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The Truth About Book Reviews

You love books. So do I. And whether you realize it or not, what you write, say, or post matters.

Not just to the author, the publisher, and other readers, but to YOU, the reviewer!

Obviously, readers can and should review books whenever and however you wish. That said, there are forces working behind the scenes that I certainly didn't realize until I published my own books. As is my way, I like to pass along these tidbits of inside information. I realize some or all of these pearls of wisdom may be controversial. Do with them what you please.

In a [recent blog post](#), I offer some detailed suggestions for composing book reviews without spraining your brain. I hope you'll check those out, but before you do, here are 3 truths you need to know about book reviews:

- **Reviews matter. A lot.**

About those stars: Regardless of your own personal weighting system, star ratings lower than 3/5 can really damage a book's chance for success.

As for the words: When time is short or you're not sure what to say, a one-liner counts too!

- **Reviews aren't just for readers.**

Authors (especially indie authors) not only read them, we scour reviews for quotable snippets to share in our marketing materials.

- **READ THE BOOK** before you review it. Enough said.

Now if all of that is a bit too real and you're wondering if it's all worth the trouble, here are a few wonderful things that may happen if you DO choose to review that book you just finished:

- **Publishers may reach out to offer you advance reader copies** and exclusive sneak peeks of highly desirable upcoming releases. That's potentially a lot of free books.
- **Fame and fortune**
"Book influencers" are the darlings of social media. Who knows where any one of your review posts might lead?
- **Reviews are a great way to meet fellow book lovers!**
Buddy reads can turn into book groups and just think of all the new recommendations (and friends!) you'll get.

Okay, you're convinced. You want to share your opinions with the world - but you have no idea where to begin.

I've got you!



First Quiver: The Modern Misadventures of Cupid (The Cupid's Fall Series Book 1) Kindle Edition

by [Beth C. Greenberg](#) (Author) | Format: Kindle Edition

4.2 ★★★★★ ~ 136 ratings
4.0 on Goodreads 161 ratings

[See all formats and editions](#)

[Book 1 of 5: The Cupid's Fall Series](#)

"A clever mix of romance, fantasy, and mythology" - *BookLife Prize*

Immortality isn't all it's cracked up to be, especially for the 3,375-year-old virgin of Mount Olympus. Day after day, the God of Love launches his arrows, then watches from the sidelines while everyone else has all the fun. On a mischievous whim, Cupid sends a love-tipped arrow into the wrong rump—and the gods sentence him to a taste of his own medicine.

Banished from the only home he's ever known, Cupid plunges to Earth and

Pro Tips For Writing Book Reviews

Whether you're writing a book review or posting a video to social

media or simply telling a friend about a book over lunch, these prompts will help you sound like a pro.

Hop on over to [my website](#) for ideas to help you find your book reviewing groove. Take 'em or leave 'em and make it your own.

Book Review Tips

Speaking of reading...

Say, how's **your** summer (or winter, for all you southern hemispherians) reading going?

Here's the list I shared back in July that I fully intended to read this summer:

- *Anything is Possible* by Elizabeth Strout
- *All That Is Mine I Carry With Me* by William Landay
- *The True Love Experiment* by Christina Laurent
- *The First Ladies* by Marie Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murray
- *Lucky Girl* by Irene Muchemi-Ndiritu

All great choices! BUT, what have I read so far?

Hot vampires, that's what! And you know if I'm up to #9 and #10 of the series, it's gotta be good!



If you're so inclined, dive into the Black Dagger Brotherhood Series - and make sure to let me know you did!

My only regret is that I haven't had more time to read everything on my list too!

By the way, if you have can squeeze one more series into your summer TBR, August is a great time to fall for Cupid. **Book 1 is FREE thru the end of the month!**

[Download FIRST QUIVER completely FREE](#) wherever you find ebooks - but hurry!



How's your summer reading going? What are the highlights? Got

recs? I'd love to hear them!

Got suggestions? Questions? Complaints? Your replies go straight to my inbox.

Beth

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