

COFFEE ON SUNDAYS



The Monthly Newsletter for Heather Hiestand, Eilis Flynn, and Anh Leod

NOVEMBER 2007

November Novelties

Though Heather/Anh and Eilis don't have books out this month, they sure are keeping busy! Before we get you up to date, first, we'd like to congratulate **Katie**, who won Heather's MySpace contest this month. Katie wins the book of her choice from Heather/Anh's backlist. Also, **Kim W.** won a copy of Heather's upcoming *Gunshot Grange* (December 6th release) at the Cerridwen Press loop Halloween party. To subscribe to the list that keeps you up to date on Cerridwen authors, send

a blank email to cerridwenchat-subscribe@yahoo.com.

Heather has received some great news. She's been offered a contract for her first nonfiction book and hopes to see *Aromatherapy To Go* in print in 2008. She has started a new contemporary erotic romance (the outline was just approved by her Ellora's Cave editor) and is working on a sexy contemporary (nothing new there). Of course, there's also that secret project Heather and Eilis together are brewing up too! They just won a contest to receive advice on their project from an author they admire. Yeah! Edits are

coming for Heather's first science fiction erotic romance any day now and she's awaiting edits on three other projects too!

Eilis has received her release date for her super-hero fantasy, *Introducing Sonika*. It's out December 13, so open those wallets! She's busy with the second draft of her sci-fi romance and edits on one of her urban fantasy romances, as well as the secret project.

This is the month for NaNoWriMo, or National Novel Writing Month. The goal is to write 50,000 words in one month, which is actually shorter than most novels, but is considered doable in a month. Heather hears you have to plan around Thanksgiving, which really gets in the way toward the end. She's hoping it's okay to spread her 50K around all three projects she's working on! Author Jenna Allen says you can fulfill your daily word count for NaNoWriMo in an hour and a half a day, but

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ON SALE

Heather Hiestand

- "Victoriana" in *Holiday in the Heart* (Highland Press)
- *Cards Never Lie* (Cerridwen Press)
- "Looking Forward, Looking Back" (Lavender Isis Press)
- *One Juror Down* (Cerridwen)

Eilis Flynn

- *The Sleeper Awakes* (Cerridwen)
- *Festival of Stars* (Cerridwen)
- "30-Day Guarantee" (myromancestory.com)

Anh Leod (from Ellora's Cave)

- "Lucky Number Seven"
- "Aphrodite's Necklace"
- "Bijou's Bonds"

UPCOMING RELEASES

- December 6: *Gunshot Grange* by Heather Hiestand (Cerridwen)
- December 13: *Introducing Sonika* by Eilis Flynn (Cerridwen)
- March 13, 2008: *Two on the Hunt* by Heather Hiestand (Cerridwen)
- Early 2008: *Recreating John Doe* by Anh Leod (Ellora's Cave)
- Mid-2008: *In Flight* by Heather Hiestand (Cerridwen)



QUESTION OF THE MONTH
What do you like to read?
Drop us a line at eilisflynn@aol.com so we can get to know you better!

COFFEE ON SUNDAYS

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Featuring Heather Hiestand's short story "Victoriana"

For more information, see www.coffeeonsundays.info
www.heatherhiestand.com
www.eilisflynn.com

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© 2006 Highland Press
Excerpt, "A Billion-Dollar Romance Novel Industry..."
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Heather's a bit suspicious of that assertion. Wish her luck!

Need a holiday gift for your reader loved ones?

Late last year, Highland Press released *Holiday in the Heart* and its companion volume, *Christmas Wishes*. They were hard to get last year because of a delayed release and bad weather, but are available now on Amazon.com and barnesandnoble.com. You can find them in some libraries as well.

Heather's short story "Victoriana" is in *Holiday in the Heart*. Reviewer Marilyn Rondeau gave the anthology top marks and said, "Hiestand has come up with an exceptionally creative and original story when Robyne Arthur, a young woman stumbles upon an old Victorian 'cracker' and is transported from Tacoma, WA, to Victorian England. Only it's an England that has been frozen in time. The Earl of Chester points out that Robyne holds the key to saving them but she would forfeit any chance to return home. The more she gets to know the kindly Earl of Chester, she may just decide that staying with him is where she wants to be. *** Loved this very original time travel from the very first pages. A step back into Victorian England. Sweetly satisfying."

