



As the Author Learns

Bits & bites about publishing & writing
from

J L Wilson

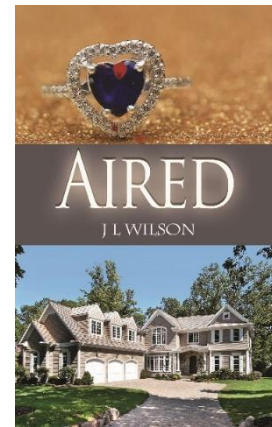
Author of mysteries, time travel, romances, &
other books that defy categorizing

What's Happening?

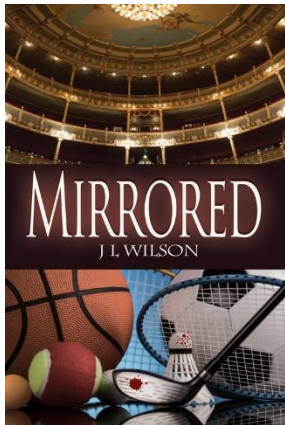
What a busy year I've had!

First, and most importantly: I have a new book out. This is my Jane Eyre book, in which Charlotte Rochester (nanny) meets John Aire (billionaire) and all kinds of shenanigans ensue including the St. John's Bible (<https://saintjohnsbible.org/>), dancing, a twisted religious ritual, and haute couture shopping.

It's available right here: <https://books2read.com/b/47gRkL>.



This is my 38th book to be in print since I started on this crazy journey back in 2007.



What else has happened this year? Lest we forget, *Mirrored* released early in the year. That was my "Snow White and the 7 Jocks" book.

Then, I wrote *Reddy*, which was my Little Red Riding Hood book. I finished that one in early winter. Next I wrote *Hide*, my Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde story. I'm letting it sit for a time before I go back and review it. I'm not 100% sure it all hangs together. Of course, I say that about almost every book I write, so maybe I'm wrong.

I did a review of the third book I wrote this year, *Crowned*. That was my MacBeth book, and I'm pleased to report that it hangs together nicely. I added a few touches here and there and beefed up the ending somewhat. I think it'll be ready to submit to my editor at some point in the future.

And I just finished *Souled*, my Dracula story. I decided to tackle that for NaNoWriMo (National Novel Writing Month), so I wrote that in November. I *almost* got it all done during the month, but I needed two more days to write the final scene. I am very happy with

how it turned out, but I think I need to go back and add in a few more details. I'll let it sit for a few months then I'll review.

I also edited another book to submit for next year and I decided on *Heir*, my Rapunzel book. If it's accepted, I expect it to come out next year sometime. Fingers crossed!

That means I wrote four new manuscripts, had 2 books release with my publisher, plus I released my 3 Celestial Service books. And I did a review of my Big Series (which I still hope to release soon).

Yep. A busy year.

In Other News

I used a different technology this time when writing my Dracula book. Before this, I always used a small spiral notebook to corral my notes: when things happened, floor plans, pictures of characters, and snippets of text.

I'm accumulating a lot of little notebooks because I do one for every book. So I researched using a digital notebook. There are apps available for tablets and other standalone devices, and I reviewed them all. I tried several apps on my iPad using my digital pencil, but the writing just didn't feel good and I had a hard time uploading other files (image files and PDFs of websites that I use for research) to use in the app.

Almost all the devices I studied take handwritten notes and convert them to PDFs. That's not the best option, but on further study, I decided I could make that work. I read reviews and I settled on a ReMarkable tablet (<https://remarkable.com/>) for a couple of reasons.

First of all, I have a trial period of about 2 months so if it didn't work, it was easy to return. Secondly, it has the feeling of a paper page. When I write on it with a stylus, it feels very like a notebook. And thirdly, it had a very easy to learn interface. I stumbled a bit when uploading documents for backup, but once I got the hang of it: easy-peasy.

I used it exclusively for my Dracula book and I think it worked out well. So I'll be using that method going forward. The only downside is everything is in black and white, but I can live with that.

Now, what to do with the notebooks I've purchased to use "someday". Hmm.

What's Next?

Holiday time! There are always several local events I like to attend this time of year, so that will keep me busy. I also want to map out what books I'll write next year. I think I'll tackle *The Scarlet Letter* and *Frankenstein* for sure. I'm not sure what else might capture my attention.

And yes, I want to get covers done and prep those 15 books for release, hopefully in 2023. Busy times ahead!