What? (hide spoiler)]

Jules Lovestoread says

This series, you guys.... Gahhhhh. So good. <3 <3 <3 Andrea killed this ending. So much perfection.

Natalia says

Amazing series!! Wouldn't mind reading another 5 books or so :)

Kaje Harper says

This book takes our favorite lion and private investigator (and sometime vigilante) Roan to the end of his series. Thankfully, it's an end I appreciated and enjoyed, that successfully wraps up a series that is high on my best-paranormals list. Not all the ends are neatly wrapped (and in fact there is hope for both prequel and spin-off books) but things are settled enough to imagine Roan's life moving on from here... for a week or two, at least, until he gets bored and leaps into new trouble. But it's as credible a HEA as this guy is going to get.

Once again, there are two mystery arcs to the story, accompanied by the development of Roan's personal life and that of his motley collection of friends. The side characters are part of the charm of this series. I enjoy the hockey guys a lot, and Holden is excellent (although I worry about how deep he's going into the dark of vengeance and violence. I'd read more of his story, but he's pushing my limits for vigilante violence.) Dylan appears to have grown into his role as Roan's husband and found both new strength and new serenity here.

As much as I adore the series, and enjoy being in Roan's POV, this one felt a bit repetitive and under-edited. There were numerous times when the same phrases recurred, sometimes within the same paragraph. Roan's musing inner voice, with its delightfully black and ironic humor, wandered off at times to make a quip that wasn't novel enough to be worth the digression. So this didn't feel like the most polished entry in the series.

Still well worth the read for fans, and if you've been holding off reading this series for fear of what this (proven reader-torturer) of an author would do with it, wait no more. This is one of the more unusual M/M series out there, and definitely one of the most unique shifter scenarios. Mystery, sometimes-violent action, world-building and black comedy dominate over the romance. It begins slowly, particularly with the novella that makes up the first half of the first book. Then book two will rip your heart out. But by the end of the series you'll have cried, laughed, had a bunch of OMG-so-true moments, ground your teeth, stayed up too late, and fallen in love with a truly unique MC in Roan McKichan.

Thanks, Andrea Speed, for a great ride.

Em says

Firstly, this has to be the hottest cover ever right! It's currently my screensaver and up close it's even better! I put off reading this book for a few months, I was worried about the ending and how everything would work out. It turned out there was nothing to be concerned about, the ending was fantastic, so complete!

I'll never forget this series and I'll remember Roan, Paris, Holden and Dylan forever. I'm not sure yet if my heart can take *Infected: Paris* now or ever really, though I know I should try.

Laura says

Dear Ms. Speed,

It has been one hell of a reading ride. Thank you for the love, tears, and full cast of characters to keep close

to my heart.

I have so many reading memories connected to this series and world. Roan, Paris, Holden, Dylan, and the whole hockey gang and family! I miss them all already. I miss their humor and banter and power on the page. My favorite lines and moments always seemed to involve Holden though. He can pair up and jab with anyone! But my heart and focus were with Roan in this book--his journey and fight.

The mysteries and action are all mixed in here. But the main battle for me was within Roan. A battle of heart and mind and wills. Will the lion finally take over? I don't think so. Roan's heart is too strong. The size of his heart still stuns me sometimes. Roan McKichan is the sweetest, grumpiest bastard in the business. :)

It was a pleasure to see Roan change, break, heal and love from way back in book one until now. From frustration to laughter to huge ugly crying fits, we shared it all.

Thank you for the memories.

Just one of my favorite parts:

Could be spoiler-ish, so I'm throwing up the spoiler wall just in case.

(view spoiler)

I've said it again and again, but I'll say it one more time....Go meet Roan and the gang!

Barb ~rede-2-read~ says

Note: This book was provided to me by the publisher through Hearts on Fire Reviews in exchange for an impartial review.

**** Caution: Contains Spoilers****

Epitaph is a fitting finale for a long-lived and much-loved series in which principal MC, Roan, drastically changes both physically and emotionally over the course of the series. For years, we've watched him virtually self-destruct as the virus within him mutates and his lion grows stronger. There have been times when it seemed that the lion was going to win the battle of dominance and completely take over Roan's personality. And there have been times more recently when the lion and the man have battled for dominance to the point where the lion can come out in whole, or in part, depending on the situation. Being in on Roan's thoughts during many of these scenes shows us that it's often a supreme effort of human will that allows Roan to overcome the lion.

In this installment, we also get to learn more of Holden's past, his inner thoughts, and his inability to form

and hold lasting relationships. Scott, his hockey-player boyfriend, is a good case in point. It seems the closer they get and the closer Holden wants to get, the more Holden also wants to run away. He pushes and picks and argues until Scott isn't sure if he's coming or going. But Scott, and the other hockey players who have played a prominent role in Roan's life, are hanging in and staying strong for Roan and are proving to be true friends. Roan, who's referred to affectionately as Cat Man by the guys and Batman by his enemies, is very fortunate to have such a hodge-podge collection of friends in his life. From Holden, the former prostitute who harbors a vigilante personality, to Scott, Tank, and Grey, the hockey players, to Fionna, his former secretary and Tank's girlfriend, Roan is blessed with support.

Dr. Rosenberg, who has been there for him since he was young, comes up with an interesting theory which Roan eventually accepts and decides to work toward. Her thinking is that if Roan, who can't seem to stop being a hero to anyone in need, can limit his exposure to those situations, he may be able to contain the cat, thereby allowing his viral cycle to readjust and allowing him to lead a fairly restful, peaceful life. It would mean full retirement and probably moving away, however.

Can it work? It's hard to say since Roan can't seem to stop saving people long enough to sit and talk with his husband Dylan about it. But after a few more disastrous transformations resulting in yet another aneurysm, Roan decides to take Dr Rosenberg's advice. Nothing runs smoothly however, and when Holden is in trouble, Roan goes to the rescue, leading to yet another incident in a long line of crazy situations for the lion-hearted Roan.

I appreciate that the author tied up loose ends before the final pages of this saga, however, there were a few inconsistencies which bugged me. The primary inconsistency is Roan's lack of hesitation in moving away from the home he shared with Paris. Based on previous stories and his private thoughts and actions related to Paris, I would not have thought he'd want to leave. The second inconsistency is in his relationship with Dylan, especially at the end of this story. We knew from previous books that he loved Dylan, however, he always said he didn't have the depth of love and devotion with Dylan that he had with Paris. But in this story, that seems to have been forgotten, as he wholeheartedly embraces his love and commitment for Dylan.

Because of these inconsistencies, I thought that tying up the loose ends of this series was almost too neat and tidy— too simple for a complex person like Roan. On the flip side, it's nice to have been given hope that this much-abused viral child may actually be able to find some peace with his husband. Having been along for the ride from the beginning, this reviewer can appreciate giving him that chance.
