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

Welcome! Great things are happening for me and my writing friends. Share this newsletter link freely. If quoted, follow the rules of professional conduct & good manners by using citations.

You know, or should know by now, I'm dyslexic and this is the director's cut. It's unedited.

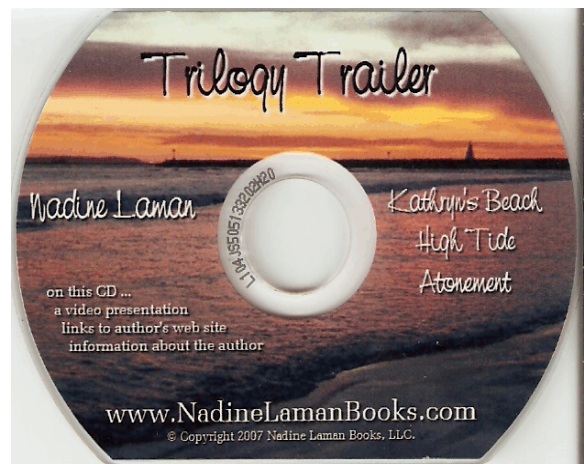
Since this is a **monthly** newsletter there is a **month's worth** of links and other stuff in each newsletter. It's all there with you in mind. Don't ya feel special? Well, you ARE!

Kathryn & Co. News Briefs: The big news in Kathryn's world is the video for my book. In the first 30 days that my Trilogy Trailer was on YouTube®, there were 205 hits on it. While that is no where near the "most popular" list on YouTube®, I'm pleasantly surprised. It is my first post on YouTube®, so I don't have a ready made fan base. The 205 views were from scratch. The video isn't funny or provocative, so that takes it a long distance from being a high traffic video. Considering all that, I think 205 is a good showing for the Trilogy Trailer's first month. It must be tapping into YouTube® viewers who had not heard of me prior to that upload on Feb 3rd.

According to one source, the one that tracks this stuff, my website hits from YouTube represent 8.26% of the incoming hits during that same 30 days. Finally! A marketing thing that is fun, and seems to be working ~ somewhat.

In March I had my book video put onto a **digital business card**. Yes! Really! It is called a Biz Card® by Justin Clegg and the gang at 5-Pints Productions. Justin patented the process to compress far more data onto a disc than is ordinarily possible. My Biz Card® comes no where near stretching the limits of what can be done, but I like the little bugger and think the people over at 5-Pints Production did a fantastic job.
jclegg@5pints.net

If you want to see one of these digital business cards, send me your mailing address by email. I'll send one to you for free. I'm not collecting addresses, so no worries. I won't keep them.



I've been asked what I'm going to do with this Biz Card®. Several have suggested I should sell them. I'm not sure there is any market for what can be had on YouTube® or my website for free.

I plan to use it like a regular business card. My hope is that it will get more attention than a paper business card. It would be nice if it gets me some ink in a local newspaper that doesn't ordinarily cover indie books. I've given a supply to the shop owners who carry my books. They can give them to their customers as a bonus gift. I hope it speaks for me in ways a paper business card does not. I hope it goes places I don't have the time to go. And, in the end, I hope it inspires people to buy my books and read them. It's that simple. Time will tell if it works the way I want it to work. Plus, I have plans for expansion...

Thanks to Carolyn Howard-Johnson and Carolyn Sheppard for their extensive suggestions to my promo sheet. Marketing isn't my thing, but it is theirs. Thanks ladies.

www.carolynhoward-johnson.com
www.myspace.com/98749481

Also thanks to the men in my life who say everything I do is marvelous. You guys aren't much help, but I'll keep you anyway.

Joyce H., the person responsible for producing my beautiful website, has always had a good eye and been very honest about my ideas. Joyce had positive comments about my digital business card. It doesn't get much better than that!

Reviews & Interviews: **Spoiler warning!**

Kathryn's Beach & High Tide reviews are on my website home and review pages. The interview: www.readerviews.com/InterviewLaman.html

In the this is really cool department:

Something is going on with some of my fans. And, it is spreading...!

The first year, most fan mail was gracious things about my writing. Luckily, only one person was raised by wolves and commented about a couple of typos. Sheesh! Lately though, something weird-er has been going on. Sure there are still the general "atta girl" comments. (Thank you, I appreciate them.) Like the best of fan bases, my fans are starting to get up close and personal. They send the specific page number of the things they liked best in my books. **Call me crazy, but I think that is just the coolest thing going to have MY BOOK QUOTED TO ME.**

You guys ROCK! I love my readers!

