Here's my hot take on Ranked-Choice Voting yes end rcv: I'm in the end-it camp, and I've brought receipts. Not rage. Receipts. Let me take you through what bugs me, one annoyance at a time.




Cleverness gone overboard Voting used to be easy. You picked a person. You went home. Now we've got round-by-round tallies that look like a tournament bracket drawn by an accountant. If I can't tell my grandmother over tea how her ballot got counted, something's wrong. Trust in elections rides on simplicity, and simple has been sneaking out the back door. Ballots that disappear This is the bit that really gets under my skin. In a ranked contest, a ballot can run out of live choices and get set aside in later rounds. Researchers call it an exhausted ballot. I call it a vote that left the building before the final lap. Think of a relay race where half the runners quietly sit down before the last leg. The finish line still gets crossed, but the crowd that started isn't the crowd that

finishes. The winner gets crowned with fifty percent of what's left, sure, but not fifty percent of what was cast. That's a quiet bit of arithmetic magic, and I don't love magic near the ballot box. Odd outcomes happen Occasionally the winner isn't the person who led after round one. Sometimes a candidate who'd beat everybody head to head gets knocked out early. Math nerds bicker about it forever. Regular people just see a result that feels off, and a feeling like that sticks like gum on a shoe. In plain terms, the person most voters would pick in a straight duel can lose, and that's hard to shrug off. Waiting costs something too Count night used to end at bedtime. Now results can trickle in over days. Rumors fill silence faster than facts, and anyone who's watched a group chat during a delay knows it. Toss in the cost of retraining poll workers, reprinting ballots, and explaining it all on glossy mailers, and the bill creeps up like a bad plumber's invoice. Credit to the fans I'll hand the fans their due. Spoiler candidates are a real headache, and plenty of voters about say they enjoy ranking. Some cities report calmer campaigns. If the old system had worked for everybody, nobody would've gone looking for a new one. My answer: fix primaries and runoff rules instead, keep the ballot a one-mark affair, and let people sleep on election night knowing who won. Is that perfect? No. But I can explain it to my grandmother in one sentence, and that counts for plenty.