



As The Author Learns

Bits and Tidbits about the Publishing Process

from J L Wilson

a 'still-learning-about-it' author

What's Happening?

Travel, travel, travel, that's what's happening!

I've been out of town for three of the past four weekends and as you read this, I'm preparing for another trip, this time to Memphis. I'm flying into Memphis so I can then drive to Nashville (at the time I booked the flight, this was very cost effective. Of course, now the airlines have dropped the price so ... GRR).

I'm heading to the Killer Nashville conference, a gathering for mystery authors and fans. This is my first time attending this conference, so I am anxious to see how it goes. I'm a guest speaker on a panel on Sunday (talking about digital publishing), and I have a book signing on Saturday afternoon. I checked the schedule and it looks like it will be a good conference, with lots of interesting workshops. I'll fill you in on the happenings when I get back.

I'll have a chance to rest a bit when I get back because I don't travel again for almost a month - whooee! I'll be in town for two weeks, then a small road trip to visit family, then in town for two weeks then my annual fall writer's retreat with friends. No more air travel until October, so I'm hoping to dig in and get a LOT of writing done.

Speaking of which ... I finished the galley proof for *Nowhere To Run*, so that book should be in print very, very soon (by the end of August? I hope!) I'm waiting to sign a contract for the follow-up book to *Nowhere*, tentatively titled *Shadow of Doubt*. For those of you who read *Brilliant Disguise* and *Nowhere To Run*, "Shadow" features Nathan Stokes as the main character with his lady love, Margaret Dalton as the heroine.

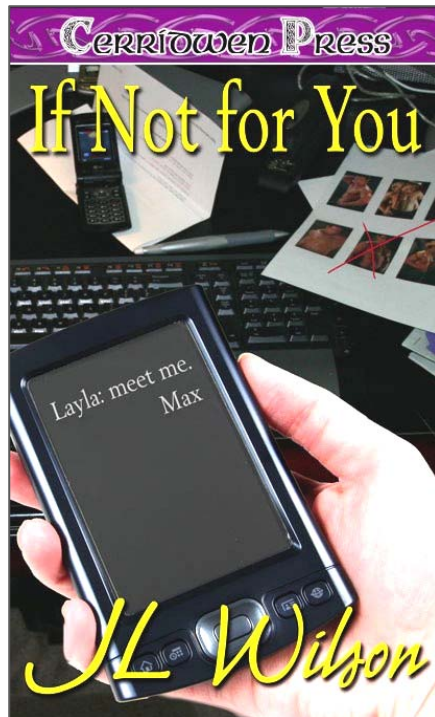


The publisher also wants the follow-on book to "Shadow", tentatively titled *Lie To Me*, which follows a secondary character (Grace) and her adventures on a cross-country trip complete with mistaken identity and an FBI agent gone wrong. By the time I get done with all my travels this year, I should be able to add a few facts to the book!

I also finished my final galley proofs for *Living Proof*, the second book in my paranormal series releasing in September. *Living Proof* will release next year in June. The third book, *Leap of Faith*, will release at the end of 2010 or in 2011. I plan ahead. ☺

I also got my release date for the last of my three mysteries releasing next year (October). My calendar is starting to fill up.

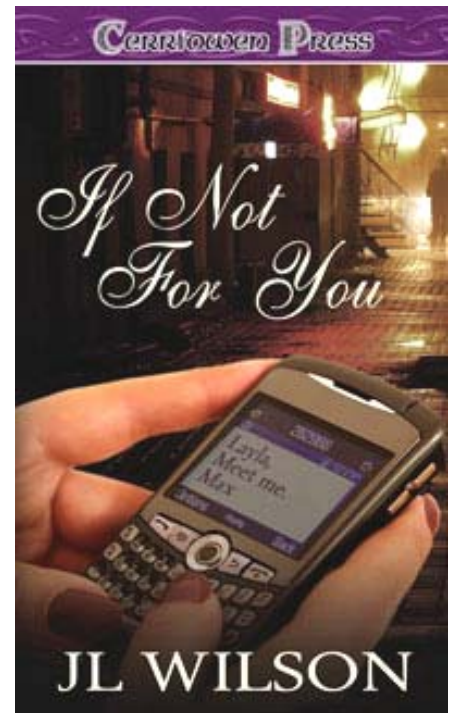
The Tale of Two Covers



I was waiting for my Eppie winner, *If Not For You*, to go into print. I thought it would come out in spring, but it didn't show up, it didn't show up... I kept checking Cerridwen's web site, looking for the book. But guess what? I didn't even notice the book was released out on the web site because I was looking for the original cover:



Then I finally noticed it was in print, sitting right out there with this new cover:



The buying info is here: <http://tinyurl.com/n222og>.

This was my third book and I had to go through a bit of angst to get the cover done correctly (the 'male' cover). The first version looked like something from a young adult novel, with a bunch of pictures of teenagers and ... Well, anyway, when I got my cover, I was happy so I'm sorry to see it go. But I like both of the covers and each of them have elements of the story on the cover (although the Palm Pilot is more accurate than the Blackberry, but hey - let's not get technical, right?)

It hasn't shown up on Amazon or Barnes & Noble yet but that's out of my publisher's hands. It's at the whim of the bookstores when a book shows up on their lists. As always, if you buy from the Cerridwen site, I get a better royalty, so ...

In Other News

If you're an RWA (Romance Writers of America) member, here's news for you: I'm running for National office as the representative from District 2. I know, I know - when will I have time to focus on RWA business with all these books releasing, etc.? Well, you know what they say: if you want something done, give it to the busiest person in the room. That just might be me! Anyway, I'd appreciate your vote if you are so inclined.

What's Next?

Conference: August 14-16. Two books releasing: September 3 & 4. A writing retreat. Then ... vacation (real vacation, not a conference). Oh, and someplace in there I want to finish writing 2 books and get my notes prepped for a class I'm co-teaching this fall.

Fingers, don't fail me now ::type:: ::type:: ::type::