Yes, I have FINALLY started to rewrite/edit Atonement! Whoo-Hoo!

What's Next? With me, no one ever knows, do they? Sign up at the lower left side of my website home page for notice of each edition of this free newsletter.

In the that's enough about me department...let's celebrate each other!!!

Hold the press, this is really BIG:

These books **are available now!** Contact the authors for signed copies of their books.

There is a new look to the book section with the books arranged by categories and genre to make it easier for readers to find the perfect book to read while you're waiting for Atonement.

Here is an amazing radio interview with author **Phil Harris** interviewing author **Tom Brown**. www.internetvoicesradio.com/Arch-PhilHarris.htm

Featured on YouTube®

Tell me if you have a book related video & upload it to YouTube®, I'll add it to this list.

Kathryn's Beach, High Tide, Atonement:
www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fu6f_4ab0uk

Games Poor Kids Play:
www.youtube.com/watch?v=6C09HDXxveA

Men Bleed Too/She Taught Me To Laugh Again:
www.youtube.com/watch?v=qd68dijXjpk

Phil Harris interview:
www.youtube.com/watch?v=CEShQA3Bf38

Celise Downs interview:
www.youtube.com/watch?v=e6AsdXkLwhA

June Austin interview:
www.youtube.com/watch?v=SbS8AHWyc4s

Books! Ladies & Gentlemen, here they are!

FICTION: by genre

Action/Adventure

Frederiko Aguilar, US author of The Desert Has No King. Think gambling, mafia, corruption, beautiful women, and all things Las Vegas. **New LOOK to his web** www.TheDesertHasNoKing.com

Ray Derby, US, new release Clouds of Deception. Also from Ray, Shadow Government and Bradley's Ghost. I can't put down his great gov conspiracy/terrorist novels! Get all three books from Ray at www.RayDerby.com **New LOOK for his website.**

Mainstream and Literary Fiction

Joyce Faulkner, US author, In the Shadow of Suribachi, WWII novel about the battle on *Iwo Jima*. www.joycefaulkner.com

Philip Harris, US author, A Maine Christmas Carol. It's a New twist to a well known classic. TJ is visited by his father who was killed in the Iraq war. Will the three spirits penetrate TJ's drug clouded life? www.christmascarol.bravehost.com

Carolyn Howard-Johnson, US author of This is the Place. If you're half Mormon and half Protestant, how do you fit in? Discrimination has many faces. www.carolynhoward-johnson.com www.sharingwithwriters.blogspot.com

Irving Karchmar, US author, Master of the Jinn: A Sufi Novel. This English language book was translated into Russian, Bahasa (Indonesia), and soon in Turkish! An absolutely beautiful book and website! www.MasteroftheJinn.com

Book review:

www.inspiremagazine.ca/articles/masterjinn.html

Nadine's (that's me) Book List:

Kathryn's Beach 05 & 06

High Tide (Kathryn #2) 06

Atonement (Kathryn #3) 07

Nolan C. Lewis, US, Author, Clouds Are Always White on Top, WW2 Air War; World War II history buffs will love this aviator's believable fiction. Complete with historical photos.

www.pendoreillepress.com

Mystery

Nolan C. Lewis, US, mystery author, Mauled. A victim is found with a nine-pound splitting maul protruding from his head and the only prints on the handle is his! Ewww! Messy! And, Nolan seems so nice??? www.pendoreillepress.com

Joyce Faulkner, US author, Losing Patience, ponders the natural and supernatural aspects of mortality. www.joycefaulkner.com

Thriller

Philip Harris and Brian Doe, US authors who started a NEW GENRE **Spiritual Thriller** with their book Waking God. Philip and Brian have a second book in the works. This book is getting great reviews. www.WakingGod.com

CHILDREN'S BOOKS: by age group

Young Children

Kip Cossom, US artist/author, Ned Visits New York. WOW! Kip sold over 1,000 copies of his self-published children's book in one month! Book & children's wear available at www.KipKids.com

Betty Landon, US children's author, Feather From the Sky. Hot off the press! www.featherfromtheskybook.com

