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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. This is the unedited director's cut. Cool, eh?

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? **YOU ARE!**

Kathryn & Co. News Briefs: The news in Kathryn's world is the editing on Atonement has finally started to pick up momentum. I know, I know...it's about time. I can hear some of you saying that quite loudly. All I can say is that you should have signed up to be a pre-reader and help move this project along. That boat sailed.

Stats on Atonement: The word count for the ms is 91,117 which is a bit long-ish for its genre. It's tempting to keep everything including the kitchen sink so there can be no question that this is the last of Kathryn's books. You can always reread the stories to combat withdrawal, and I'm only an email away if you need to talk about Kathryn.

Does anyone really want 20,000 more words in Atonement than in Kathryn's Beach or High Tide? I would guess, probably not. I may be surprised.

The first few days after I submit mss to my pre-readers always feels like a blind date. I never know what to expect and the silence kills me. The real test of a story is the readers, not the reviewers or editors, but the real life readers. These pre-readers make very astute comments. I love my beta readers!

The plot thickens (sounds like pudding, doesn't it?) in Atonement. Who is the man parked across the street from Kathryn's apartment with the binoculars? Friend or foe? Guardian or...?

I found the perfect song for Atonement. If you read High Tide, you know there is a song in the story. Ann Zimmerman gave me permission to include her song, Absolute Zero, in High Tide.

You can listen to Absolute Zero here: www.annzimmerman.com/cd2.html The best way to hear it is on the CD in a real CD player OR hear Ann in concert.

The song for Kathryn's Beach is a popular song that I can't use and haven't publicly mentioned because permission to use it couldn't be had. I'll talk to Tomas about using one of his songs.

Time will tell if I can use the Atonement theme song publically. I do hope so! You'll love it.

Just to keep everyone as confused as I am, the title Atonement probably will have to change before publication. The UK Atonement is being made into a film. I can live with a book that could be confused with a ton of other books, but not with a film (that is sacred ground not to be crossed by me). I abdicate the title ~ after I get through the rewrites. (Not to mention the title Atonement is plastered all over my website!)

If you have ideas for a new title for the book, please submit them. Maybe everyone can vote. This isn't a democracy, but on this one thing...

I'm looking for a two word title. It either needs to refer to Kathryn or to the ocean. Don't be shy, send me your suggestions. I'll think of something special for the winner.

In the mean time, I'll continue to refer to the book as Atonement. Are you confused yet?

Like videos? The best view of my book video is on my website where the screen is nice and big.

I have a new supply of my book video mini CDs. It plays in your PC. If you want one, or two or more email me! Yes, you! It's FREE!

It seems that I haven't made it clear that the video is on the FREE mini CD. It plays in your PC. Just put it in your CD tray, wait a minute, and it brings up an interactive flash screen. Click your mouse on the admission ticket and the video plays. Absolutely nothing is added to your computer. How cool is that? Ask for one!

Reviews & Interviews: Juanita Watson from Reader Views just completed an interview of me for High Tide. It's a delight to work with Juanita!

High Tide interview: **Spoiler warning!**
www.readerviews.com/InterviewLamanHT.html

Kathryn's Beach interview:
www.readerviews.com/InterviewLaman.html

Kathryn's Beach & High Tide reviews are on my home page. www.nadinelamanbooks.com

Joyce and I have added more reader comments to the review page of my website. Ck them out.
www.nadinelamanbooks.com/reviews.html

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In the this is really cool department:
Jerry Simmons wrote a profile on me in his 4/25 newsletter. Read it at the link below or at the end of this newsletter.
www.authorsden.com/visit/viewnews.asp?id=17039

When I visit England I want to meet Michael Allen, the Grumpy Old Bookman. Once again, thank you, Michael. I love you, Darlin'
www.grumpyoldbookman.blogspot.com/2007/05/snippets.html

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www(Wonderful Web Wizard) Joyce, the genius behind my website, made more updates to my site. Here's an actual copy of our emails:

Reload the page. What about Arial Black font? (last one) Joyce

I see 9 buttons...did refresh...text doesn't look black (looks white), but it is much easier to read.
Nadine

"Arial Black" is the name of a very common font face. Wasn't referring to the color. Joyce

Oh gee. How embarrassing! Yes, I liked that one.
Nadine

See the blue button with WHITE text here and mouse over it to see the water ripple (refresh the page) www.nadinelamanbooks.com/books.html

Let's face it if you haven't, you should, bookmark my website. There is always something new on there. Yes, A-L-W-A-Y-S. Go look at my new home page. It is like a treasure hunt to find the new stuff every month. Have fun looking around!

