



From the Desk of Elaine Overton

www.elaineoverton.com

Pearls of Wisdom

Sept. Author: **Altonya Washington**

"Allow time to read works that may fall outside your preferred genre. Refresh your motivation by losing yourself in the very thing you're working to create."



September 11, 2009



Dear Reader,

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

Happy **Labor Day!** It's September and that means back to school for the kiddies and time to start preparing for the

winter months! Break out the electric blankets and those *Snuggles* from last year (you know you bought one!☺). Well, I've said repeatedly that if you are a person who loves **color** there are few things prettier than Autumn in Michigan. Once again summer is going out (literally) in a *blaze of glory*, and I plan to enjoy every minute of it.

(Although, Amazon beat me to the punch) Check out the cover of my December release. **His Perfect Match.**

Not sure you realize it but most authors have little input regarding their covers, and I've been *extremely*



fortunate to end up with such vivid beauties!

Soon there will be an excerpt and back cover blurb posted on my site, **booklist** page, so drop by and check it out.

This month I'm starting on a new project, but unlike my last several books this one is being written without a contract already inked. Like **Bettye Griffin** said back in the July's "Pearls of Wisdom," sometimes you have to write a book just for you. Not sure what is going to become of this yet, it may be published or it may be nothing more than a therapeutic outlet. Either way, it will be *out*, and that is the most important part of writing a story – getting it out. When I get emails from aspiring authors what I tell them regularly is that the most crucial step in writing is to: **GET THE STORY OUT.** Write it, even if it's written badly with a thousand typo's and grammatical errors. Those things can be fixed, but if you never write anything, there is nothing to fix. So, despite it's unknown future I am excited about this project if

for nothing more than the satisfaction of *getting it out* of my system.☺

Finally, just a reminder, that next month, I'm doing a book signing at **Beverly Jenkins Pajama Party** – then, that's it for appearances until November when I will post my book signing schedule for **His Perfect Match.** Well, that's pretty much it for now, so until next time, . . .

Take care, Elaine

Autumn in Michigan



Charlevoix County



Fox River in the U.P.

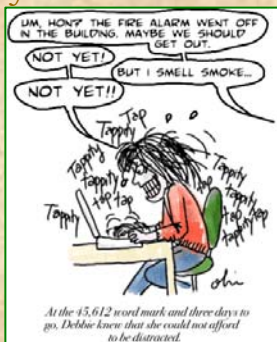


Traverse City



U of M - Ann Arbor

Is it just my imagination or did the creators of the *Snuggie* have a little inter-galactic inspiration? Hmmmm . . .



At the 45,612 word mark and three days to go, Debbie knew that she could no longer be distracted.



We must never forget