

Interview with Charlene A. Wilson

***Note:** These questions were asked by other bloggers. If you choose to use them, please reword the questions to make them your own.



Charlene A. Wilson is an author of stories that take you to other dimensions. She weaves magic, lasting love, and intrigue to immerse you into the lives of her characters.

She began writing in her early teens when her vivid dreams stayed with her long after she had them. The characters and worlds were so amazing she brought them to life through her books.

Charlene resides in a small community in Arkansas, USA, with her two beautiful daughters, husband, a cuddly Pekingese, and a very chatty cockatiel named Todder.

Author Links

Author site: <http://CharleneAWilson.com>

Blog: <http://bit.ly/CharBlogs>

Facebook: <http://bit.ly/CharleneAWilsonFan>

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/AuthorCAWilson>

Goodreads: <http://bit.ly/CharleneAWilsonGR>

LinkedIn: <http://bit.ly/CharleneAWilsonLI>

Q&A

Say your publisher has offered to fly you anywhere in the world to do research on an upcoming book, where would you most likely want to go?

Oh, wouldn't that be great! Since my next series takes place in vast caverns, I'd love to go to Vietnam's Hang Son Doong (mountain river cave) in the Phong Nha-Ke Bang National Park. The cave is part of a network of 150 or so caves, many still not surveyed, in the Annamite Mountains. But what they have found so far is just absolutely amazing!

Imagine walking through rough terrain my characters would have mastered and built into a vast cities? What would their outlook be like? Their playtime be used doing? Their ceremonies consist of? Their courtships be like? Yes, I think that would be my choice!

What is your favorite genre to write?

While I write firmly in the Romance genre, the sub genres vary. I love the Paranormal and light Sci-fi genres because it's like a playground for my muse. I do have a couple contemporaries in the sidelines waiting to be finished, (Pepper and Clara are glaring at me right now 'cause they're way down the list. Lol) but they'll have their day. *smile*

What got you started on your writing journey?

Aside from the short stories I wrote in my teen years, I hadn't spent time writing until around 2009 when tragedy hit my family. This might be the first I've mentioned it, actually. The death of my younger brother hit me hard. My older brother set me up with a computer, intent on getting me to find something to take my mind away from what had happened. And he did. My vivid dreams played in my head when I slept. I turned over to the computer, turned it on, and started typing. That story became. *Aumelan*.

While *Aumelan* hasn't seen publication yet, it's slated to release January 2015. Cornerstone Deep series and *One for Kami* found homes first. My first was published in 2010, and I've been at it since.

***One for Kami* is a mild read. Why do you choose to write clean/sweet romance? Do you write steamy romance as well?**

I also write some sensual romances. The Cornerstone Deep series has some heated embracing *wink* and some strong situations that not everyone is comfortable with. But life, even in other dimensions, can be rough and hold some truly ugly souls.

What other things do you have planned with your writing for the next year or so?

I'm working on several things at once right now. The follow up to *One for Kami*, *One for Ian*, also book three in the Cornerstone Deep series, *Destiny*, and I'm hoping to get working on the second book in the Aumelan series, *The World Beneath the Rock*.

For the readers out there who might not know about you or your work, can you please tell them a little about yourself.

I live in a small community in Arkansas with my two daughters. They are my biggest supporters and giggle partners. And, of course, I can't forget my cat, Chester. He enjoys trying to hog the attention by sitting on my keyboard.

I love Paranormal Romance. It stretches the imagination, pushes the limits. Anything can happen. My Chronicles of Shilo Manor series stories take you to other dimensions where magic, rebirth, and soul mates are a part of life...at least for the Shilo brothers and those in their lives. I do have Urban Fantasy stories in revision and look forward to sharing those.

Which do you prefer eBooks or paperback?

I guess this depends on the mood I'm in. I love to relax with an old fashioned turn the paper page book. I love the feel—the paper edge on my fingertip as I turn the page and then run it down the print to flatten it to the book and read. But, also love the ebooks. I'm old-school and, to be honest, they are *so cool!* It's amazing! Lol. They both have their place in my life.

One thing readers might be surprised to know about you?

Maybe that most of my stories began as scenes in dreams I've had. At least five books I've written have several scenes that come directly from those lucid dreams. Chapters three and fourteen of *The Transformation of Anna*, book one of the Cornerstone Deep series, is practically step for step what happened. *Echoes*, book two, also has clips from that dream. Chapters of *Aumelan*, book one of the Aumelan series, are also scenes from a dream that series grew from. There really are several others, and I could also mention scenes within my YA stories, *Tam* and *Treacle Tart*, but this answer would get pretty long if I listed them all. Lol.

What is the biggest misconception you think people have about authors, and or the genre that you write?

Well, I think a big misconception about being a published author would be that we all are instantly famous, travel the world, and our books will be the next box office hit. Lol. Wouldn't that be something if that happened to every author? Hmm.

When I mention what genre my books fall under, I've often had people look at me with a wry smile and say, "A vampire book, huh?" Paranormal Romance takes in such a broad range of topics. And my books do too. Dimensions, magic,

otherworldly, reincarnation, soul mates, suspense... Just not vampires. Lol. Well... *Aumelan* does have a nation of outsiders that could be classified as...energy vamps. Does that count? Lol.

Your favourite part about being an author?

Easy answer. Sharing my stories. 😊

What are you currently reading?

Dark Heirloom, by J.D. Brown. (Yeah, a vampire book. Lol). Love it!

What is your view on authors jumping into self publishing their books?

I think each author should do what they feel is right for them. I do hope they take steps to ensure the best final result. As a reader, I get irritated when I buy a book and find care hasn't been taken in edits and formatting. I want to relax with a good read. Stumbling over such things makes me grumpy, and I end up tossing it and passing on that author in the future—whether traditionally published or self-published.

What is your opinion on financial companies enforcing censorship on publishers with regards to the content that they are able to sell and not sell?

Ooo, a controversial topic, there.

Okay... If I own a company, I want to be able to set my own rules. Customers can always use someone else. Of course, I'd lose some customers. That said, I believe everyone has the right to publish what they want. Nobody has the right to take away that freedom.

Describe your books in 3 words.

Love is eternal.

Every author deals with rejection in their career. What is your advice when it comes to rejections?

You're right. We all deal with it, whether it's from a publisher or a peer. My advice would be to accept them and move on. If the rejection comes with reasons, take a look at them. Are they right? Is there something you could do to make your writing better? If so, utilize it. Make it better, grow. None of us are perfect. We can always improve, hone our skill.

What's your cure for procrastination?

Um...I'll come back to this one. *wink*

How important is a book cover when it comes to your work?

Book covers are a book's first impression. While we shouldn't "judge a book by its cover" or act on first impressions, the fact is, so many of us do. I think care should be taken when creating a cover to represent your work.

As a reader how much do reviews impact your view about a book you want to read?

I do look at reviews as a reader. But, even if there are bad reviews, I don't pass on the book. Some of the things that person didn't like about it might be things I would. It's obvious when some reviewers just want to boost or tear down a work. It's a shame when that happens. Those I ignore.