



**From the Desk of Elaine Overton**  
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Pearls of Wisdom



**Oct Author: Stephanie Worth**

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 "I'd admonish every aspiring author to keep learning. Each day I gather a new nugget of wisdom that will make me a better writer tomorrow. "

# Happy Halloween




**October 2, 2009**

Dear Reader,



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

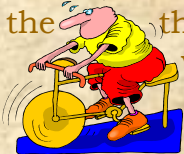
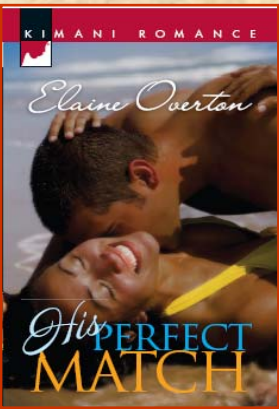
**Happy Halloween!!** Well, this month marks a big'un for me. Sunday I turn the big 40 and as I pause to reflect back over the years, I realize I've come to a really good place. I am incredibly blessed and I thank the Creator for the unique opportunities He gives me every single day! My mother would always say to me: "Baby girl, where you're going, I've already been." Of course, at twenty I *thought* I knew what she meant, but let me tell you—at forty, . . . I understand so much better. Life sure has a way of humbling the soul, doesn't it? Well, this month I'm continuing to work on my latest untitled project, and it is rocking along quite nicely. The hero and heroine are starting to "fit" together. And that's always the fun part, when the characters begin to come alive and take over the keyboard. As a compulsive planner &  list maker it use to annoy me that they wouldn't behave the way I "outlined" them, but now I just go with it, and many times they do things that surprise even me!

Since I'm all about self-improvement, I've decided this momentous event is just the thing I need to kick my exercise routine into gear. I long ago made peace with my "trunk junk" but everything else is improvable. So, I'm going to renew my *LA Fitness Club* membership and this time use it. ☺ Not sure how I want to deal

with the two grays hairs I've found recently. On the one hand, you have silver haired divas like, Nichelle Nicoles, who make gray look good! I swear I can hear the little calling to me. "Elaine, there are only a couple of strains so far, so we'll see.

Once again, I apologize for the delay in getting my web site updated, but finally the excerpt & back cover blurb for **His Perfect Match** are posted. Next week, I will be in Ann Arbor, Saturday Oct.10th doing a book signing at **Beverly Jenkins Pajama Party**. And, for Detroit locals I'm still taking comers for my **Reader Appreciation Luncheon** so

send me a email if you're interested in attending. Well, that's it for this month, until next time. . . take care, Elaine



*After A While . . .*  
 By Veronica A. Shoffstall

After a while you learn the subtle difference between holding a hand and chaining a soul and you learn that love doesn't mean leaning and company doesn't always mean security. And you begin to learn that kisses aren't contracts and presents aren't promises and you begin to accept your defeats with your head up and your eyes ahead with the grace of a woman, not the grief of a child and you learn to build all your roads on today because tomorrow's ground is too uncertain for plans and futures have a way of falling down in mid-flight. After a while you learn that even sunshine burns if you get too much so you plant your own garden and decorate your own soul instead of waiting for someone to bring you flowers. And you learn that you really can endure you really are strong, you really do have worth and you learn, and you learn with every goodbye, you learn...