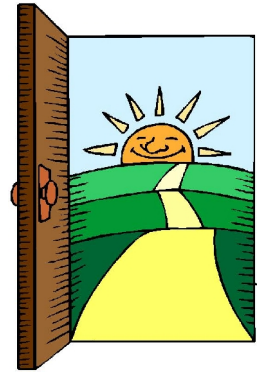


# As The Author Learns

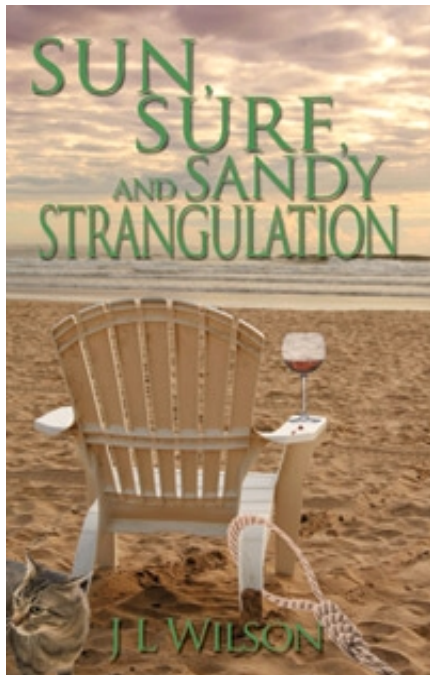
*Bits and Tidbits about the Publishing Process from*

*J L Wilson, newly published author*



## What's Happening?

I've got covers, I've got release dates and I've got edits. Let's see...where to start.



Well, let's start with a new cover – I got the cover for my mystery releasing next year with The Wild Rose Press. This is the second book in a 'series'. However, I hesitate to call it a series because there are only three books in the group. Anyway, without further ado, here's my cover for *Sun, Surf and Sandy Strangulation*.

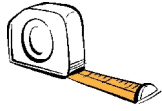
The setting for the book is a mystery conference on Florida's Gulf Coast. The conference is based on the Clue board game and the first body is found on the beach with a rope around his neck. Once again, the Wild Rose artist has managed to incorporate a lot of the clues into the cover art – the cat on the beach, the glass of wine, the drops of blood near the wine, and the rope, of course. Thanks to Kim Mendoza for her excellent art work! You can expect to hear more about "Surf" in the upcoming months and you'll see it on an e-book reader near you early in 2009. We're aiming for a February digital release and an August print date next year.

I have a release date for *Autographs, Abductions and A-List Authors* (also known as "Murder at the National Conference"). *Autographs* will release on June 6 and will be in print on December 5<sup>th</sup>. So mark your calendars for that event – I think people are going to enjoy this book because the heroine, Bea Emerson, reminds me a lot of ... me! Bea is an up-and-coming author (ahem) who goes to a national writing conference and, lo and behold, a famous author is murdered right in front of her. Hmm. Guess I'd better watch out when I go to conferences.

I also have a new banner for *Autographs*. Go to <http://www.jayellwilson.com/banners.htm> and check it out. You'll be seeing it at a web site here and there in June and July. Once again, thanks to Jo at Glass Slipper Web Design, who did amazing work for me in such a short, short period of time. I also incorporated the graphics of the banner into other promo work I'm doing (recipe cards, book promo cards, etc.) I'm gearing up for a big conference in a few days, and I needed the promo for it.

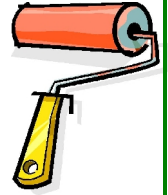
What else is going on? Where to start ...

- We wrapped up our Cerridwen contest on the first day of spring, and I was pleased by the turnout for the entries. It's the first contest I've participated in and the first one I 'ran' (with a bunch of help from other authors), so there was a bit of a learning curve involved. All in all, though, I think it went well.



- We're done remodeling our house! Yea! I have an office again. In fact, I have a nice, clean, bright new office with plenty of room for me to spread out and write, research, daydream ...

just about anything. I've got a great view of the back yard (which faces out over a river and where I often sight a variety of wild critters coming to our bird feeder). So it's a tranquil spot, just perfect for writing.



- I just wrapped up the writing of *Murder at the Casino*, the follow-on book to *Brilliant Disguise* (releasing with *Resplendence* this summer).
- I submitted my cover art request for *Temperance*, the third book in the History Patrol series. I suspect that book will release next year, hopefully somewhat early in the year. I've started research for the fourth book in the series, *Justice*, which takes place in 1974 around the time of the Wounded Knee occupation. Lots of research to do for that one, and lots of reading.
- I've started the third book to follow *Sun, Surf and Sandy Strangulation*, tentatively titled *Marriage, Mayhem, and Murderous Mystery Manuscripts*. It takes place at Halloween and once again a famous author is killed, this time by a Trick-or-Treater.
- I've finished edits for *I Know You're Out There Somewhere*, releasing with *Cerridwen* later this year and for *Brilliant Disguise*, releasing with *Resplendence* (hopefully in July).

### What's Next?

Well, the Big Thing on my Plate is the RT Book Lovers' Convention, taking place in Pittsburgh during the week of April 14<sup>th</sup>. I've never been to an RT convention, and from I hear, it's quite the event. There are 'theme' parties almost every night. One night is the "Golden Age of Hollywood" party (my Mom and I collaborated on a poodle skirt for that one). Then there's a Vampire Ball (I bought faux fangs for that), an "Under the Sea Fairy Ball" (I may have to miss that one; if I go, I'll just wear something dressy), and a Shoe Party (no, I have no idea what it's about).

In between all the parties is the Mr. Romance contest in which a bunch of cover model guys apparently schmooze with people and vie for the title of "Mr. Romance" - that promises to be interesting. ☺ There are also workshops, book fairs (at which I'll be signing my books) and other opportunities to finally meet people with whom I've been exchanging emails for the past year.



Add to that the fact that I lived in Pittsburgh for 11 years and have in-laws there, and it promises to be a hectic but fun-filled week. I want to look up old friends, visit with my relatives, and hang out with new friends. I'll give you a complete report when I get back!