



# July 2020 Newsletter

BOOKS FORWARD

## INDUSTRY NEWS

Following the nationwide protests and push to dismantle systemic racism within the U.S. after George Floyd's death, a host of titles on racism and books by Black authors have been dominating the [NYT bestsellers list](#), as well as Amazon lists, for weeks.

In a [photo](#) tweeted by author Ijeoma Oluo, the nonfiction listing for the week of June 21 was filled with books on racism and antiracism.

The New York Times **Best Sellers** Print Paperback

June 21, 2020

Paperback Trade Fiction		Paperback Nonfiction	
1	<b>THE MISTLETOE TRAIL</b> by Lisa Thompson	1	<b>THE MISTLETOE TRAIL</b> by Lisa Thompson
2	<b>THE MISTLETOE TRAIL</b> by Lisa Thompson	2	<b>THE MISTLETOE TRAIL</b> by Lisa Thompson
3	<b>THE MISTLETOE TRAIL</b> by Lisa Thompson	3	<b>THE MISTLETOE TRAIL</b> by Lisa Thompson
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In this note from [Forbes](#): "An industry tracker reports a 330% jump in sales for political science civil rights titles from the week of May 17 to the week of May 23, and a 245% jump for books about discrimination."

And the bump has not been felt in nonfiction categories alone. Books like Toni Morrison's "The Bluest Eye" and "Beloved" have also seen a surge in sales.

Also a boost to recent sales came from an initiative called [Black Publishing Power](#), which encouraged people to buy two books written by Black authors during the week of June 15 to help close the racial inequality gap in the publishing industry.

[Publisher's Weekly](#) notes the increase in purchase of social justice titles, as well as a bump from Father's Day buying, has given summer unit sales of print a 1.4 percent boost for the year to date during the same period last year.



PW notes that when looking at sales for the week ending June 20, a "22.9% increase was driven by double-digit jumps across all six major categories."

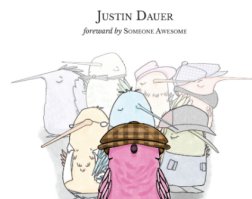
Recent efforts to hold the publishing industry responsible for the lack of marginalized voices in the literary world include the popular [#publishingpaidme](#) hashtag. Writers took to social media to share how much they've been paid for their work, highlighting the glaring compensation disparity between Black and white authors.

## JULY RELEASES



- "[Finding Hemingway](#)" by Ken Dortzbach, July 7, Cloister Inn Publishing
- "[Dancing in the Narrows](#)" by Anna Penenberg, July 7, She Writes Press
- "[Regaining Paradise](#)" by Paul Corson, July 21, BookLocker
- "[Hunting Teddy Roosevelt](#)" by James A. Ross, July 31, Regal House

## CELEBRATING OUR AUTHORS



Justin Dauer was featured in this timely article from [Forbes](#) about his ideas around keeping a human-centered mindset in the workplace.

[IGN](#) recently featured a fun excerpt from W. W. Marplot and "Dwarf Story."

[IndieReader](#) covers Paul Corson's "philosophical, metaphysical" approach in his new book "Regaining Paradise."



Tori Eldridge hopped on [Martial Arts & Life](#) to talk her new book and Ninja background.

Diane Dewey joined the [Fire in the Belly](#) podcast to discuss discovering her biological parents.

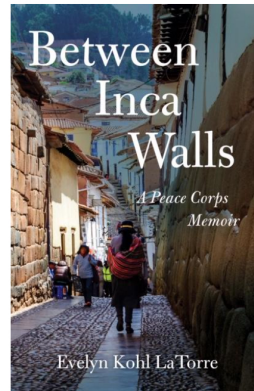
Evelyn LaTorre joined [Bringing Inspiration to Earth Radio](#) to talk about her experiences in her new book, "Between Inca Walls."

A guest article from Tracy Richardson on [Unleashing Readers](#) mulls over ways kids can help the environment.

[Big Blend Radio](#) recently had Ken Dortzbach on for this fun interview!

Be sure to check out this insightful Q&A with author David Parrish on [Book Q&As with Deborah Kalb](#).

Suzanne Park's "Loathe at first Sight" made this reading list by the [Orange County Register](#).



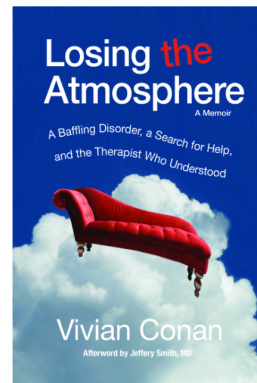
[Brooklyn Reader](#) interviewed Vivian Conan on her journey to a dissociative identity disorder diagnosis.

"Hunting Teddy Roosevelt" by James A. Ross was called a "fun and smart historical thriller" by [Foreword-Clarion](#).

Check out this article for [Crime Reads](#) by Shelley Blanton-Stroud on women writers transforming the noir genre.

Lisa Braver Moss recently joined [Women Worldwide](#) for a profoundly inspirational interview.

Don't miss this awesome review of Jenny Milchman's new book from [@whatallysareads](#).



