



# As The Author Learns

Bits and Tidbits about the Publishing Process

from J L Wilson

a 'still-learning-about-it' author

## What's Happening?

Is it July already? I can't believe it! Where does the time go?

Let's see, what happened in June? The **big** event of my month was an excellent book signing in my hometown. As I think I've told you, my hometown is small (4000 people) and is about halfway (40 miles) between two larger towns. There's no bookstore in town, although it does have a great movie theater and thriving downtown, complete with hardware store, drugstores, clothing stores, and flower shop/gift store. The owner of Nature's Corner, the flower/shop gift store, has graciously been stocking my books in her store to make it easier for the residents to buy them. A lot of people aren't comfortable shopping online, so having the books there makes it much easier for townspeople to buy them.

We decided to have a "meet the author day" at the store. The ladies at the shop outdid themselves on staging for the event. They set up individual displays for each book, complete with recipe cards (the promo items I use for my books) and the actual dishes themselves. I was amazed at how great everything looked. I'll tell you, I've had book signings at national events and NOTHING rivaled this. I was thrilled. I posted pictures and links to the recipe cards at my web site:



<http://www.jayellwilson.com/SubPages/booksigning.htm>

I'm going to be back for another book signing in November. The whole town has a big 'Open House' on the Sunday before Thanksgiving, so I'll be there for that.

And if you want to know about the town, just read *Brilliant Disguise*. "New Providence" is a thinly disguised alias for Vinton, Iowa, complete with Victorian mansions, coffee shop, and downtown stores.

## In Other News

I got a status update on two books that are awaiting printing. *If Not For You*, my Eppie award winner, will be published this fall. It was supposed to be published this spring, but there were some delays. As soon as it's ready, I'll let you know. And *Nowhere To Run* will hopefully be in print in mid-August. I was hoping for a July print date, but I won't have a galley to proof for a few weeks yet. I'll post info on my web site when the books are out.

I finished my final review of *Living Proof*, the second book in the New Human Intercession series. The first book, *Human Touch*, releases in September and I suspect *Living Proof* will release sometime next spring. Next on my plate will be the edits for *Leap of Faith*, the final book in the series.

I also finished edits on the third book of my Gypsy series. The first book is *Homicide, Hostages, and Hot Rod Restorations*; the second is *PhDs, Pornography, and Premeditated Murder*. And the third (which I just finished) is *Ex-wives, Extortion, and Erotic First Editions*. A secondary character in the first book is the main character in the second book and the heroine in the third book is the cousin of the heroine in the second book. Clear as mud? Trust me – you'll see what I mean when they release.

In other exciting news, my main publisher, the Wild Rose Press, has set up an in-house print service. You can still buy my books through Amazon, but if you buy from Wild Rose I get a much bigger royalty check (hint, hint). Why? Amazon takes 40% off the top of the book cost for their cost, so whatever is left over is split between me and my publisher. My publisher is NOT taking 40% off the top, thus: more money for me! Not all books and authors are there yet, but check out <http://www.thewildrosepress.com/print-store-c-191.html> now and again to see if my books are there.

I've got covers for all of my books in print and other information on a new promo sheet I put together for booksellers and librarians. Check it out at my web site:

<http://www.jayellwilson.com/SubPages/PromoSheet2009.pdf>

## What's Next?

I'm working on two books at once right now. One is a ghost story: a man is killed and he returns to haunt his wife, who tries to solve the murder. Along the way she falls in love with someone else, which makes for an interesting twist ☺

The other book is the third of my Deadly Gardening series and I'm having a lot of fun writing it. So far I've got a secret baby, a deadly inheritance, a crazy ex-wife, death by nail gun at a construction site, and a jealous lover -- I'm only up to chapter 7. It should be a doozie.



I've got a family trip to Denver planned at the end of July that I am really looking forward to then my next big outing will be Killer Nashville, in the middle of August.

My critique partner and I fly into Memphis on August 14 (it was cheaper to fly to Memphis, get a car, and drive). I'm speaking on two panels on Saturday and also have a book signing then we fly back to Minnesota on Sunday. I have a friend in Nashville (hi, Jeanne!) and I'm hoping we can get together while I'm there.

After that it's 2 books releasing, a writing retreat, a vacation, another conference...yep, I think I'll keep those suitcases out and ready to go!