



INDUSTRY NEWS

As COVID continues to reduce the amount of interaction with people and in public spaces, authors engaging with readers and industry professionals in a virtual manner is more prevalent now than ever. So how are authors expected to adjust and navigate this new increasingly virtual landscape?

The importance of social media and interaction can't be understated when it comes to simple ways that authors can promote themselves. That personal connection has the ability to enhance a reader's love of an author or book.



A recent [Book Riot article](#) discussed how the ease of access between authors and readers, while beneficial, also creates a larger chance of saying something that hurts or offends someone. So when we mess up, how can we right that wrong?

Books Forward President Marissa Decuir was featured in the article with some wise words for authors: "If you do slip up, take responsibility. Admit fault, own up to what you've done wrong, apologize sincerely, learn from the mistake and move forward."

It's also important to remember that as an author, you have a platform to promote social change and amplify marginalized voices while advocating for causes you care about!



In addition to increased engagement through social media, virtual author events are a trend that have increased out of necessity in 2020 — and that popularity is likely to continue even after the pandemic is over.

Books Forward author E. A. Aymar recently wrote a [guest article](#) highlighting some important tips to keep in mind when taking part in a virtual event, including knowing the software you plan on using and coming up with creative ways to personalize your event to entice participants.

Check out to the entire article to see how you can make the most of your virtual events — in 2020 and beyond!

AUGUST RELEASES



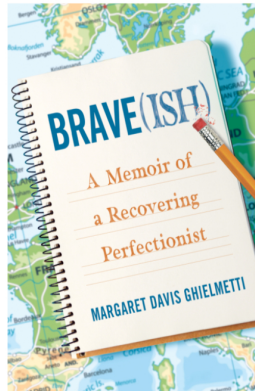
- ["Between Inca Walls,"](#) Evelyn LaTorre, Aug. 11, She Writes Press
- ["The Second Mother,"](#) Jenny Milchman, Aug. 18, Sourcebooks
- ["Loathe at First Sight,"](#) Suzanne Park, Aug. 18, Avon
- ["The Places We Sleep,"](#) Caroline DuBois, Aug. 25, Holiday House Books
- ["Prozac Monologues,"](#) Willa Goodfellow, Aug. 25, She Writes Press

BOOKS FORWARD IN PHOTOS



How fun is this! Chris Whitson and his new children's book "Salty Strong" got a fun shoutout on this New Orleans restaurant's sign!

CELEBRATING OUR AUTHORS



[Windy City Reviews](#) calls Margaret Davis Ghielmetti's new book a "beautifully written travelogue" in this new review.

Judith Hornok joined [The Worldly Marketer Podcast](#) to talk about conducting business in the Gulf Region.

Ken Dortzbach and his new book, "Finding Hemingway" were spotlighted in this gorgeous post from [@beastreader](#).

Evelyn LaTorre talked with [Fab After Fifty](#) about writing her new memoir, "Between Inca Walls."

Suzanne Park and "Loathe at First Sight" was named one of [BiblioLifestyle's](#) 16 most anticipated romance novels of summer 2020.

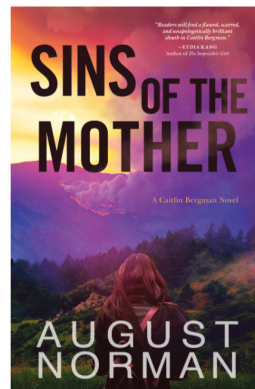
August Norman joined [Author2Author](#) to discuss his upcoming thriller, "Sins of the Mother."

On [Voice of Reason](#), Richard C. Lyons discussed the fragility of the U.S. government in an in-depth interview.

[Lincoln County News](#) spoke with Jenny Milchman on her upcoming novel, "The Second Mother."

Donna O'Donnell Figurski and [Shoutout Atlanta](#) sat down to discuss her new book and surviving traumatic brain injury.

In a recent review, [DODReads](#) praised John Millar's new book and its ability to "inform and entertain."





Big Freedia's memoir, "God Save the Queen Diva!" was recently highlighted over on [Rainbow Affair](#).

Nora Riva Bergman joined [Stories that Empower](#) to chat about the impetus behind some life-changing moves.

[Lovely Things NC](#) recently reviewed Donna Baier Stein's book. The verdict? "An incredible story."

Michelle Cameron sat down with [WomanScope](#) to talk about the journey that led her to becoming a writer.

James A. Ross and [C. P. Lesley](#) talked about his interesting background and the inspiration behind his new book.

[Rising Shadow](#) interview Alison Levy about the first book in her Daemon Collecting Series, "Gatekeeper."

[Reader Voracious](#) posted a fun unboxing featuring Professor W. W. Marplot and his book "Dwarf Story."

Tori Eldridge's first book, "The Ninja Daughter," received an awesome review from [@thatothernigeriangirl](#).

Vivian Conan joined [amNY](#) to discuss chronicling her journey to a dissociative identity disorder diagnosis in her new memoir.

[Foreword](#) recently handed Gabrielle Robinson's memoir five stars!



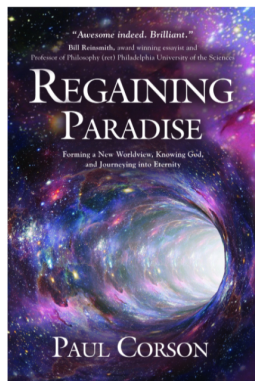
[Cosmic Tuesdays](#) had Paul Corson on to talk about his new book, "Regaining Paradise."