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What's Next? With me, one never knows, do they? There is strange stuff at the end of this newsletter. No real surprise that I would write something strange. Just letting you know it is there. I wouldn't want the people who skim to miss it. You know ... I might say something ... um ... provocative or something. Lots to say to you this month. Please bear with me.

There will be a HUGE announcement next month. That is all I'm going to say about that for now. Be sure to mark your calendar to read my June newsletter. It is the best news I've ever had to share. I'm so excited. Ah, it is just wonderful...

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. Pick a new book from the list and curl up with a great new reading experience. Have fun!

Books Featured on YouTube

If you make a book video and upload it to YouTube, I'll add yours to the list below.

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

Sitting Swing:
www.youtube.com/watch?v=K2AmKrhdmh4

Welcome to Nothing Binding writers' community:
www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xlvd2lvb7I

Make your own video. If you use the Windows Movie Maker I can help talk you through the process. (It's probably came on your computer.)

Need help to make a video for your book?
Reader Views.com is launching a new service called "Pre-Views" with a special introductory price for the month of May. See samples of the videos here www.readerviews.com/PreViewsServices.html
Ask questions here Cynthia@readerviews.com

Free signed books drawing every month.
Kathryn's Beach will be on the list for June.
www.readerviews.com/ContestBookGiveaway.html

My friends' Books!

Do you want something new to read, something that is new and fresh? Here is where you'll find new reading adventures and meet new authors.

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

Fred and his book went to the London Book Fair last month. He said it was great! He is going to the Frankfurt Book Fair next. Then, who knows?

Ray Derby, US, new release Clouds of Deception. Also from Ray, Shadow Government and Bradley's Ghost. I can't put down his great action/suspense novels! Ray's books always make me in the mood to watch the Bobby Blue Eyes movie, Three Days of the Condor. Get all three books from Ray at www.RayDerby.com

Great 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*. Read Joyce's book, then rent Clint Eastwood's two new movies and make it a full historical experience! 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?

Fitting in, that is always a big question. Prejudice is complicated, isn't it? We think we were rid of it, but are we? Our founding fathers thought moving across the Atlantic would rid them of prejudice, but I think they brought it with them, inside of them, and they didn't even know it. Sadly it is still a part of our culture. Let's all be more understanding. See what Carolyn wrote.

New LOOK to her website
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
This book is spiritually and artistically beautiful.

Nadine's Book List:

Kathryn's Beach 05 & 06
High Tide (Kathryn #2) 06
Atonement (Kathryn #3) 07
Contemporary women's lit set in Los Angeles and Orange County, California.

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

I'll fly in a moment's notice. Not so much over oceans or in war, but I love flying. Hubby and two kids (so far) are flyboys. And, so is Nolan Lewis. Great book for a history buff or aviator.

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

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Joyce Faulkner, US author, Losing Patience, ponders the natural and supernatural aspects of mortality; twists a philosophical Rubik's Cube to reveal new perspectives of old realities. A focus on ethical conundrums – guilt, forgiveness, fidelity and retribution. Her characters face complex choices about whether to hang on or let go. Their struggles are both bizarre and familiar – life as we know it turned upside down. 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 and children's wear available at www.KipKids.com

Betty Landon, US children's author, Feather From the Sky. Hot off the press! A back yard adventure for every kid to enjoy. 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? Two great stories for young adult readers. With more books coming. www.celisedowns.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. **Watch for new cover art and new format to be released soon**. Also on amazon USA. Euro readers contact June via her website: 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

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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 about a second life after the death of a spouse. Great books. She Taught Me To Laugh Again 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

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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 are your family's secrets? www.carolynhoward-johnson.com
www.sharingwithwriters.blogspot.com

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Andrew Revels, US author of Games Poor Kids Play. (Language warning.) A collection of short stories, slices of Americana, & hilarious childhood antics. **Thank God, ANDREW wasn't my kid!** AJ is a terrific writer. If you can read this book and not laugh, there's something seriously wrong! www.andrewrevels.com

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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

I'm in the process of reading Irene's book. It's quite incredible and takes me to a world I haven't experienced.

