



As The Author Learns

Bits and Tidbits about the Publishing Process

from J L Wilson

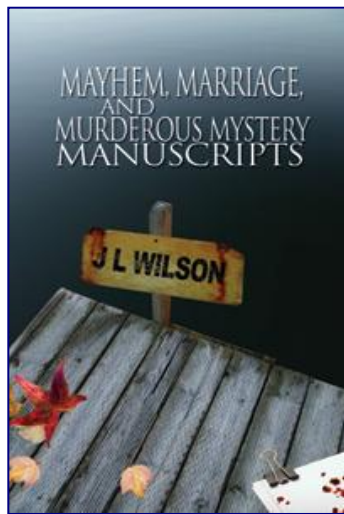
a 'still-learning-about-it' author

What's Happening?

I've been busy learning new technology. I know, I know – why? There are a few reasons, but mainly because I wanted to find out what Twitter was all about. That led me to Facebook, which revived my interest in MySpace. So I'm on Twitter now (follow me if you dare, I'm @JLwriter) and at other social networking sites. Check here for where you can find me: <http://tinyurl.com/ak8hl8>.

I also got a new gadget, a Blackberry, so now I can read email while I'm traveling (and I'm traveling a lot this year). I normally get about 100-200 email messages a day in my home email account and almost that many at work. Now I can stay caught up with the home email and I may set up the gadget so I can stay current with work email (or maybe not!). Someday I'll have a fully integrated gadget-life, but for now, I've got my I-touch (no I-phone for me because of carrier issues) and my Blackberry. I'm happy with that.

For now ...



No new books released this month but I do have one coming out early in June. *Mayhem, Marriage, and Murderous Mystery Manuscripts* is the latest book in the Fatal Writers' Conference series, and has Bea and Lucas, our heroine and hero, at a resort in Northern Minnesota. It will be available for print and download on June 5, so mark your calendars. Check my web site for the ordering/link information.

I usually have four books out a year. I'm trying to cut that back to three, but next year I'll probably have at least four, if not more. Here's the schedule for this year:

- *Mayhem, Marriage, and Murderous Mystery Manuscripts*: releases in download and print on June 5
- *Nowhere To Run*: releases in print in July
- *Temperance*: releases in download on September 3
- *Human Touch*: releases in download and print, September 4

Yes, you read that right – I have 2 books releasing back-to-back. I don't plan things this way, it just happens. *Temperance* may be the last of the History Patrol books because (1) those books take a long time to write; (2) they require a lot of research and (3) they haven't been selling that well. I haven't been promoting them as aggressively as I could, but it seems that

people aren't interested in reincarnation/time travel books. I have four more books planned for the series, but if *Forgiveness*, *Endurance*, and *Temperance* don't sell better than they have, I'll put those four future book plans on hold for a while.

Human Touch is the kickoff book for my "New Human" series about a race of cloned humans who attempt to overthrow a planetary government. I hope it does do well because it's an unusual blend of paranormal and contemporary social issues. I went through a lot of world-building and society-creation to make it feel right, so fingers crossed that it's well received.

I'm going to spend some time this summer to examine my promotional efforts and decide what to do next. I'm never sure what's best – if you're a reader, send me an email and tell me how you decide what books to read. Is it word-of-mouth? A great cover? What about those of you who read downloadable e-books – how do you find your next favorite book? I'm truly curious about it, so if you'd like to share your thoughts, send email to jaye@jayellwilson.com.

In Other News

I got all the covers for my *Human Touch* series as well as my mysteries releasing next year and I have to say, I like them all – a first! I also have most of the editorial work done on those books, so I can take it easy for a while.

I doubt I'll do that, though. I've got one more book to finish in the *Deadly Landscaping* series then I'll submit those three books to my editor. After I finish that series, I want to whip the next two books in the *Oz* series into shape for submission sometime next year. I also want to edit one more romantic suspense book for my third publisher and get that ready for submission.

Take it easy? Maybe at the end of summer I can. That's when I want to start back in on a new series, which will probably take me many months to finish. If I can 'bank' some finished books and get them done and ready for submission, I'll have plenty of breathing space to work. I think it's doable. If I can just find time in between travel. Which leads me to ...

What's Next?

May is a busy month for me. I've got a few family things scheduled then I get to spend the Memorial Day weekend at home (whoeee!) During the first weekend in June I'll be at the WisRWA conference in Green Bay, hanging out with friends and signing books. If you're in the area, please stop by. The Book Fair is on Saturday, June 6, from 4 to 5:30 at the Oneida Casino Conference Center.



I can hear you now: "Hmm, a conference at a casino. Tailor-made for our J L Wilson." I won't dispute that. I attended this conference last year in the same location and had a BLAST, so I'm looking forward to it again this year. I suspect there's a penny slot machine that has my name on it. I'll report back in my next newsletter about my luck. Until then ... enjoy spring!