

Jen FitzGerald

From: NTRWA Newsletter <newsletter=ntrwa.org@mail180.us4.mcsv.net> on behalf of NTRWA Newsletter <newsletter@ntrwa.org>
Sent: Monday, March 11, 2013 11:30 AM
To: Jen FitzGerald
Subject: Newsletter

Don't forget we're celebrating our 30th anniversary this month. Carolyn Williamson will be sharing her experiences during our party!

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March 2013

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Letter from the President

Setting goals for yourself...

I can't believe it's March already. So many things to do, deadlines to meet, and parties to plan--February has flown past me in a flurry of activity.

Every morning I turn on my laptop and type-type-type, hoping I'll get at least one item on the to do list checked off. Seems like I'm running in circles most days.

I need a schedule.

I need to turn off email while I work.

I need a plan.

So.

Today, I started a business plan.

I'm setting up daily goals, expense charts, and tracking charts for words written, the costs involved in my job (since I stopped working to pursue this creative endeavor), and hours worked.

It seems simple. Make a plan, get it done, go to sleep, get up and do it all over again. Right?

Wrong.

I'm discovering a boat-load of other issues.

Household chores, since I'm home all day, and interactions with family members who don't always realize they're interrupting my work.

The need for social interaction plays a part, too. I should probably make a schedule for checking email instead of letting it pop up randomly and distract me. Attention Deficit Disorder, carry me away....

And then there's promotion, a major issue I'd like to avoid but can't. Why? I don't know how. I've never been good at tooting my own horn, so to speak. Now I find myself wanting to sell, sell, sell, but shying away. I need to learn how to get out there in the media. Learning how to promote and actually following through with it will be a goal for me this year.

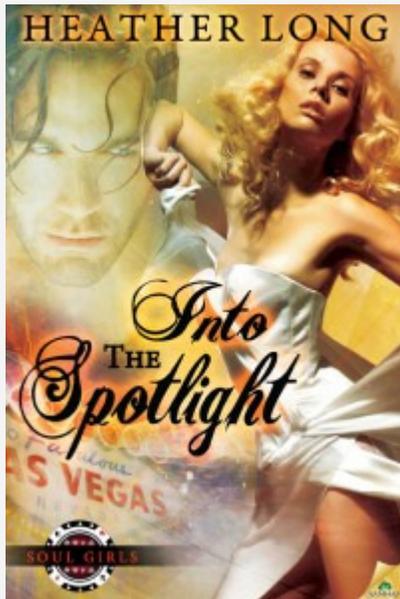
Do you have a plan?

Have you set goals for yourself?

Think about it and we'll discuss it at the next meeting.

Which, by the way, is NT's 30th Anniversary. See you there!

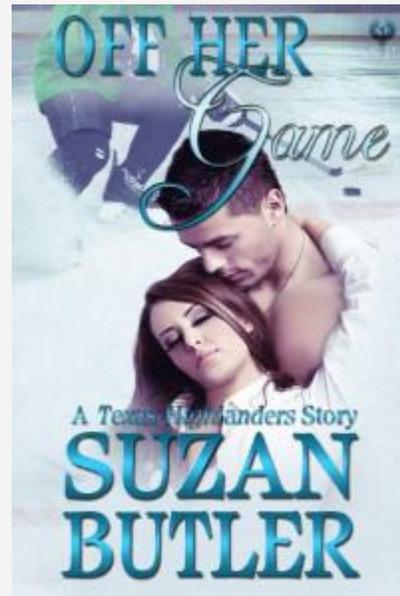
-Michelle Welsh



Fifty years ago, Jeannie Williams made her way to Las Vegas seeking fame and fortune. Instead, she lost her soul and wound up performing nightly shows at the Arcana Royale. Every day, she straps on her feathers, her glitter, her stilettos, and she dances. Every day, it's the same.

Until the day he walks in.

