



From the Desk of Elaine Overton

www.elaineoverton.com Pearls of Wisdom

To those fallen, and those whose fate we may never know, there are not enough words to express our gratitude for your sacrifice. So, I'll simply say . . . Thank you.



May Author: Ann Christopher

"If you want to write, write. Every day. Finish the book. Study the craft. Take constructive criticism. Don't be afraid to fail. Write harder. And, like Winston Churchill says, "Never, never, never quit." You can do it."



May 1, 2009

Dear Reader,

Pearls of Wisdom: Every month a few words of advice from veteran authors.

PHENOMENAL WOMAN

by Maya Angelou

Pretty women wonder where my secret lies
I'm not cute or built to suit a model's fashion size
But when I start to tell them
They think I'm telling lies.

I say
It's in the reach of my arms
The span of my hips
The stride of my steps
The curl of my lips.
I'm a woman
Phenomenally
Phenomenal woman
That's me.



I walk into a room
Just as cool as you please
And to a man
The fellows stand or
Fall down on their knees
Then they swarm around me
A hive of honey bees.



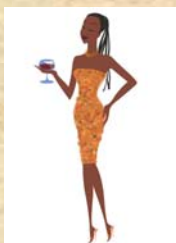
I say
It's the fire in my eyes
And the flash of my teeth
The swing of my waist
And the joy in my feet.
I'm a woman
Phenomenally
Phenomenal woman
That's me.



Men themselves have wondered
What they see in me
They try so much
But they can't touch
My inner mystery.
When I try to show them
They say they still can't see.



I say
It's in the arch of my back
The sun of my smile
The ride of my breasts
The grace of my style.
I'm a woman
Phenomenally
Phenomenal woman
That's me.



Now you understand
Just why my head's not bowed
I don't shout or jump about
Or have to talk real loud
When you see me passing
It ought to make you proud.
I say
It's in the click of my heels
The bend of my hair
The palm of my hand
The need for my care.
'Cause I'm a woman
Phenomenally
Phenomenal woman
That's me.

First **Happy Mother's Day** to all the phenomenal women out there! And in memory of the fallen heroes of our great nation, **Happy Memorial Day**.

I've often said one of the greatest things about America is that the diversity of our people is reflected in our celebrations. So, with that in mind

Happy Cinco de Mayo!

Well, finally spring has arrived in the north. ☺ We don't have to review this every month, but ya'll know how I feel about the cold! lol You'd think I'd move to someplace warm year round like Florida or California. But home is where the heart is, and despite her problems—and cold winters, Detroit will always have my heart. ☺



I'm finishing up **Miami Attraction** later this month, and taking some down time behind it before starting on my next 2010 project, scheduled for release in **May** of next year.

Congratulations to the winners of the **Sugar Rush** contest! Hope you enjoy your *pastry baskets*. FYI: the **monthly book-give-away** contest is resuming this month, so visit the **Contest** page for details!

On the 16th I'm doing a **teleconference book discussion** with the **STCC Book Club** (Sista's Thoughts from Coast to Coast). Details about the **Now in Stores!!!**

discussion along with any other signings, as always, can be found on my site. For more information about the book club check out their website at:

<http://www.stccbookclub.com>

Well, that's it for this month, until next time. . .

Take care,
Elaine

