



Author James Weems Newsletter

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

JAMES WEEMS AUTHOR

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What a Taxing Week it's been!

Hello again, or welcome, if this is your first time stopping in (or being stopped in on, as it were...)—get comfortable, and let's have a chat!

So, yesterday was “T Day”—and I don't mean a Tea Dance, or Tea Cookies, or even a High Tea. (Unless you use CBD Gummies while preparing your returns, then all bets are off!) I could give you 1,040 reasons why *no one* in the entire United States enjoys April 15 [except maybe the head of the IRS]. If you've been snoozing for a few hundred years and just woke up, you might have missed the fact that yesterday was Tax Day. If that's not bad enough, old “bright-as-a-burned-out-penlight” here scheduled himself a doctor's followup appointment for today. Fun times.

If you're just joining my regular emails, you've missed a good bit—the anthology, *Rome: Centuries of Stories of the Eternal City*, including a story by yours truly, was released by Red Penguin Books just before Christmas 2023. It's available at Amazon, Barnes & Noble, Walmart.com, and Bookshop.org in paperback or ebook format. [Note that my contribution is *not* romantic comedy or fiction; it's my recollection of my visit to Rome in 1968, as truthful as possible.] You've hopefully read *Benji's Bayou Birthday Bash*, the prequel to the novel (still in progress and getting closer to a big announcement, I promise); if you'd like more of Benji and Ravynn and New Orleans, there's the short holiday story, *Christmas Bonfires*, available free in a regular ebook format or in a special edition with extra illustrations

inside the ebook. The novel, *Phoenix Rising Book 1: Band on the Run*, will wind up as an 80,000 to 90,000 word romantic comedy. And there's a cover being designed for it now! (No, Angel, it's *not* going to be the album cover for Paul McCartney and Wings with new faces glued on!) Sheesh, where does she get these ideas? Anyway, between now and the book's launch, you're going to get "first dibs" at seeing the finished cover!

[QR Code – Rome Amazon ebook] [QR Code – Rome Amazon paperback] [QR Code – Rome B&N ebook] [QR Code – Rome B&N paper] [QR Code – Rome Bookshop.org] [QR Code – Christmas Bonfires regular] [QR Code – Christmas Bonfires special]

Oh, also... as a newsletter subscriber, you'll be among the first to know when the book will be released, where it can be purchased, and... there will be excerpts. Yes, I'm going to share some of the fun in the novel with you, before its release (and you might see "extras" like deleted scenes as a newsletter-only bonus, fun stuff like that. All of those things will lead up to the release of the novel, and your chance to see the entire book.

The great FREE BOOKS promotion is still going on. All the books in the promotion are available to you for the cost of joining the author's newsletter—which you can unsubscribe from at any time, just like here (of course, just like here, if you leave, imagine the goodies you'll miss). It's all in your hands, or fingers. Click the banner, or one of the book covers (I've got a few to let you see the goodies available), and it will open a new window for you with All. The. Free. Books!

Earth Day is April 22. I hope you treat our common home well—there is *NO Planet B!* April 26 is John James Audubon's birthday, and National Bird Day. Did you know that birds are more closely related to dinosaurs than to any living creature? Still, please treat them kindly. All of nature deserves a chance to thrive.

The next newsletter will hit your inbox on May 7. So, enjoy celebrating the day that a ship full of Blue Plate sank to the bottom of the ocean, on May 5... Oh, Angel tells me that "Cinco de Mayo" has **nothing** to

do with either a ship sinking or with mayonnaise. All these years, I've been going at it wrong. Well, have a tequila sunrise and a Mexican dinner, and enjoy the day—and for anyone of Mexican or Hispanic descent, I'm just playing with the words; it's the *worst* play on words ever.

As I was saying before my brain did a U-turn down that rabbit hole, the next newsletter will hit your inbox on May 7, so I'll be talking to you then. If you decide I'm not your cup of tea (or coffee, or tequila, or whatever), please just hit the "**Unsubscribe**" link below. I'll miss chatting with you, but no hard feelings otherwise!