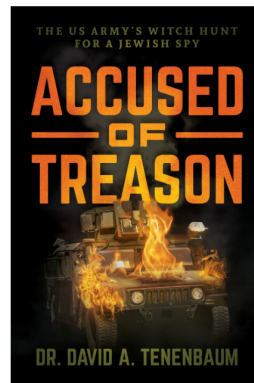
[Macomb Daily](#) recently talked with David A. Tenenbaum about the inspiration behind his new book.

Monique Allen joined the [Beer and Business](#) podcast to discuss building a business that will survive.

[Bookishly Kelly](#) recently highlighted Rachel Kowert's new children's book "Pragmatic Princess."

Stephanie Raffelock touched on ageism in the fitness clothing industry in this feature for [Senior Lifestyles Magazine](#).

Michael C. Bland stopped by [In Reference to Murder](#) to discuss researching his new book.

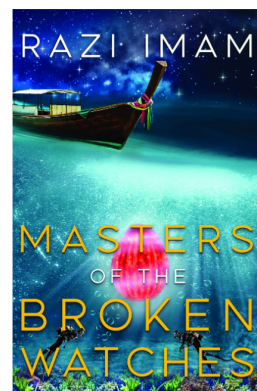


Check out this gorgeous spotlight from [@bookishbelle](#) of Razi Imam's "Masters of the Broken Watches."

[Peak Careers](#) is loving Ida Abbott's "Retirement by Design" in this review, calling it the "most comprehensive, practical guide" for the retirement phase of life.

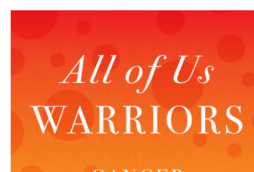
Julie Bullitt joined the [So She Grows](#) podcast to talk about the importance of communication in relationships.

This review from Laura Carroll's [Live True Collection](#) calls Dani Alpert's memoir, "An entertaining read of complex, emotional substance."



Rebecca Whitehead Munn joined the [Spiritual Media Blog](#) to discuss her new book, "All of Us Warriors," as well as offering advice for those who may be grieving.

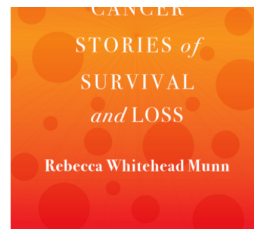
"A compelling mystery with an engaging look at suburban womanhood." is how



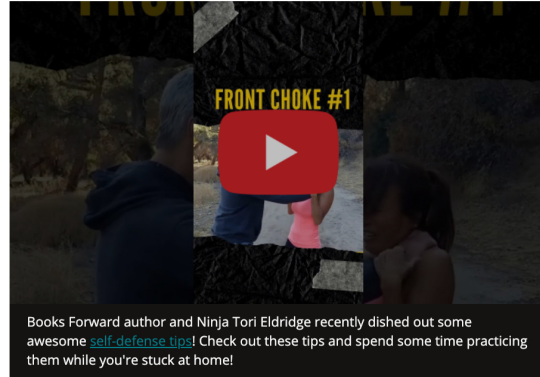
[Foreword-Clarion](#) describes Nancy Burke's new book "Only the Women are Burning."

Kos Kostmayer and [Deborah Kalb](#) discussed the author's book, "Fargo Burns," in this can't-miss Q&A.

[GirTalk HQ](#) recently posted an exclusive excerpt from Caroline DuBois' "The Places We Sleep."



## BOOKS FORWARD BITS



Books Forward author and Ninja Tori Eldridge recently dished out some awesome [self-defense tips!](#) Check out these tips and spend some time practicing them while you're stuck at home!

## AUTHOR ACCOLADES

Two Books Forward authors were recently nominated for the prestigious [Anthony Awards](#) presented by Bouchercon. Congrats to Tori Eldridge and "The Ninja Daughter" for being nominated for best first novel and to Ed Aymar and "The Unrepentant" for best paperback!

Deb Brandon and "Threads Around the World" took silver in the Multicultural category at the [IPBA Benjamin Franklin Awards](#). And Lisa Braver Moss and "Shrug," took silver as well in Fiction-General.

Suzanne Park's "Loathe at First Sight" was recently announced as a [Summer Okra Pick](#) by the Southern Independent Booksellers Alliance — a big win!

Foreword also recently announced its [2019 Indies winners](#) — check out all the Books Forward authors recognized:

- Lori B. Duff and "If You Did What I Asked in the First Place," Gold Winner for Humor
- Ed Aymar and "The Unrepentant" Silver Winner for Thriller & Suspense
- Samuel Marquis and "Lions of the Desert" Gold Winner for War & Military
- Deb Brandon and "Threads Around the World" Gold Winner for Hobbies & Home AND 2019 Silver Winner for Multicultural
- Jess Lederman and "Hearts Set Free" Silver Winner for Religious
- Donna Baer Stein and "Scenes from the Heartland" Honorable Mention for Short Stories



## TO NOTE

**AUTHORS:** Please update your websites to link to [booksforward.com](https://booksforward.com) and your publicist's email to [name@booksforward.com](mailto: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!

