



From the Editor's Desk

By Jeanne Laws

May 21, 2005. (2:31p.m.)
Jeanne Contemplates Murder.

Well, not really. This is what happened:

I had been a little depressed after reading several items in RWR and on the RWA loops suggesting that erotic romance was not really romance. For the most part, I had been able to shake it off. I wrote an article on the subject for my local chapter's newsletter, and felt grateful that people in that group were not, at least vocally, opposed to erotic romance.

During a break in the workshop I was attending, I chatted with the other writers in attendance. A woman in the next row informed me that she was writing a novel a la Danielle Steel. In the spirit of camaraderie, I told her that I was writing an erotic romance. For a moment she looked puzzled, and then nodded very thoughtfully. "Gee, I don't think I could ever write porn."

It is only due to my incredible powers of self-restraint that I am here to write this column and not in jail for murder, and that she is still around to give us what we've all been desperate for: another Danielle Steel knock-off.

If only, I thought. If only I could find a group of writers who really understood what it meant to write erotic romance. A place with respect for the genre, where we could give each other the support and encouragement that every writer needs, without the attitude.

Today.
Passionate Ink, RWA Chapter #207

Here we are. I am incredibly proud to be able to present the first issue of the Passionate Ink Newsletter. To me these pages embody all my dreams for a chapter as an erotic romance writer: Camaraderie. Encouragement. Strength. Support. Sharing. Pride. The length of this newsletter tells its own story about how much this chapter has been needed, and how much

we have to share with each other. This is no fluffy read. It's jam packed with information to promote and encourage erotic romance writers at any level. In these pages you will find articles from each of your Passionate Ink Board members, as well as items on "craft," "business," and much more.

Grab your beverage of choice, curl up in a comfy chair and take a look. I think you'll be glad you did. — *JL*

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