

*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.

**Kathryn's Beach** and **High Tide** are available **NOW**. Price reduced on the new editions.  
[www.NadineLamanBooks.com](http://www.NadineLamanBooks.com)

## Writing News Briefs:

I'm back to working on Storm Surge. I can hear some of you say, "Yeah, right." (Yes, 'tis true.)

I LOST the Storm Surge manuscript file on both computers. I'm guessing I was tired and overwrote the file, but was very careful to back it up to the other computer too. (You can see this happening – can't you?) I had to go back to a 2006 version. At least I had that. Whew! Can you imagine? My heart still races when I think of it.

WELL ANYWAY, one of the things I like about writing literary fiction is the turn of a sentence. In any genre, dialogue allows for less than term-paper-perfect English. The beauty of literary fiction is that the rules allow for a creative spin of story elements as well.

If I'd select one literary device as my favorite, I'd say hands down it is foreshadowing. (Symbolism would be second on my list. Imagery, third.)

There are the usual dilemmas, such as, which tells this story best: "It is no longer secret who I am," or "I can no longer keep secret who I am." One has to be wary of beginning too many sentences with "I" when writing in first person (my fav style). In this instance, I must disregard that rule for the ownership of keeping the secret of who she is.

What does that have to do with foreshadowing? Look back in High Tide where Kathryn goes to "Sally's" to deliver the commander's dayrunner®. That's where she says she is not THAT McKinsey. True, she didn't know she was THAT McKinsey then, but it foreshadows later when she learns the truth of her name. To be true to the story, the sentence choice I listed above comes into play. So which is the better choice? The second one, this time.

**Kathryn & Co. News:** Do you have questions about Kathryn and friends? I'd love to hear them. (Yes, really.) [NadineLaman@aol.com](mailto:NadineLaman@aol.com)

**Question:** I don't like that Kathryn is such a wimp in Kathryn's Beach. Why did you do that?

**Answer:** This goes back to fiction mirroring life. Kathryn isn't a wimp. In real life there are many people who are awesome in their professional life, but their personal life is tanked – in one way or another. Unfortunately, more often than not, this happens with women. Kathryn has lost the one thing she does well, the thing that was her reference point, the thing she used to anchor herself. She becomes unsure of everything else. She doesn't even have a last name in Kathryn's Beach, that is how small she feels.

The trilogy, Kathryn's Beach, High Tide, and Storm Surge are meant to be hopeful, encouraging, and empowering. For some readers it's a personal journey. For others, it's simply a story. Her baby steps debunk the myth that 'we' are the only one who feels wobbly. Adversity happens to everyone in different ways, and there is an inner strength in each of us just waiting to be tapped.

I'm aware it's more comfortable reading superhero stories. Leave your comfort zone. Read Kathryn's Beach. In each of us, we are stronger than we realize. That is Kathryn's story.

I ♥ my YouTube® Video!  
[www.youtube.com/watch?v=vwh8DIXKXv8](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vwh8DIXKXv8)

**What's Next?** With me, one never knows – do they? (You have no idea how true this is!)

**\*\*\*I NEED BETA READERS FOR STORM SURGE\*\*\***  
No previous experience with writing or beta reading is needed. There is no monetary gain to be had. But it is kinda cool to read a book before it's published. I love to beta read for Jen Garsee and others.

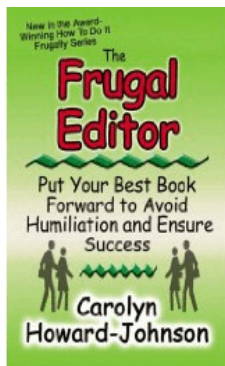
To beta read Storm Surge for me, you have to read the first two books. I'm looking for comments about the storyline (does it progress logically, seamlessly), the character development (do they stay in character in a delightful way), does the story conclude the trilogy satisfyingly? Any comments about the reading experience – is there a boring or flat section that needs to be rewritten or removed? What do you love and hate. That sort of thing. I have editors, so grammar and spelling comments are optional.

You'll be sent a pdf file of Storm Surge. The catch is I need it done within a week this time. So please don't commit if you can't commit fully. Interested? It is a new reading experience for the avid reader. Try it. Email me. [NadineLaman@aol.com](mailto:NadineLaman@aol.com)

In the **"this is really cool"** department:

Once in a while writers swap their books with each other. Carolyn Howard-Johnson and I recently traded books. Look what I got!

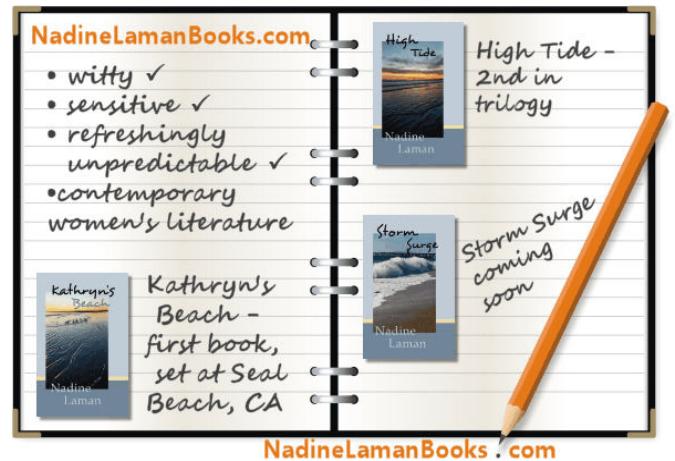
For those who finished their first or millionth ms, The Frugal Editor is the perfect book to guide a writer through the self editing process. If you want



to compete on the big stage, your ms must be as flawless as possible BEFORE you query an agent. Editing your ms is the line in the sand whether writing is a hobby or a career. This is one of the books you should have on your writer's bookshelf.

[www.carolynhoward-johnson.com](http://www.carolynhoward-johnson.com)

And from our **shameless advertising dept.**



Kathryn's Beach and High Tide are ONLY available from my website: [www.NadineLamanBooks.com](http://www.NadineLamanBooks.com)

**Storm Surge coming next month!**

You have the power to **Buzz these books!**  
Tell your friends and join my newsletter list.

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

As we have all come to realize, there is no such thing as a 'last word' when it comes to writers. We never stop. Really. Go look at your book case and see how many books you have by dead writers.

Even death can't shut us up. There is something about the human spirit that loves to tell stories, share them, and hear them.

Every author I know loves to hear from their readers. I encourage it. Tell me what you like and don't like. Ask questions. Email me. Don't overthink this and talk yourself out of it. Every person and every opinion counts. For all the times you've read a book, had questions or comments, thought of contacting the author, even tried to figure out how to contact them, easy, [NadineLaman@aol.com](mailto:NadineLaman@aol.com)

Don't be shy. It's painless and lots of fun. Try it!

**From Texas:** Kathryn's Beach arrived today. Started reading right away. If we're not finished packing in time to move, it's your fault. **(Stage direction: Center stage. Author grins sheepishly. Exits. Lights dim. Cue music.)**

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