For six centuries, Malcolm Reynolds has been the go-to guy for anything his family needs: warrior, diplomat, wrangler, researcher, and now an attorney. He enters the Arcana Royale Casino, intent on negotiating the release of his cousin's bad debt, but one look at the golden-skinned showgirl ignites a fire of need that he's never experienced. When the fantasy come



Penalty Number One: Men Making time for men and relationships doesn't fit into former social worker Valerie Chase's game plan. This crisis counselor turned cocktail waitress knows the score, though. Part of her would love to indulge in a little side action, especially when a certain hunky hockey player demands attention, but she's far too responsible to let herself get wild and crazy.

Penalty Number Two: Desire Darren Moran's good looks and deadly determination make him a fan favorite. He's always wanted to play hockey and does it well. After the last season's disaster, the last thing he needs is to let some woman crawl under his skin and distract him. But... Valerie is different. She's his good luck charm. She makes

true sits at his table, words he never expected to hear come out of her lush mouth: "I need your help."

Now he's in for the toughest battle of his life, because the Overseers own both his cousin's debt and her soul. And he's not planning on leaving the Royale without either one.

Warning: Contains high-stakes games, sexy showgirls, and a powerful showdown between a vampire that can't lose and the House that never does. Spells, slots, sirens and sex, oh my!

him play the best he's ever played and he's not about to lose her, even if it means incurring penalties by encroaching on Valerie's personal life.

Penalty Number Three: Passion When the two take the game to the next level, Val's got to call a timeout. An unplanned romance is a game-thrower, a sinful temptation that neither of them can afford. After all, there's no way to have order in matters of the heart when the penalties tally up to an ejection from the game.

February 16, 2013

BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER:

A regular meeting for the North Texas Romance Writers of America (NTRWA) was held on Saturday, February 16, 2013 at the La Hacienda Restaurant in Colleyville, Texas. The President and Secretary were present. The meeting was called to order at 10:45 A.M. The minutes for the January meeting were approved as printed in the February newsletter.

OFFICER REPORTS:

President: Michelle Welsh reported:

- Explained about the "Ask Me" tags
- Requested members sign the congratulations sheets for the Great Expectations finalists.
- Stated that according to RWA rules, the minimum age for attendance at meetings is 18.

President-Elect: Clover Autrey: No report.

Secretary: Nancy Connally: No report.

Treasurer: Angi Morgan reported:

- Distributed the 2013 Proposed Budget as approved by the Board.
- The Treasurer's report will be filed for audit.

Program Director: Lara Lacombe reported:

- The March 30th Anniversary Meeting speaker: Charter Member Carolyn Williamson.
- Progressing with the 30th Anniversary Anthology.
- Welcomes ideas for future meeting programs.

Membership Director: Jen FitzGerald reported:

- Approximately 50 members with more renewing membership at the meeting.
- Introduced new members.
- Introduced 5 visitors: Mary Duncanson, Amber Munnerlyn, Sherry DeBorde, Tim Platt, and Kristin Avila.

Communications Director: Heather Long reported:

- Members should sign up for newsletter distribution.
- Needs to receive information for the newsletter by the 28th of the month.
- The Spotlight is distributed via email the Friday before the meeting.
- Articles needed for newsletter.

Website Director: D'Ann Burrow: No report.

COMMITTEE COORDINATOR REPORTS:

PAN Liaison: Nikki Duncan was absent.

PRO Liaison: Jeanne Guzman reported:

- Contact her to be set up for PRO if not a member.
- The PRO Loop is doing a 12 Step Program for readying a manuscript. The group is currently on Step 2, with Step 3 coming soon.

Great Expectations: Heather Long reported:

- Finalists were announced and entries have been sent to final judges.
- Please be sure to sign congratulations sheets for finalists.

Hospitality: Sidney Bristol: No report.

Spotlights: Gina Nelson reported:

- Angi Morgan was the Spotlight member.

Audio Librarian: Clover Autrey reported:

- Had 2 CDs to distribute.

Writing Incentives: Chrissy Szarek reported:

- Explained qualifications for drawing from the Treasure Chest.
- Explained about recording pages written and pages edited on the clipboard to be eligible for quarterly drawing for gift card.
- Explained clipboards are the way to share accomplishments at meetings.

Texas Two-Step: Nikki Duncan was absent.

Bylaws: Michelle Welsh reported for Angi Morgan:

- Requested volunteers to read the Bylaws online.