[Foreword Reviews](#) recently called Willa Goodfellow's memoir "easy to understand and digest" and sprinkled with humor throughout.

Nancy Burke's thriller was recently spotlighted by [@wrinkled.pages](#).

Check out this review from [Awkward Botany](#) on David Parrish's informative book, "The Gyroscope of Life."

Michael C. Bland joined [Pen & Muse](#) to chat about, "The Price of Safety."



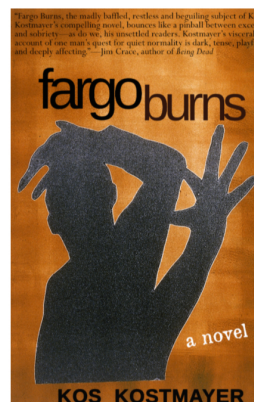
[Kirkus Reviews](#) is calling Kos Kostmayer's new book, "Fargo Burns" an "effective, tragic story."

Anne Reeder Heck and her memoir "A Fierce Belief in Miracles" were spotlighted by [Shemazing](#).

Shelley Blaton-Stroud joined [Conversations LIVE!](#) with [Cyrus Webb](#) to talk about her noir, "Copy Boy."

[Foreword](#) says "the meaning of home is defined and redefined" in this review for Annette Valentine's new book.

[@curlyheadedreader](#) recently posted this comfy and cozy spotlight of Razi Imam's book, "Masters of the Broken Watches."





AUTHOR ACCOLADES



The [National Indie Excellence Awards](#) recently announced its 2020 winners — check out all the Books Forward authors recognized below:

WINNERS:

- Dianne Romain, "The Trumpet Lesson," Friendship
- Pat McKee, "Ariel's Island" Legal Thriller
- Katie Burke, "Urban Playground," Juvenile Non-Fiction
- Christine Meade, "The Way You Burn," New Adult Fiction
- Lisa Braver Moss, "Shrug" Regional Fiction: West
- Donna Cameron, "A Year of Living Kindly," Self-Help Motivational
- Derik Cavignano, "The Art of Dying," Thriller
- Matt Ehrlich, "The Vail Method," Well-being
- Alice C. Early, "The Moon Always Rising," Women's Fiction and Sponsor's Prize Award

FINALISTS:

- Pat McKee, "Ariel's Island" Book Cover Design: Fiction
- Judith Hornok, "The Arab Business Code," Business General
- Janet Roger, "Shamus Dust" Crime Fiction
- Annette Valentine, "Eastbound From Flagstaff," Historical Fiction
- Marty Glick & Mo Jordane, "The Soledad Children" History US
- Mary Jane Black, "She Rode a Harley," Memoir
- Michael Bland, "The Price of Safety," New Adult Fiction
- Elayne Klasson, "Love is a Rebellious Bird," New Fiction
- Marika Lindholm, "We Got This," Parenting & Family
- Phyllis Melhado, "The Spa at Lavender Lane," Women's Fiction
- Joan Cohen "Land of Last Chances," Women's Fiction
- Derik Cavignano, "The Art of Dying" Horror
- Lisa Braver Moss, "Shrug" Young Adult Fiction

The [International Book Awards](#) also released its list of winners, and some Books Forward authors won big:

- Marika Lindholm, "We Got This," winner in Women's Issues and finalist in Anthologies: Non-Fiction
- Christine Meade, "The Way You Burn," New Adult Fiction
- Lisa Braver Moss, "Shrug" Regional Fiction: West
- Donna Cameron, "A Year of Living Kindly," Self-Help Motivational
- Derik Cavignano, "The Art of Dying," Thriller
- Matt Ehrlich, "The Vail Method," Well-being
- Alice C. Early, "The Moon Always Rising," Women's Fiction and Sponsor's Prize Award

FINALISTS:

- Pat McKee, "Ariel's Island" Book Cover Design: Fiction
- Judith Hornok, "The Arab Business Code," Business General
- Janet Roger, "Shamus Dust" Crime Fiction
- Annette Valentine, "Eastbound From Flagstaff," Historical Fiction
- Marty Glick & Mo Jordane, "The Soledad Children" History US
- Mary Jane Black, "She Rode a Harley," Memoir
- Michael Bland, "The Price of Safety," New Adult Fiction
- Elayne Klasson, "Love is a Rebellious Bird," New Fiction
- Marika Lindholm, "We Got This," Parenting & Family
- Phyllis Melhado, "The Spa at Lavender Lane," Women's Fiction
- Joan Cohen "Land of Last Chances," Women's Fiction
- Derik Cavignano, "The Art of Dying" Horror
- Lisa Braver Moss, "Shrug" Young Adult Fiction

The [International Book Awards](#) also released its list of winners, and some Books Forward authors won big:

- Marika Lindholm, "We Got This," winner in Women's Issues and finalist in Anthologies: Non-Fiction



TO NOTE



AUTHORS: Please update your websites to link to booksforward.com and your publicist's email to name@booksforward.com!

Don't worry, our JKS emails remain active and we will not miss media or other responses. Feel free to mention that we were formerly JKS Communications, if you wish!