

Nadine Laman Books

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I ~~don't~~ blog: I brag, celebrate, and shamelessly advertise!!!

Welcome! to the director's cut of my newsletter. You know, or should know by now, I'm *dyslexic*. Relax. Put away your red pen. Sit a bit, let's chat and spend a few minutes together.

Kathryn's Beach and High Tide and Storm Surge are available **NOW**.
www.NadineLamanBooks.com

Writing News Briefs:

If you've read Kathryn's Beach, you know what we did this Thanksgiving Day. We don't attend every year. I'm not sure why that is, looking back at it now, but it is great to see everyone.

Our family is like a small town. My youngest uncle is 8 years older than my oldest cousin. About half of my cousins are grandparents, which means I was playmates to their kids. I have 27 first cousins (plus spouses) on my mother's side of the family. Add kids and grandkids to the mix and that's my family.

This summer one of my twin aunts died (90+ years old) and a few months ago a new set of twin girls was born into the family – and another new baby arrived last month. I thought that was kinda neat to gain three babies this year.

Grandmother would have been delighted to see her family. As far as she was concerned, there is no such thing as too many kids to love. I agree. (So now you know where that stuff came from for Kathryn's Beach.)

The day after Thanksgiving we went to Seal Beach to spend the day walking around, looking for shells, and taking photos. I was disappointed to not get a

few great sunset photos, but the clouds were all wrong - cirrus clouds mixed with smog. I had hoped to get photos I could use to make a calendar.

I guess I'm going to have to take a class or two and see what I'm doing wrong with the photos I have. In the test calendars the photos have been horribly pixilated.

I have actual photos and even the 35mm negatives. I've even had photos professionally digitalized. Perhaps I'm not telling them the right thing to get the dpi I need. Maybe Santa will bring a book on all of this and I can spend the year figuring it out.

Nonetheless, it was great to be in California – SoCal, as natives call it. There is something about that beach that gets me in the insides like a comforting hug. I hope it came through in my books: Kathryn's Beach, High Tide, and Storm Surge.

I ♥ my blog: First Draft
<http://nadelaman.blogspot.com>

And from our shameless advertising dept.



ORDER NOW!

Order the complete trilogy and receive a FREE matching journal.

ORDER HERE!

- Kathryn's Beach
- High Tide
- Storm Surge

Kathryn's Beach, High Tide, and Storm Surge are available here: www.NadineLamanBooks.com

Kathryn's Beach takes you there – right to the water's edge and all the moods of the Pacific Ocean.

The history, the anguish, the place, the people – they all participate in telling Kathryn’s story.

High Tide shows you what Kathryn is made of – more than you’d guess. It is a wild ride, thanks to Sister Theresa and Dana. There is Shasta, Monica, Mother Elizabeth – and Joseph, the promise of love.

But the story doesn’t end there. Kathryn’s biggest adventure awaits in Storm Surge. Who is shooting at her and why? Will she manage to win over the staff or is she alone? Is it the corruption she finds that threatens her life? Read the excerpts, watch the video. Order Storm Surge today!

<http://www.nadinelamanbooks.com>

I get...the LAST WORD! (Naturally!)

Book sales are down across the board, from large publishers and bookstore chains to the small indie outfits, like mine.

In private, writers talk about the difficulties of marketing books, especially in the absence of huge marketing budgets and set retail outlets. We try to figure out how to reach readers – that is a tricky question and no one seems to have the answers, even if they say they do. Blogs have followed the decline in sales and the publisher’s layoff of staff.

I know friends and family who never buy a book – new. They get them from friends, from garage sales (boot sales), or borrow from libraries.

With that knowledge it is hard to spend money on marketing when the numbers aren’t there. Online retailers and bookstores take such a discount there is hardly more than a few pence left for the writer.

That results in desperate spending to buy the program, book, or service that guarantees some sort of [ambiguous] sales success. We’ve all done that at least once and agree it was wasted money.

There are those who say discount the book price – deeply. I’ve tried all kinds of price ranges and it makes no difference in sales. If someone really wants a book they will eventually figure out a way to get it.

The reviews for my books are good. People love them, even people I’d never expect to like literary fiction – especially since the books are a bit girly and ‘interior’ and social work stuff.

But do people like them enough to recommend to friends or just read, enjoy, and shelf?

It is all very discouraging considering the amount of time it takes to write a book and even more time to do the rewrites and make it right for our readers.

The whole gig of getting published can take several years. The literary agent research alone is mind boggling.

From time-to-time, even I wonder why I do it. Then I think about the feeling of writing a story. The feel of excitement as it unfolds and new things about the main character are revealed for the first time, things I would have never planned in advance.

I love watching the word count grow with the ease of any art taking form; the natural way the tools of the craft feel when used at just the right moment; the images in the mind taking form in words on paper – all swell our emotions and drive us to write.

That’s why we do it; that’s why we write. We the undiscovered closet writers and we the widely published cannot not write. There is a magic in the telling of a story to another person. It connects us – writer and reader – even if we never meet in person we still touch each other – deeply.

Sometimes like with Kathryn, a bit of the character stays with us for the rest of our lives. Write well, my writer friends. Enjoy deeply my reader friends.

Happy
Holidays
from my
family to
yours!