Eilis recently took part in an article by reporter Brian Miller about the changing face of romance fiction for the *Seattle Weekly*. Here's a bit of the article:

The demographics of romance authorship could reasonably be expected to look like those of the city: about 69 percent white, 14 percent Asian, and 8 percent black. But when asked to cite some nonwhite representatives from its 145-writer membership, the GSRWA [Greater Seattle chapter of Romance Writers of America] finds two.

Notwithstanding the Irish surname (by marriage), Eilis Flynn is Japanese-American and has puzzled over the lack of Asian faces at RWA conferences for the past dozen years. "It's still, I think, overwhelmingly white," she says. "You see more people of color" at national conferences, she adds, but the workshops there on

multiculturalism have focused on African-American and Latina concerns.

So where are the daughters, so to speak, of Amy Tan? Flynn doesn't see many, and would like to see more. The broader problem, she speculates, is that Asian readers tend to get lumped together with Caucasians. And if the heroine of a romance is Asian (as in her *Festival of Stars*), it's shelved with the general (white) contemporary category. What if the Asian-American heroine were more prominent on the cover of the book? "I think that would possibly limit the readership," concludes Flynn.

For the entire article, go to:
<http://www.seattleweekly.com/2007-11-07/news/a-billion-dollar-romance-novel-industry-and-its-lonely-black-author.php?page=full>

REVIEW: FIRST DRAFT IN 30 DAYS

Based on author Jenna Allen's suggestion, Heather is plotting her latest sexy contemporary romance using Karen Wiesner's *First Draft in 30 Days*. The first thing that everyone points out, of course, is that you don't end up with a first draft at the end of the 30 days, but you do get a very detailed outline that at least should prevent any problems from occurring. Wiesner says she considers this outline to be her first draft, writes the second draft very easily, then merely has to do a polish for her third draft, a far cry from the 12 drafts she used to do. When Heather was finished with day 4 she was basically up to the point of outlining that she's usually at when she starts her first draft, albeit in a different format than her typical Excel spreadsheet. Since Heather can't help herself she's

also using a little of Deb Dixon's Goal, Motivation, Conflict (GMC) method and Tami D. Cowden, Caro LaFever and Sue Vider's *The Complete Writer's Guide to Heroes and Heroines* because she usually uses those two resources on her longer projects. Yes, she's hedging her bets a bit, but she's interested to see how much more plot she can unravel using this method to save the headbanging phase in the middle of the first draft! Continuing with the method, days 5 and 6 did help answer some of the motivation problems she could come across as she's writing. When she hit the research phase she realized she'd already done most of it ahead of time. Ultimately, she was able to complete the first 13 days of the method before NaNoWriMo started and she had to get writing. Next time maybe she'll have time to complete the process!

To learn more about Jenna Allen, go to: www.phaze.com/authors-jennaallen.html

Heather found *First Draft* on www.ninthmoon.com and it even came in fancy giftwrap, which made her husband think some stranger was sending her gifts! Of course, someone had bought her flowers that day too, which made him truly suspicious, but hey, she was having a very good day! ☕

Miss a newsletter?

You're in luck! Our *Coffee On Sundays* newsletter archive is now available at www.coffeonsundays.info

APPEARANCES

Eilis Flynn:

- "Crazy Tuesday," Internet radio talk show, December 4, 2007
- eBookLove Yahoo! loop chat, December 13, 2007
- Readers' Luncheon, Portland, OR, April 2008
- Romance Writers of America National Conference, San Francisco, CA, July 30–August 2, 2008

Heather Hiestand:

- eBookLove Yahoo! loop chat, December 13, 2007
- "Salvaging Your Rejected Category Romance," AskAnAuthorPro Yahoo! loop, March 17–28, 2008