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

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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:

Poetry is reviving again, and it always does, it seems. Check out these gems!

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

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Carolyn Howard-Johnson, US, and **Magdalena Ball, OZ**, authors of Cherished Pulse, an eBook.
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...

Joyce Faulkner, US author, For Shrieking Out Loud! www.joycefaulkner.com

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Jeannine Garsee, US author of BEFORE, AFTER and Somebody in BETWEEN, Bloomsbury USA, June 07. One more month and we can get this book. Yeah! www.jeanninegarsee.com
Jen's blog www.onegrapeshy.livejournal.com
Whoo-Hoo! Her cover art is up on amazon!
www.amazon.com/Before-Somebody-Between-Jeannine-Garsee/dp/159990022X/ref=sr_1_1/002-7516431-7027223?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1178040549&sr=1-1

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

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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

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Karen Dionne, US thriller author, Freezing Point, from Berkley in Oct 08. Cool website. www.karendionne.net Karen is the co-founder of Backspace writers' forum. www.bksp.org Writing conference in NY May 31 & June 1. Check out this site! www.backspacewritersconference.com

In the lovely land of rewrite & edits:

These writers working on their book. Some are first books. 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.

Aurora Collins, US author, end time thrillers. Book One: SHADOW WALK: THE GATHERING; Book Two: SHADOW RISING: THE DARK COMETH.
www.freewebs.com/auroracollins/index.htm

Leah Collins, US novel, Bay Window.

Jeannine Garsee, US author, Say the Word. Her second YA novel. 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, YA, historical untitled.

Jean Marie, US, novel, Under the Dryer.

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, and co-writing a book with his grandfather! www.AndrewRevels.com

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

Rebekah Vandergriff, US nonfiction, What Day Is It? This one is very close to done!

Russell Waterman, US fiction, untitled, about VietNam War Dogs.

AND ME! (Nadine) A **collaborative work**... release date is undetermined. Ain't you curious!

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

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

KATHRYN'S BEACH & HIGH TIDE are available through my website at the bottom of every page.

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

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

Nothing binding ... writers and readers, this is 'da place where we're all meeting to party. Be there or B□. www.NothingBinding.com Nothing Binding is a community of writers ... nonfiction, fiction, poetry, playwrights, screenwriters, copy writers ~ you name it. We are gathering together to make it easier for readers to find us and our works. Many of the writers are published, but not all of us, so it is truly an opportunity to follow a person's writing career from the early days.

Nothing Binding is one month old. Beta testing of the site is going extremely well thanks to the tireless efforts of our hosts: Jerry Simmons and Ben Ruddy. BYOB (bring your own book/buy yourself our books) and join the party ... This is the start of something big! www.NothingBinding.com

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Another YouTube, just for fun: (Dedicated to Juanita Watson)
www.youtube.com/watch?v=qReKppA71DE&mod=e=related&search=

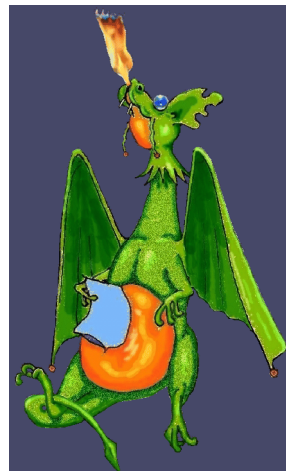
What's the deal with **small presses**? Well, for one thing, they are considered traditional publishing, so there goes that indie stigma out the window. Wahoo! Bookstores are more willing to shelf a traditional book, even a bad one, over an indie book, even a good one. Many small presses have distribution beyond the internet. Often they accept direct and unsolicited queries, so no more agent queries to write. Wahoo again. We are all happy about that, right? Nothing against lit agents, but query letters are no fun.

