

# 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?

Spring is here -- somewhere. Not here in the Midwest, but I'm sure it's lurking, right around the corner. That's my Busy Time at work, because all of our gardening activities are gearing up and going full steam ahead into summer.

On top of that, my husband had a health scare. He developed two large blood clots on his lungs, which luckily were found and he's now being treated. Also lucky is the fact that he exercises so much. That's how he knew he had problems, because he couldn't exercise as vigorously as he usually does. That was a scare!

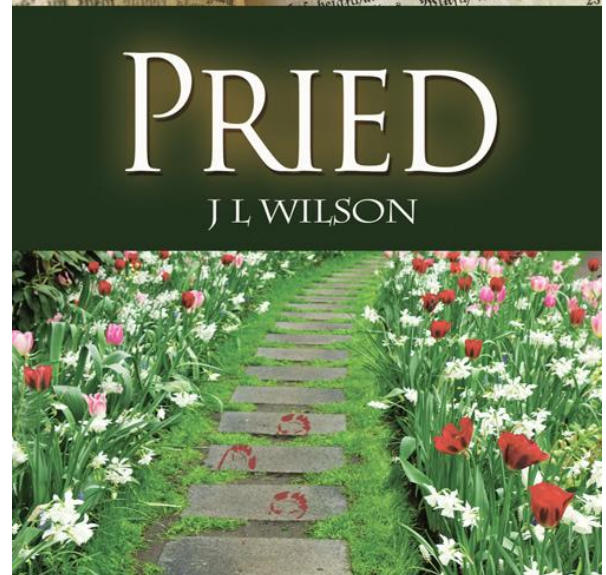
But all of that is behind us now and it's onward and upward, right? And speaking of onward: I got my cover for *Pried*. My only complaint about the cover is I wish the bloody footprints were a bit, well, bloodier. That's just me, though, being blood-thirsty. ☺

In addition to the cover, I have a release date--May 8. It's available for pre-order now:

<https://www.amazon.com/Pried-Remembered-Classics-Romance-Book-ebook/dp/B07NWZN5WG/>

It's chock full of all those characters you kind of remember from *Pride and Prejudice*: Jane Austin, Fitz Williams, plus a lot of double-dealing in academia, land fraud, and gardens.

In other news for the Remembered Classics series, I have a new contract for the next book in the series. That will be *Whole*, and it stars Alice and the Hatter, and a trip down a white rabbit hole... sort of. I just signed the contract, so I have no idea on when that might release.



I'll need to work on the contractual information for it -- setting up the back-cover copy, detailing what I want for the cover, working on a tagline. None of those are really time-consuming but it does require me to revisit the book so I can remember the right details to include. And while I'm doing that, I'm writing another book and working on promo ideas for a third book, *Pried*.

Yes, it does get confusing sometimes.

## In Other News

I finished my rewrite of Book 8 for the Endless Dream series. I was surprised how difficult it was to do. I thought all I'd have to do is take a bit from Book 7, some from the original Book 8, mash it all together and call it done.

Nope, it didn't work out that way. I ended up writing all new text for at least half of it. Some of the scenes that I thought would work just didn't fit in. I came up with an entirely new sub-plot that I wanted to flesh out, so I rewrote almost as much as I wrote.

I finished that in March and I immediately started work on Book 9, which is where I am now. This is going much smoother because I have a very clear idea of where I want the entire series to finish. That gives me a lot of little hints and scenes to add throughout to get me to that finish line.

My goal is to wrap this up by mid-June. That's when I'll be out of town for a week at a Master Gardener conference, so if I could type The End before I leave for it, then I'll be able to consider new projects when I get back, all rested and refreshed.

I have some travel planned for July, but I want to take that month to work on the business side of publishing. I need to handle those 5 books I have sitting, waiting for a re-read and a re-publish. How to proceed? Self-publish? Work with a publisher? I'm not sure. Self-publishing is appealing because I get to control the process, but it also means that I have to control the process -- find the cover artist, format the books, upload them, and so on.

For now, I'll postpone worrying about that and just focus on writing. If I can finish Book 9 by mid-June, I'll take a breather, use July to tackle business, then hopefully be back to writing by August. I have plots percolating in my brain!

## What's Next?

Once our crazy weather settles down, I'll be into the gardening season. For my personal garden, that's usually a flurry of tidying, evaluating, and doing some planting. For the Master Gardeners, it's a Big Flurry of prepping community gardens, evaluating what survived and what didn't, and making plans for the upcoming events (plant sale and our open house at local gardens). There's always something on the calendar!

