

FREED: Fifty Shades Freed as Told by Christian by E L James Debuts at #1 Across All Major U.S. Bestseller Lists!

**Global Publishing Phenomenon Gets #1 Treatment
at the new Bloom Books imprint of leading independent publisher, Sourcebooks**

(CHICAGO – June 10, 2021) –**FREED: Fifty Shades Freed as Told by Christian**, by global bestselling author **E L James**, hit #1 on bestseller charts across the United States in its first week. **FREED**, the latest chapter in the most beloved adult fiction series of all time, has taken “top of list” at *The New York Times* (#1 in trade paperback fiction and #1 in combined print/eBook fiction), #1 *USA Today*, *Wall Street Journal* (#1 fiction, #1 fiction eBooks) and #1 Apple Books. The author also is #1 in the U.K., her home country, on this week’s *Sunday Times* bestseller list.

The New York Times recently reported that E L James wrote **FREED** “for those hard-core fans who want it.” Those readers came out in droves, making the novel an instant bestseller. James relates, “I’m thrilled with the response to **FREED**. Christian’s side of the story in *Grey and Darker* struck a chord with fans and they nagged me for years to write the last book in his point of view. I’m delighted that they’re still enthralled by Christian and Ana’s story.”

Dominique Raccach, CEO and Publisher of Sourcebooks, North America’s largest woman-owned independent publisher, says, “Just three months after our newest imprint, Bloom Books, announced it would be publishing **FREED** by E L James as its debut publication, we’re celebrating the novel’s instant #1 bestseller success across the country. This is truly an amazing result for Sourcebooks. Watching the response of Erika’s many fans to her books and these stories has been one of the most extraordinary experiences of my publishing life.”

Upon announcement of **FREED**, the latest installment of the “Fifty Shades as Told by Christian” trilogy, sales of previous titles in the series soared as readers rushed to catch up on or revisit the series in anticipation of Ana and Christian’s wedding, an event they’ve been waiting almost a decade to read.

E L James says, “This success is a testimony to everyone’s hard work, creativity, and enthusiasm. Sourcebooks have been enormous fun to work with and I’m looking forward to more adventures with them.”

Molly Waxman, Executive Director of Marketing at Sourcebooks, says, “And this is just the start! We have plans to reach new readers and extend **FREED**’s success all summer long. This will be the ultimate beach read and book club selection for 2021.”

About Sourcebooks:

Sourcebooks is a thriving entrepreneurial company that brings extraordinary authors to readers in the most dynamic, data-driven ways. We create books that transcend categories and defy odds, and we have been honored with hundreds of national bestsellers and awards. We are a company of enthusiastic book-lovers passionate about connecting books to readers in new and innovative ways. Story by story, book by book, we have touched over 100 million lives. Join us as we change 100 million more. Visit sourcebooks.com for more information.

