



## Author James Weems Newsletter

*romantic comedies that will make you laugh, cry, and fall in love.*

JAMES WEEMS AUTHOR

### Newsletter #2—June 27, 2023

Hello again, my friend! We're almost through Pride Month 2023, and well into summer in the northern hemisphere—and here's my second "regular" newsletter to you! Over these past few weeks, I've been kept very busy with Ravynn, Benji, Sean, Clay, Todd, and Wil. Greg and DC have done their best to help keep the guys in line, but you know how young guys in their early twenties can be like!

The book is getting ever closer to the magical "complete first draft" stage. I'm still not sure when that will be, but I'm still hoping that it will happen this calendar year. Several of the pivotal scenes towards the end of the book have already been sketched out a bit, so it's just getting the book to those scenes and fleshing them out. Assuming the guys continue to cooperate with me, I don't see any problems in that regard!

I hope you're staying safe and healthy with all the bad air from the wildfires and hot weather. I'm so busy writing that I spend "most" of my waking hours typing at the keyboard or daydreaming the scenes to come. (Trust me, there are some pretty interesting scenes, in terms of spice, humor, and everything else coming up!) I just have to keep verifying my memories about things. At one point I had the guys "jamming" to a song that wouldn't be recorded or released by the Beatles for another year and a half after the date in the novel. Y'all would have busted my chops on that one, I know! But I caught it, and fixed it.....

That little insight is meant to show you that this novel is a blend of history and fiction; the settings are historical, for the most part. The events reported (other than the group's tour and records) are almost totally historically accurate. I lived through the time period, so it's kind of like a massive flashback for me.

Here are a few QUICK Questions for you, given that next month is Ice Cream Month: What's your favorite Ice Cream flavor? And what do you do with Ice Cream (you can totally use your imagination on this, if you want, or be honest!)? I'll share the responses next month!

Also next month, July 15 is "National Give Something Away Day." On my website that day, I just might have a little something for you! ("Just might" is code for "will" in case you were wondering.) Check the "Free Things" page that day....

If you subscribe to any other writer's newsletters, you've no doubt gotten recommendations and sales notices from those other authors. You've already noticed that there aren't any in my newsletters so far. Yeah, I used the dreaded "so far" phrase. Since I'm not selling a book yet, other authors are less interested in my newsletter or me, so for now it's just us. Once Phoenix Rising makes its way into the world, there will be other authors taking notice (I hope), so there will be some promotions from my newsletter to theirs and vice versa. I'm just giving you a heads up now so you don't freak out when it happens!

The Editor-in-Chief has inspected the newsletter to this point, and approves of it – but she thinks there's something lacking....



She's right, eh, baby Phoenix?



True dat, Rave. She's lookin' a mite skittish, too. Prob'ly the long tail in a room full of rockers.

And by rockers you don't mean musicians, I know!

Shay, you silly. Course not musicians, I mean chairs. Most musicians wouldn't think of hurtin' a cat.

Do you ever miss New Orleans and everything there, B?

Only 'bout twenty four thousand times a day, shay. Like your song says, I feel it calling me all the time. Would you like going back there?

With the Cafe du Monde coffee and beignets, and all the places to eat such great food, plus all the mystery and history, I think it would be great!

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The preceding was NOT brought to you by the official New Orleans Tourism Board... but rather by Phoenix Rising's Benji Travers and Ravynn St. John. If you enjoyed the banter you just sampled (which is NOT part of the prequel or novel as it presently stands), you'll enjoy the interplay between all six group members, plus Greg and DC. They're kind of like "The Partridge Family" without the really young

kids or the weird bus or the strange white-haired hanger-on (Ruben Kincaid – was he a manager? A friend of Shirley’s? Or what???), and all-male (except DC, who’s such a butch lesbian she may be more male than the guys, no insults intended to anyone!).

So, quoting the Beatles’ “Sgt. Pepper’s” reprise, “We’re getting very near the end” of Pride Month. Our next regularly-scheduled newsletter will be dropping into your inbox on July 18, so enjoy the rest of Pride Month, have a safe and happy Independence Day celebration, and I’ll be back around with more words of wisdom (or wit or whatever) then.