



As The Author Learns

Bits and Tidbits about the Publishing Process

from J L Wilson

a 'still-learning-about-it' author

What's Happening?

If I write a book about the Killer Nashville Conference, I'll call it *The Case of the Accidental Pitch*. This was one of those odd conferences where things just didn't quite go as planned. We got there a bit later than we thought we would and when we got there, I found I'd been booked into a pitch session with an agent.

Hmm. I didn't remember signing up for one. No matter - I missed the session anyway because they had me scheduled for Friday morning and I didn't get there until Friday afternoon. But the coordinators were determined to get me in to see the agent, so I said, "sure, why not?" They booked me to talk to the agent at 6:30 on Saturday night.

But at 3:00 on Saturday I came out of a workshop and found people looking for me. "You've got to pitch now. Come on. Right now." I had nothing prepared - nothing. So I went in, sat down and chatted about the Oz book. The agent seemed intrigued by it and gave me her card. I followed up with an email, and she asked to see some chapters and a synopsis. So I re-read it and whipped it into shape then sent it off to her. We'll see what comes of this accidental pitch!

This review worked out well because I want to start the follow-on book to the Oz book next. I got a chance to become re-acquainted with the characters and make notes about plot points as I reviewed it. Serendipity, eh? This just proves that you have to be ready to pitch your book anytime, anywhere. Either that or make it up as you go along ::wink::

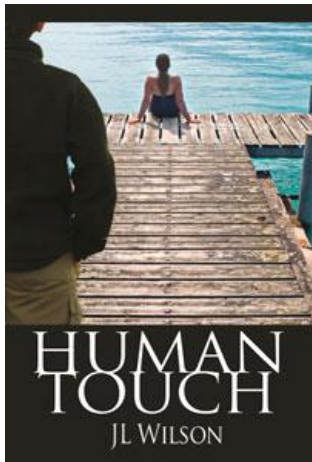
The rest of the month was spent writing, writing, writing. I finished the third book in the Deadly Landscaping series. I'm going to let those three books sit for a while then I'll revisit them and edit them one after the other - much easier to pick up plot inconsistencies, character problems, etc., if I do them all in a row.

September is the Month of Two Books. *Temperance*, the third book in the History Patrol series, released on September 3. It's set in 1934 St. Paul and features John Dillinger, time travel, a telepathic cat, and reincarnation.

It's the story of Theodora Kellerman, a woman who lived in 1934 and fell in love with Will Taupert. Theo and Will died and were reincarnated as a Guide (Will) and a Companion (Theo) for



the History Patrol. They have to travel back in time to 1934 to rescue a stranded time traveler and resolve their reincarnation issues. Along the way they meet John Dillinger, they die (again) and meet some previous characters from other History Patrol books...who are also dead. It's available in digital format right here: <http://tinyurl.com/lagpns>



On September 4, *Human Touch* released. This is set in the far future on another planet. It's the first of the New Human Intercession series and features Isbel Kensington, a slightly nerdy researcher who stumbles on a deadly secret about the ruling government – which is run by her father and her devious sister, Dru. If Isbel's not careful, she may find that her family ties won't help her but might hurt her. The plot continues in the two books next year, *Living Proof* and *Leap of Faith*.

Human Touch is available in digital format here: <http://tinyurl.com/kstgdh> or in print: <http://tinyurl.com/ldxr6o>

Did I say the Month of Two Books? It's really the Month of Four Books, because *Nowhere To Run* is finally in print and *If Not For You* is out, too! NTR is one of my favorite books. It features the Giggling Pig Café, the Minnesota Winter Carnival, and a hero and heroine who have so much fun together. It's available at Amazon (<http://tinyurl.com/km85uz>). And *If Not For You* is at <http://tinyurl.com/n222og> and I hope it will be at Amazon soon.

In Other News

I mentioned this last month, but I'll mention it again. I'm running for National office as the representative from District 2 for the Romance Writers of America. I'd appreciate your vote if you haven't voted already.

What's Next?



Hmm. It's fall ... It must be time for a casino trip! Yes, I'm meeting some friends and we are going off for our annual "brainstorm and have fun" weekend at a nearby casino.

I plan to brainstorm two books: the Ghost Story (a woman is haunted by her dead husband, who wants her to find out who killed him), and *Lie To Me*, about a conniving FBI agent and the woman who falls in love with him. I've already signed a contract for LTM, so I'd like to get that plot worked out (gulp!)

When I get back from that, I want to settle down and get some serious writing done. I'd like to write two more books this year. It just *might* be possible...

