



Author James Weems Newsletter

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

JAMES WEEMS AUTHOR

Newsletter #005—August 29, 2023

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49.5

The “BIG” news is that the first draft is now about 49.5% finished! YAY!! (Cue the sparklers, champagne, etc., etc., etc.) Yep. We “put to bed” the scenes leading up to just before the halfway point. So August has been a good month so far.

The novel is sitting right at about 49.5% done on the first draft. I’m estimating because there are a few small tweaks to be made on the material, but my coach and I have gotten the book—in its first-draft status—to the half-way point. I am both happy and sad to report that Ravynn and Benji have made it halfway through the first tour, but “they ain’t seen nothin’ yet.” I’m very happy with the progress the book is making, and I’m convinced that what’s yet to come will produce a novel you’ll really be happy to read.

August is ending—here in Georgia it’s going out like a fire sale, and I mean that quite literally. With apologies to the folks in Hawaii who

suffered through the trauma of the devastating fires, and the people of California and the so-called “desert states” who suffered through the “hurriquake”—a hurricane, followed by an earthquake, here in Georgia we’ve seen “normal” hot summer temperatures (80s and 90s) climb into the 90s and 100s. So, yeah, NOT normal. I’m writing this in the early afternoon, indoors, and I’m sweltering like I’m outside on a beach under atwo full suns. Yuck.

Meanwhile, in the Atlantic Ocean, which is getting warm enough to boils shrimp in, there are like three or four tropical depressions on track right now to get named as storms—by the end of the week, it could be even more. (Those of you who don’t pay close attention to that kind of stuff might not know this, but we’re just hitting “peak” hurricane season, and warmer ocean waters makes stronger storms more likely.) That’s science class for today!

On to better things.

As I write and revise the novel, I’m also writing a Christmas short—my first ever. I hope to finish it in time to offer it for this Christmas season! If you guessed that it features Ravynn and Benji and has something to do with New Orleans and the Louisiana Cajun country, you’re right. I’ll tell you more next newsletter—if I am able to keep the story going.

I keep getting ideas for other stories, as well. I got one a few days ago that came from nowhere—a woman, a total sex-pot, and I’m not at all sure what happens with her story. Right now, I’m focusing on the current novel—Phoenix Rising. That, plus getting the “back end” set up—stuff like how I will get it to you once it’s actually finished and all that. It may be that I’ll just set up an e-commerce “shop” on my website, so you can see everything “in one place.” [Yeah, that’s a little hint; I’m thinking about adding these newsletters as an archive to my website....]

I am also STILL also working on getting the “Character Bible” finished. I realized that I have quite an army of characters and most of them

need an image, so I'm doing images as often as I can. The problem comes after about the third image of a guy (or a girl), the AI art seems to just replicate the previous image. So it's no good (I don't have any twins in the story, or not yet, anyway!). I stop and try again later. One MORE reason to dislike AI for use in creative work—writing and art. I'm getting close to completing the "Character Bible"—and I'm using ACTUAL images of "real" people whenever possible. Hopefully, I'll finish the Christmas story AND the Character Bible soon.

Speaking of images and the Characters, are YOU "Team Benji" or "Team Ravynn"—or maybe "Team Clay," "Team Sean," "Team Wil," or "Team Todd"? I ask, because I am creating small "badges" (stickers) of the guys! Want one, or more? Email me at authorjamesweems@gmail.com with your choice (character name or ALL). I will try to make this easier in the future!

Remember, my web address is <https://jamesweems.com>. And don't miss my infrequent blog posts there! You can also check in on what Pride Celebrations are happening around the globe.... And who knows what ELSE may pop up there. (Eventually, a store, once I have a book or books to sell....)

The Editor-in-Chief is taking a "heat-stress" day off... so, no pictures today.

That about wraps things up for this edition—next edition is September 19. See you then, unless you decide you're tired of my silly chit-chat—in which case, just hit the Unsubscribe link, no hard feelings.