30th Anniversary: Lara Lacombe reported:

- Reminder that March is the 30th Anniversary meeting with Carolyn Williamson as the speaker.
- The Anthology will be available free on Amazon.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business:

- The audit was completed and the audit committee noted no problems.
- The budget was approved as proposed by the board.

Next Business Meeting: 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, March 16
at La Hacienda. The meeting adjourned at 11:14 A.M.

Submitted electronically by Nancy Connally

Date Approved: _____

Date Corrected: _____

Most Pages Written

- Amber Munnerlyn - 620
- Heather Long - 425
- D'Ann Burrow - 212
- Michelle Welsh - 133
- Roni Loren - 110

Most Pages Edited

- Suzan Butler - 1855
- Lara Lancombe - 1200
- Michelle Welsh - 918
- Heather Long & Amber Munnerlyn - 800
- Chrissy Szarek - 548

Workshops

Title: The Good, the Bad, and the Necessary: Critique Groups

Instructor: Ally Broadfield

Dates: April 1 - April 26, 2013

Classroom: Red Rocks Classifications: Professional Development, Networking, Personal Development and Growth,

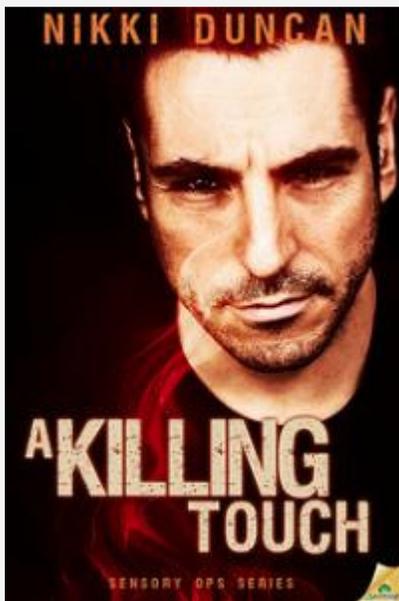
Writing Development Description: Critique groups are an essential element on the journey to publication for most writers. We've all heard successful authors talk about how integral their critique partners are to their success, but we've also heard, or in some cases experienced, the negative side of critique groups.

A good critique group will give you encouragement and support, create accountability, and help you take your writing to a new level. In this workshop you'll learn why you need a critique group, how to choose the group that's right for you, how to recognize when it's time to leave a group, when it might be better to use a critique partner or beta reader, how to set up and run your own group, how to give a critique, and how to get the most out of the critiques you receive.

- Why You Need a Critique Group Finding and Choosing the Group that's Right for You
- Reasons to Leave a Critique Group

- Critique Partners & Beta Readers
- Setting Up & Running Your Own Group
- Maintaining a Group
- Long-Term How to Give a Critique
- How to Get the Most Out of the Critiques You Receive

<http://crw-rwa.ning.com/page/2013-onlineworkshops#april4>



He's everything she craves. She's everything he dreads.

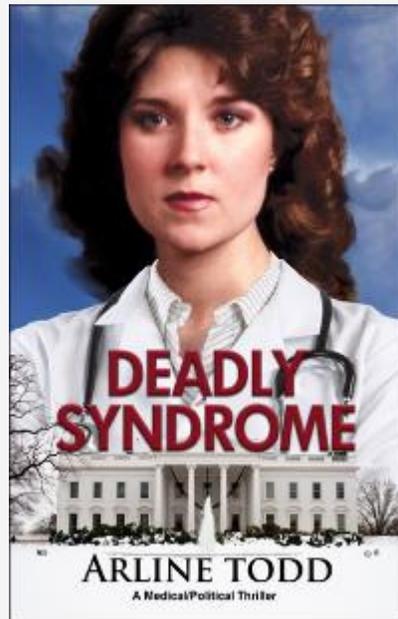
Journalist Lana Quinn has a way with hard-hitting news. The story she's uncovered has potential, but she needs the help of her best friend's FBI team. She's been rescued by them, worked with them, and partied with them, but convincing the second in command to believe her theory—that a killer's touch sets off a lethal allergic reaction—is a frustrating challenge.