Young Adult

Celise Downs, US YA author of Dance Jam Productions and Secrets and Kisses. Being a teen is never simple, is it? www.celisedowns.com
www.geminiwisdom.blogspot.com

NONFICTION: by category

Alternate History; Spirituality

June Austin, UK author of Genesis of Man. If you like alternate history, mystic places, ancient wisdom & spirituality, get this book. New cover art coming soon. Also on amazon USA.

www.JuneAustin.co.uk

Historical

Rusty Clark, US, historian/artist/author of Stories Carved in Stone. Graveyard Series: Agawam, ME; Holyoke, ME; and Enfield CT. This is history and folk art. Click below for photos. <http://storiescarvedinstone.com/coppermine/> for book orders. www.dogpondpress.net/stone.html

Nolan C. Lewis, US, Author, IONE, Circa 1930 Memories of a small town. Cool photos! www.pendoreillepress.com

Memoir

Thomas Brown, US author, Men Bleed Too, and She Taught Me To Laugh Again. Tom writes about breast cancer from the husband's perspective, and the story of a second life after the death of a spouse. Laugh is a beautiful real-life love story. www.ThomasBrownBooks.com

Here's the REVIEW of Men Bleed Too. www.readerviews.com/ReviewBrownMenBleedToo
Interview with Tom, get the backstory here www.readerviews.com/InterviewBrownThomas

Carolyn Howard-Johnson, US author, Harkening: A Collection of Stories Remembered. The little white lies every family tells are stitched together into this family saga. What's your family secret? www.carolynhoward-johnson.com
www.sharingwithwriters.blogspot.com

Andrew Revels, US author of Games Poor Kids Play. (Language warning.) It's a collection of short stories, slices of Americana, & hilarious childhood antics. Someone's going to get hurt with these games! www.andrewrevels.com

Irene Watson, US memoir author of The Sitting Swing. Irene Watson's work as a therapist could go no further until she faced her own past; her fearful, highly sheltered years growing up as an only child to Ukrainian immigrants in 1940s Alberta, Canada. www.irenewatson.com

Publishing and **Marketing**

Carolyn Howard-Johnson, US author, The Frugal Book Promoter: How to Do What You Publisher Won't. www.sharingwithwriters.blogspot.com
www.carolynhoward-johnson.com

Jerry Simmons, US author of INSIDE The Business of Publishing – What writers Need to Know. Second book coming, What Writers Need to Know About Publishing. Jerry worked 20+ years in NY at a BIG time, real-deal publishing house. www.WritersReaders.com

POETRY:

Krissy Brady, Canadian author's debut poetry collection Title Wave from a Canadian press. Contact Krissy at www.krissybrady.com

Carolyn Howard-Johnson, US, and **Magdalena Ball**, Aussie, authors of Cherished Pulse, an eBook of love.
www.compulsivereader.com/html/images/cherishedpulse.htm

Carolyn Howard-Johnson, US author, Tracings, a chapbook of poetry.
www.sharingwithwriters.blogspot.com
www.carolynhoward-johnson.com

Coming in 2007! in alphabetical order...
(drum roll please)

Carolyn Causton, UK writer/musician, audio book collection of ghost stories.

Aurora Collins, US author, her debut end time thriller, has turned into a two book deal from Tigress Press. Book One: SHADOW WALK: THE GATHERING; Book Two: SHADOW RISING: THE DARK COMETH.
www.freewebs.com/auroracollins/index.htm

Joyce Faulkner, US author, For Shrieking Out Loud! Totally rolling on the floor funny lady.
www.joycefaulkner.com

Jeannine Garsee, US author of BEFORE, AFTER and Somebody in BETWEEN, Bloomsbury USA, June 07. www.jeanninegarsee.com
Jen's blog www.onegrapeshy.livejournal.com

Kathe Gogolewski, US paranormal romance, Flight of the Gryphon www.tri-studio.com/

Ray Grant, US writer, Don't Be Impatient...Read a Short Story! www.tri-studio.com/

Coming in 2008! Nothing like looking ahead

with anticipation!

