

DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

#BOOKSFORWARDFRIENDS



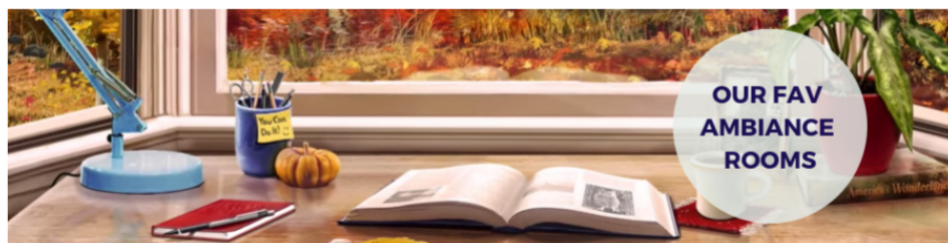
Hi, BFF!

We can't believe it's already December! And we're also not complaining — 2020 seems to have overstayed it's welcome. This year has brought a great deal of challenges and obstacles for everyone, but we also hope it's brought a little joy in the form of a good book or two.

As the year winds down, we could all use a little inspiration to help us push through our reading goals — and also add to our ever-increasing TBR stacks!



Looking for a new book rec but not sure where to start? Maybe try picking your next book based off your Zodiac sign! Check out [this list](#) and see if the stars aligned for your next read!



Having a tough time concentrating these past few months? (We FEEL that 🥹) One thing that's helped us re-center and re-focus: ambiance rooms! Check out [this list](#) with some of our fav videos we've been keeping on in the background to help us read, work, and just get anything done in general.

And don't forget to check out our December highlighted titles! From fantasy to contemporary noir to a medical book you can consult over WebMD, these are just a few of the amazing books we have available this month. So pick out a few reads you can curl up with as we look toward ringing in a new year.

Fingers crossed 2021 is a bit kinder to us all — and of course, that we'll pick up plenty of good books along the way!

— *The Books Forward team*



DECEMBER HIGHLIGHTS



"Wings of Ebony"

BY J. ELLE

Rue is a Black teen living in an inner-city neighborhood who, after the death of her mother, discovers she is a demigoddess — and that an authoritarian government, insidious caste system, and violent evil threaten to crush everyone she loves. Rue must embrace her true identity and wield the full magnitude of her ancestors' power to save her neighborhood — before the gods burn it to the ground. Author J. Elle drew on her own neighborhood and her experience as a teacher to inner-city teens to create a Katniss-style Black protagonist who is unapologetically strong and empathetic, a community rich with magic, and a gripping story with unmistakable parallels to the Black Lives Matter movement. **Keep scrolling for a book-themed quiz!**

"When You Look Like Us"

BY PAMELA N. HARRIS

When you have brown skin, brown eyes, black braids or fades, everyone else thinks you're trouble. No one even blinks twice over a missing black girl from public housing because she must've brought whatever happened to her upon herself. Jay Murphy can admit that, for a minute, he thought his sister Nicole just got caught up with her boyfriend — a drug dealer — and his friends. But she's been gone too long. It's time to step up, to do what the Newport News police department won't: Bring her home. From debut author Pamela N. Harris comes a timely, gripping teen novel about a boy who must take up the search for his sister when she goes missing from a neighborhood where Black girls' disappearances are too often overlooked.



"Viral BS"

Medical Myths and Why We Fall for Them

BY SEEMA YASMIN



Can your ZIP code predict when you will die? Will testosterone supplements boost your libido? Why do some doctors recommend e-cigarettes while other doctors recommend you stay away from them? Health information—and misinformation—is all around us, and it can be hard to separate the two. How do we stay sane while unraveling the knots of fact and fiction to find out what we should really be concerned about, and what we can laugh off? Taking a deep dive into the health and science questions you have always wanted answered, this authoritative and entertaining book empowers readers to reach their own conclusions. **Keep scrolling for a book-themed quiz!**

And we have so many other awesome titles available for selection this month! Check out the links below and fill out the forms for the books you're interested in receiving. Forms will close **DECEMBER 6**, so make sure to get your requests in by then!

[HISTORICAL FICTION](#)
[MIDDLE GRADE](#)
[MYSTERY/THRILLER](#)

[YOUNG ADULT](#)
[NONFICTION/MEMOIR](#)

FEATURED FRIENDS



FUN FOR OUR FRIENDS





QUIZ

IS THIS JUST
VIRAL BS?

UPCOMING EVENTS

December 1

Big Freedia will celebrate the paperback release of her memoir with a [virtual conversation](#) with Fulton Street Books and Coffee at 7 p.m. EST/4 p.m. PST.

December 2

Big Freedia will join Southern Fried Queer Pride's TAYLOR ALXNDR in a [virtual conversation](#) for Charis Books and More at 7:30 p.m. EST/4:30 p.m. PST.

December 3

Big Freedia will discuss her memoir, "God Save the Queen Diva," in this [virtual event](#) with Red Emma's at 7 p.m. EST/4 p.m. PST.

December 8

Priscilla Paton will discuss her new novel, "Should Grace Fail," in this [virtual event](#) with Once Upon A Crime bookstore at 8 p.m. EST/5 p.m. PST.

BFFs is an inclusive program that celebrates and uplifts authors and influencers from all backgrounds. Members agree and understand that any hate, racism, violence or bigotry will not be tolerated. Our BFFs are changemakers that have a real, positive influence on our world.

Got questions? Check out our complete BFFs FAQ [here!](#)

Don't see the answer to your question, or just want to geek out with us? Visit booksforward.com/bffs or email our BFFs ambassador, senior publicist Ellen Whitfield, at ellen@booksforward.com.