Especially since he excites her, body and mind. He's a danger she shouldn't indulge.

Aidan Burgess is resistant to helping Lana, but not for the reason she thinks. She has a knack for landing herself in trouble, which means she needs protection. Protecting her means staying near her, a journalist, who like all journalists uses whatever—and whomever—it takes to get her story. It's a case he wants to refuse.

Especially since she lights a fire in his blood. She's a danger he can't afford. As Lana follows up on lead after deadly lead, learning to trust and rely on each other becomes their only lifesaving hope. If their pride doesn't become their final pitfall.

Warning: This title contains a grudge-holding hero who gives "kiss my ass" new meaning, a heroine out to prove herself, and a danger that dares them to trust.



Forced to yield to powerful political machinations, Dr. Resa Myles loses control of the research she spearheaded for a cancer vaccine. Against her advice, President Harland uses the vaccine as a political tool, and the Russian Federation uses it as a weapon.

Now the immunization programs backfire and a deadly syndrome is unleashed on the world, a syndrome made even worse by nuclear war. The president tries to hide his culpability and shifts the blame to the researchers, making Resa enemy number one. With the country under martial law, Resa and other key researches are taken into protective custody in underground shelters and ordered to find an antidote to the syndrome.

Resa is determined to regain her freedom and salvage all she can from the chaos the politicians have bred, and not even the president himself can stop her now. Aided by her lover, CIA agent Steve Sheldon, she conspires to thwart President Harland's plan to create a dictatorship, but Harland is equally determined to destroy her and those who helped her.

If she loses, the world as she had known it will be gone forever.

Flashback to 1983

by Heather Long

That was then and this is now. Thirty years ago, NTRWA formed, bringing together romance writers and helping to kick start careers. The world wide web didn't exist. The top three networks were still ABC, CBS, and NBC. Fox didn't exist. Satellite radio

and cell phones were still years away. We picked up the phone to call people and we didn't have email loops to reach out and touch someone.

Do you remember where you were in 1983?

Here are some fun facts about that year:

Top 10 Television Shows

1. Dallas
2. 60 Minutes
3. Dynasty
4. The A-Team
5. Simon & Simon
6. Magnum, P.I.
7. Falcon Crest
8. Kate & Allie
9. Hotel
10. Cagney & Lacey

Top 10 Best Sellers

1. Return of the Jedi by James Kahn
2. Poland by James A. Michener
3. Pet Sematary by Stephen King
4. The Little Drummer Girl by John le Carré
5. Christine by Stephen King
6. Changes by Danielle Steel
7. The Name of the Rose by Umberto Eco
8. White Gold Wielder by Stephen R. Donaldson
9. Hollywood Wives by Jackie Collins
10. The Lonesome Gods by Louis L'Amour

Top 10 Songs

1. Police Every Breath You Take
2. Michael Jackson Billie Jean
3. Irene Cara Flashdance... What A Feeling
4. Men At Work Down Under
5. Michael Jackson Beat It
6. Bonnie Tyler Total Eclipse Of The Heart
7. Daryl Hall and John Oates Maneater
8. Patti Austin and James Ingram Baby Come To Me
9. Michael Sembello Maniac
10. Eurythmics Sweet Dreams (Are Made Of This)

Top 10 Films

1. Scarface
2. Star Wars Episode VI - Return of the Jedi

3. The Outsiders
 4. WarGames
 5. Trading Places
 6. A Christmas Story
 7. National Lampoon's Vacation
 8. Octopussy
 9. Christine
 10. Never Say Never Again
-
-

2013 Meeting Schedule

March 16 - Anniversary Party! Join us to celebrate 30 years of NTRWA with founding member Carolyn Williamson.

Future Meetings:

April: Debbie France from Barnes & Noble (subject to confirmation)

May: published author lunch (pubbed authors sit one or two to a table, according to genre; members can sit at their genre table and ask questions about writing/getting published in that genre)

June: Sylvia Day

July: TBD

August: Clover Autrey, self-publishing workshop

September: TBD

October: TBD

November: retreat--no meeting

December: holiday party

Email questions, comments, or articles to newsletter@ntrwa.org.

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