Carleen Brice, US author is adding fiction to her long list of writing credits: journalist, nonfiction author, editor. Carleen has sold her first work of fiction, **Orange Mint and Honey** Ballantine Books 08. Congrats Carleen! Her books to date are Lead me Home, Age Ain't Nothing but a Number, and Walk Tall. A re-release is coming for Walk Tall. Watch her blog for details.
www.pajamagardener.blogspot.com

Karen Dionne, US thriller author, Freezing Point, from Berkley in Oct 08. Very cool website. www.karendionne.net Karen is the co-founder of Backspace writers' forum. www.bksp.org Writing conference in NY this spring. Thanks Karen for the info!!! www.backspacewritersconference.com

In the lovely land of rewrite & edits:

These new kids on the block are working on their first book. Just gotta love their fresh voices. I've been lucky enough to preview bits and pieces of many of these works. **We wish each of you God's speed with your writing projects...**

Karin Carstens, US novel, Far From Forever and Beyond The Shadow.

Cathy Cole, North Ireland mystery writer, Where There's Smoke.

Leah Collins, US novel, Bay Window set in Vancouver Canada.

Jeannine Garsee, US author, Say the Word. Her second book. www.jeanninegarsee.com
www.onegrapeshy.livejournal.com

Irving Karchmar, US author, working on his second novel, a sequel Tale of the Jinn. Blog: www.darvish.wordpress.com Website: www.MasteroftheJinn.com

Sandra Loveland, US historical fiction YA, untitled.

Jean Marie, US novel, Under the Dryer. Coming very soon.

Jennifer McDonald, US novel, Out of Habit.

Anya Page, US fantasy, Turn of the Lykoi.

Andrew Revels, US novel, Belly of the Beast. Poetry, Breaking the Silence, Games Poor Kids Play (part II), and co-writing a book with his grandfather! www.AndrewRevels.com

Charlotte Saben (yep, she's my cousin), US mystery, Beginning Point.

Rebekah Vandergriff, US nonfiction, What Day Is It?

Russell Waterman, US fiction, untitled, Vietnam War Dogs' story.

AND ME! (Nadine) Red Planet Revolt (SciFi) 08 AND a **collaborative work**... release date is undetermined. Ain't you curious now! Co-writing this ms is incredibly enjoyable experience.

Now a word from our **shameless advertising dept.** (That would be me.)

You can buy books anywhere...internet, ordered at a bookstore, whatever, but all the writers I've listed will sell you a signed copy of their book. There is a huge variety listed, if you can't find a book to read from this list, you aren't trying.

KATHRYN'S BEACH & HIGH TIDE are available through my website Amazon shop, which is at the bottom of every page, disguised as the word (are you ready for this?) Amazon.

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

You do know this stuff is only my opinion, however that doesn't mean I'm wrong.

Book reviews are quite the thing, aren't they? Must have them, but I never select a book based on what some stranger says about it. Do you?

How do "they" do book reviews before a book is released? No, they don't put binder clips on the ms and mail it. The publisher prints ARCs. This **Advance Review Copy** is usually lacking cover art. It is about as ugly as they come. It hasn't been fully edited, but no one minds.

The ARCs are sent to major media targets who have been selected by the marketing/sales department as THE best PERSON to review the book. If the reviewer says something great, it might show up on the book's cover somewhere.

Why wouldn't the review be glowing? The reviewer knows the publisher spends tens of thousands of dollars (or more) a year advertising at that newspaper or radio outlet. A reviewer who wants to keep their job isn't going to lose that ad account with a bad review. The publisher would take their advertising dollars elsewhere.

The exception might be that nothing sells books quite like getting it banned. Everyone's curious about it. Plus, keep in mind that those who hate the book buy lots of copies to burn. Then a bad review is good to have. Yes, I'm totally serious!

Many indie authors pay for a book review company to review their book, what's the difference? It isn't that every book gets a good review. Many "for hire" reviewers of indie books only post the good reviews. We simply don't hear about the bad ones. Maybe that's as it should be.

There are a few bloggers (regular, ordinary people) who pride themselves on giving a "call it like I see" it review. Admirable? I suppose it might be, but just because that one person didn't like the book doesn't mean that a million other people won't fall in love with it.

The big deal, in my mind, is book reviews are like movie reviews. It helps to know the source. This is a good one; www.readerviews.com/

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You know the thing about entering writing contests is you might: win money; win a publishing contract; win a bunch of marketing services that might or might not be "all that"; receive judges' notes; and of course, get to add to your website and promo material that you are an award winning author. Nice.

