



Author James Weems Newsletter

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

JAMES WEEMS AUTHOR

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Hello! Can you believe this year is one-third over already?



First things first: To all my new subscribers, welcome! I'm glad you've joined our little family. I'm super excited you've joined us now, because we are just weeks away from the rough first draft of ***Phoenix Rising Book 1*** emerging from its cocoon as a manuscript, ready for beta readers, a shiny book cover, and publication as ***Phoenix Rising Book 1: Band on the Run***.

In this newsletter, I'm starting a new feature. I want all my readers to be part of this community, so I am encouraging all of you to put on

your “thinking caps” and—***Ask Me Anything***. From your submissions, I’ll pick one (or two) and answer them in the next newsletter. Just follow the information once we get to that section!

For all my subscribers, new or old, soon you’ll get your first look at snippets from the novel, leading up to the book cover release and **all** the details about when and where and how it will be available. If you’re interested in the possibility of being an Advance Reader/Reviewer for the novel, in the next few weeks, that will also be opened up.

Pride season has begun, folks! My website has brought back the “Pride” page and has a beginning list now—this year, in spite of all the anti-gay, anti-trans laws going on out there, it seems like the LGBTQIA2S+ community is refusing to be silenced. And THAT’S a good thing. Tallahassee, Florida, wrapped up their Pride 2024 celebrations on April 20! May 2 through 5 saw Houston Splash, one of **three** celebrations in Houston, Texas, this year. Maspalomas, Gran Canaria, is up next, on May 8—tomorrow. Keep up with it all through <https://jamesweems.com> on the **Pride** tab. If you know of any celebrations that should be added, drop me a line—reply to this email or send a message to author@jamesweems.com giving the date(s) and any information you can find, and I’ll add it to my calendar!

I have created a new cover for ***Benji’s Bayou Birthday Bash***. Not because I didn’t like the other one, but because I got rejected from a Pride month author’s promotion because the original cover uses AI. (To add insult to injury, the person who created that promo, who I will **not** identify here, then blocked me from rejoining the group.) So, I created a cover with just the title words and a platter of beignets. Makes me hungry just writing about it! Anyway, that version will be in *another* author’s promotion next month, so you don’t need to download it again—it’s the same story, just a different cover.

Our Editor-in-Chief, Angel, has been so busy checking out all the new flowers and green things growing outside that she hasn’t stopped long

enough for another “official portrait” – but I’m trying to get one for everyone to see. A warning to those of you who are just joining the newsletter – Angel turned two years old on April 1, so she’s NOT the prim little kitten from those introductory pictures!



I’m still editing the manuscript for the novel, but it’s getting ever so close to being a “final” manuscript. Which means, if current progress continues, May 31 or June 30 will see the final manuscript being ready! And **that** means beta readers, followed by... snippets! And a cover reveal! You’ve been with me through this journey, and now it’s almost time—I’m going to reward your patience (soon, not yet) with the cover reveal and with actual excerpts from the novel. You have earned it! Also, soon I will be looking for ARC Team members. What

are ARC Team members? They are people who get a copy of the book in exchange for a review on one or more sites (Amazon, Goodreads, Bookbub, among others). If you're interested in that, watch for an email from me asking for ARC Team signups.



Ask me almost anything. You can do this by replying to this newsletter, or by sending an email to author@jamesweems.com. Remember, your question—and my reply—could be the “star” of a future newsletter!

On that note, I'm heading back to my writing den... after I remind you that the next newsletter is scheduled to hit your inbox May 28, so I'll see you then. As always, if you decide this just isn't your "cup of tea" (or other favorite beverage), just hit the "unsubscribe" link below. I'll miss you, and you'll miss all the excitement of these crazy newsletters, but I won't hold a grudge. Thanks for joining me on this journey!

