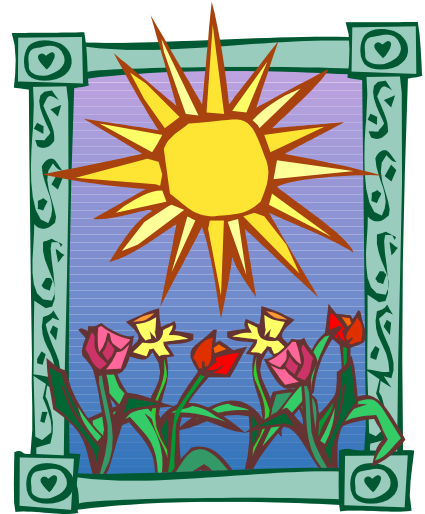


# As The Author Learns

Bits and Tidbits about the Publishing Process

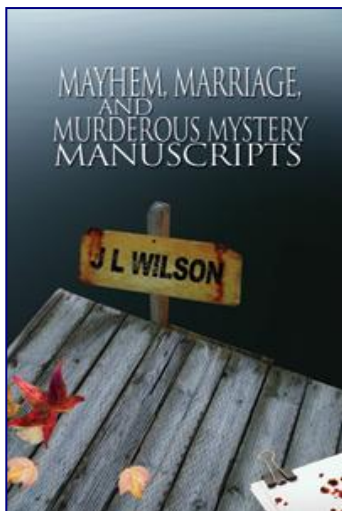
from J L Wilson

a 'still-learning-about-it' author



## What's Happening?

A new month, a new release! This one is set in Northern Minnesota, at a resort I visit every year (Ludlow's Island Resort, information right here: <http://www.ludlowsresort.com/>). The release is the final book in my Fatal Writers' Conference series and I created a fictional conference for this one – by 'fictional' I mean I made up the entire scenario for the conference, not based on anything I've attended.



That made the plotting a bit more challenging since I actually mapped out what a conference week would be like, complete with workshops and locations and speakers. To add to the challenge, I set the conference at a group of resorts, all situated on lakes in northern Minnesota. The conference attendees go to different resorts for different types of workshops. It was a lot of fun to pour over maps and try to envision how a conference would play out.

So if anyone wants to stage a conference like the one in this book, check with me – I may know how to do it (you can be the judge of that when you read the book). The Amazon print link is here: <http://tinyurl.com/r4xgfu>. It should be on the Kindle soon.

In other news, I just got back from a weekend conference in Wisconsin. It was a long drive to Green Bay but a good time was had by all. There were some interesting workshops to attend and I had a chance to see some old friends there, too. I had a book signing on Saturday night, and sold a few copies (yay!) and also had a great deal of success at the slot machines. I discovered a Wizard of Oz machine which I felt was prophetic because I just finished drafting a book loosely based on Oz. I sat down, put in my chit, and promptly won \$150 dollars! This was on Friday night, so I managed to play on those winnings for the rest of the weekend.

Yes, indeed. A good time was had by all. ☺

I also got some good news right before I left on my trip. *Shadow of Doubt*, the next book after *Nowhere to Run*, was accepted for publication by Resplendence Publishing. I'm hoping it will release next year, maybe in the summer. And my editor is interested in seeing *Lie to Me*, which will have one of SoD's secondary characters as the heroine.

I worked on the synopsis for *Lie to Me* while at the conference and sent that in. Keep your fingers crossed it's accepted! I'd like to see it in print in 2011. In the meantime, I need to figure out a good title for the series that encompasses *Brilliant Disguise*, *Nowhere to Run*, *Shadow of Doubt*, and *Lie to Me*. I'm sure it'll come to me when I least expect it.

## In Other News

I'll be co-teaching a Community Education class this fall on writing for publication. It will be a five-week course and we plan to cover the gamut of the publishing process: how to get started, techniques for writing and staying on target, how to find a publisher and query the publisher, what happens if you get accepted – or rejected – and how to find critique partners and others to help you.

My teaching partner is my critique partner, and she's going to handle the writing exercises and coaching. If you're in the Burnsville/Savage area (Minnesota), look for the ISD 191 catalog this fall. We'll be listed in there for a five-week course. Of course, this means I need to start preparing some writing materials for that course – bibliographies, statistical summaries about publishing, and other "class notes." I'll need to carve out some time to do that.

I'm also finishing edits on *Living Proof*, the second book in the New Human Intercession series, which kicks off this fall with *Human Touch*. That's a paranormal/other planet series, so it's a real change of pace from my current writing.

## What's Next?

I have an upcoming book signing in Vinton, Iowa (my hometown) on June 20<sup>th</sup>, so if you're in the area, stop in Nature's Corner on 4<sup>th</sup> Street between 1 and 4. I'll be there, chatting with people, signing books, and just schmoozing and hanging out. I'm really looking forward to it. My hometown is very small (4000+ people), so there's no bookstore. The Nature's Corner folks have been stocking my books because it's hard for some people to order online or get to the nearby town to order books. I hope it will be a good day for all!

I'll be here in Minnesota for three weeks, then traveling again for family fun in Denver at the end of July. Then in August I'll be traveling again, to the Killer Nashville mystery conference. I've never been to that conference, so it should be interesting. After that my travel schedule gets busy again, and I'll be in and out of town until the end of October.

I also have three books to write and I'd like to finish them by the end of summer. Yes, I'm working on three at once. One is the final book in the Deadly Landscapers' series, and one is the next book in the Oz series. Those two are first-person mysteries. The other one is *Lie to Me*, the romantic suspense book I'm hoping my publisher will like. It's drafted but needs work because I want to tie it in to the previous book I just sold.

Looks like I'll have a busy summer indeed!