On one writer's forum is a man who says he's a judge for an indie book contest. (I don't know which contest, so don't write and ask me.) The thing I find odd is he doesn't seem to have a lot of credentials to do this task. Everything else he posts seems anti-indie. What is even more incredible is that he is foolish enough to put all of that in print on the internet. Oh well.

There are several contests that really do mean something special. My personal favorite is the **Needle Award**. There is a traditional writer who guards her identity. She blogs as "Girl on Demand" a spoof on print on demand. Look at the acronym for that one. She never calls herself "g.o.d.", but you've got to love the genius of her choice of identity. Her blog is called POD-DY Mouth. Another brilliant choice, if you ask me.

Writers query her to read their indie books. If she can get through them, she makes a note on her blog. At the end of the year, she picks the best of the best and has NY book experts select the very best book of the year. It is called the **Needle Award** because she is "finding needles, discarding hay." This year's Needle Award goes to (drum roll, please) RANSOM SEABORN.

No, I don't know Bill Deasy. He doesn't know I put his book in my newsletter. I just thought winning the Needle Award last month was worth mentioning. www.girlondemand.blogspot.com

Congratulations to Bill Deasy! Not only does "Girl" and her judges like the story, I like the cover. Check it out!

The sad news is that girl on demand, Poddy Mouth, is hanging up her blogging days. Her last post was just before the Ides of March. I will miss her wit and her open-mindedness toward Indie books. It is rare for someone traditionally published to be as shameless in her acceptance of Indie literature. Via con Dios, girl.



This is sad: www.wivenhoe.gov.uk/people/belinda_starling.htm
I wouldn't have known about it if the Grumpy Old Bookman, Michael, hadn't decided to visit his blog and make a post. Ha! I knew he wasn't really "gone". www.grumpyoldbookman.blogspot.com

Editing is extremely important. Besides ugly cover art, bad editing is what gets Indie books a bad name. Keep in mind, a traditionally published book has the benefit of some of the best editors in the country. The ms didn't look that good when they got their hands on it.

Everyone has to self-edit and do rewrites. But, where does an indie writer find an editor at a reasonable price? Good question! I know one good one. I did a little research on freelance editors. There are some pretty big names on the internet. Their prices would blow your socks off. A dose of humility wouldn't hurt these guys!

I found a big name, nationally known editor who wrote a self-editing book. I bought the book. Without looking for them, I found grammar and punctuation errors in the "correct" examples. Plus, if I had edited the book, I would cut the first 25 pages. BORING! Not to mention, the \$17.95 price tag for this 100 page book was over the top on the "over priced" scale. Bummer!

PR and Marketing firms are in full force sending spam mail recently. Once again, let me say this: fiction and non-fiction are not the same thing. So, marketing fiction and non-fiction is not the same thing either. Most marketing books I read are geared to non-fiction. They are clever to say that their methods work equally as well for fiction. Excuse me! Who are they kidding? That simply is not true!

My thoughts are, if you want to sell a poetry book, listen to someone who has sold their own poetry book. If you want to sell fiction, look what has been done in your genre. Fiction & non-fiction aren't 100% interchangeable in marketing.

It's time to quit making these self proclaimed experts rich by buying their books. They are clueless in most areas. If they haven't written & sold a book like yours, they know less about it than you do. Their whole purpose is to sell books to YOU, not to actually sell YOUR books. You'd be better off with someone who has some real experience in selling exactly what you write.

Check out this kid.

www.youtube.com/watch?v=IhWk9SXUjWI&mod_e=related&search= and this one, www.youtube.com/watch?v=EwDqOGTat84

I found someone named "Deborah" posted my YouTube® video link to this website on Feb 25th. This is prior to my digital business card debut on March 7, 07. Click the link below & scroll down. www.thewritersbuzz.com/2007/02/25/high-tide-by-nadine-laman/
I don't know who Deborah is. If any of you know who she is, please express my deepest gratitude to her. This is a very kind thing she has done.

Thanks to Grumpy Old Bookman, Michael Allen, I found these UK authors. www.scarrow.co.uk
This is a cool video. Please watch. www.youtube.com/watch?v=NvEwiUKAM4w

Special thanks to Irene Watson for saving my skin. I appreciate you looking out for me. Hugs.

If you are reading *High Tide*, this is a photo of Father's Beach and the "jump rope passage" around the outcropping of rocks.



It is a matter of seeing the possibilities...dream. I know you can do this masterful thing. Write your BEST BOOK!