So what is the down side? IMO, the biggest risk is the fact that many of these companies hinge on one person. When that person falls ill, the company closes without warning leaving writers hanging. Perhaps someday they will learn to bring in a second in command, who is not in the family, so the company can ride out personal hiccups. For many of these companies, that day has not arrived. In the last five months, I know of three books that were stranded when small presses went down. As they become more corporate, this won't be an issue for writers.

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Debuting from FRANCE! **Will the dragon ... drum roll, please.** Will? Will?

Come on darlin' show the people how you fly into children's hearts ... swish ... Let's get a spot (light) on him and start the music ...



Andy Kemp in France is the artist. If you need illustrations, ask Andy. Just for the record, Andy speaks English, so you don't have to know French to email him.

andy.beauxreflets@alicedadsl.fr

Website:

www.beauxreflets.com

Will & friends are here

www.beauxreflets.com/whimsical.html

Other illustrators: I know it is a nightmare to look for book services on the internet. Who do you trust? Here is a list of people I know have illustrated books. I don't know if they are available a the moment. Email them and ask.

Kathe Gogolewski in California (um, yes that is a country) Kathe has done quite a bit of work for Authors Coalition. I didn't have time to ask, but I'm sure they will come over here and flog me if they mind that I post their art by Kathe. AC's link is on my links page of my website. Kathe's website: www.tri-studio.com/
Email: kgogolewski@sbcglobal.net



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Crystalwizard from the International Writing forum, My Writers Circle. Crystal has generously helped a ton of writers. At the moment, I can't find the post, but I'm sure there was one with an offer to illustrate for other writers. I found this sample of her work: www.artwanted.com/artist.cfm?ArtID=20112&SubGal=Book%20Covers
Her Website: <http://sojourn.omnitech.net/>

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And there are a couple of others I will list next month, after I make sure it is okay with them.

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Carolyn Howard-Johnson is my resident expert on Amazon promotional opportunities. Here is one of her lists from Listmania. www.amazon.com/Times-UCLA-Festival-Books-Authors/lm/RJKG87QP6FGCL/ref=cm_lmt_srch_f_1_rsrsrcs1/002-7516431-7027223

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Jerry Simmons from www.writersReaders.com listed me as his profiled author in his newsletter 4/27/07:

What can I say about Nadine Laman that hasn't already been said. Nadine is a self-proclaimed recluse, but hardly anyone who knows her would agree. On rare occasions friends persuade her to write a newsletter article or guest blog for them. UK's Michael Allen, who blogs as Grumpy Old Bookman, has mentioned Nadine several times. Here's one of them; www.grumpyoldbookman.blogspot.com/2007/02/friday-roundup.html

Nadine definitely watches the book industry and analyzes the trends and rhetoric. She often rejects the most popular indie marketing fads to pursue her own style, which is evident on her website: www.NadineLamanBooks.com. One of her recent innovative efforts is her digital

business card which includes hyperlinks and a flash version of a book video she created featuring the real beach in her trilogy; *Kathryn's Beach*, *High Tide*, and *Atonement*. Here is one of her videos: www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fu6f_4ab0uk. Request her free digital business card at NadineLaman@aol.com.

The most notable thing about Nadine is that she is passionate about writing and writers. She has writing colleagues in a several countries who write in a variety of genre and publishing formats. Many of her writer friends are listed in her monthly newsletter:

www.NadineLamanBooks.com/newsletter.html. Nadine believes in helping other writers, and mentors a very small number of young writers, saying it is a way to give back to the craft she loves.

When asked about her friends' writing, and her own books and writing projects; Nadine beams with enthusiasm. She personally answers each fan mail and is amazed at the number of people who write to say they have read her books two and three times.

Nadine writes contemporary women's literature. Her compelling first person present tense style is extremely engaging. She is currently working on several writing projects and co-writing a novel that really has her excited. To read more about Nadine Laman, go to this recent interview: www.readerviews.com/ReviewLamanHighTide.html.

Nadine is a native of Southern California who now lives in Phoenix, Arizona, with her husband and three sons. There you have my pick for this week's featured author, Nadine Laman.

Ah, Thanks Jerry, I'm humbled and honored.

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

www.youtube.com/watch?v=r4C3CmmGUQk



Happy 42nd
Birthday (again),
Charley!