

## Susana's Parlour Guest Blog Suggestions

Thanks for offering to guest blog on Susana's Parlour. I love showcasing new (or new to me) authors to my readers!

Susana's Parlour (<http://susanaellisauthor.wordpress.com>) is for readers of historical (Regency/late Georgian-set) romance, although other settings may be considered.

### Ideas For Posts:

- Character interview: you interview one or both protagonists or have them interview each other
- Character writes a letter to someone that sets the scene
- Author interview (see sample questions below)
- Author insights on the book, a related topic (like the historical or geographical setting), advice for writers, etc.
- For historicals: a snippet of history of interest to readers (my readers LOVE this)

In addition to the main entry, please don't forget to include the following:

- blurb about the book (or series)
- buy links
- cover(s)
- author bio
- author photo
- links to your website, Facebook, Twitter, blog, etc.
- short excerpt and/or link to longer one
- information to help me categorize it properly: **sub-genre** (contemporary, paranormal, historical, etc.), **length** (short story, novel, novella), **heat level** (sweet, steamy, erotic)

**Possible Interview Questions:** Feel free to add your own.

- What inspired you to start writing?
- How long have you been writing?
- What advice would you give to writers just starting out?
- Do you ever suffer from writer's block? If so, what do you do about it?
- What comes first: the plot or the characters?
- Are you a plotter or a pantsier?
- Tell us something about your newest release that is NOT in the blurb.
- Are you working on something at present that you would like to tell us about?
- What are you reading now?
- What author or authors have most influenced your writing?
- What is your work schedule like when writing?
- What did you want to be when you grew up?
- What is your favorite food? Least favorite? Why?
- What is one thing your readers would be most surprised to learn about you?
- Is there a writer you idolize? If so, who?
- What would we find under your bed?
- If your publisher offered to fly you anywhere in the world to do research on an upcoming project, where would you mostly likely want to go? Why?
- Do you have a favorite quote or saying?
- Do you write in multiple genres or just one? If just one, would you consider straying outside your genre?
- What is something you'd like to accomplish in your writing career next year?
- When was the moment that you knew you had to be a writer

- Every writer dreams of getting “the call.” What were you doing when yours came? Who got to hear the good news first?
- Who gave you the writing advice that sticks with you to this day?
- Describe the “perfect hero.” What about the “perfect hero” for you?
- What are favorite pastimes?
- What has been your biggest adventure to date?
- What is the one modern convenience you can't do without?
- Describe the ideal romantic evening.

#### Contests:

- Encouraged, but not required.
- If you offer a free e-book, don't make it the book you're promoting because many readers will decide not to buy it if they think there's a possibility of getting it free.
- Gift cards are good, even small amounts.
- For other items: I don't discriminate against countries outside the U.S. Be warned that you may end having to pay a considerable amount for postage if you offer physical items.
- One week after your post: be sure to contact me with the name of your winner so I can post it on the site.
- You can use Rafflecopter or simply choose a commenter randomly or based on their comment. Rafflecopter can get help you build up your Facebook and Twitter followers, for example.
- **Note:** unless specified otherwise, you will be responsible for choosing and notifying the winner and distributing the prize, as well as notifying me so that I can announce it on the blog post, *within seven days* of the post date.

#### Tips:

- Include a question for commenters to answer to "encourage" them to read the entire post.
- When you receive the link (which won't be active until the scheduled date), plan to send it to your friends and fans so that we get plenty of traffic on the site. I will do the same. (Of course, the posts will be there afterward, but it's best to get as much fanfare as possible in the first day or two of the posting.)
- During the posting period (3-4 days until the next post), check back at least a couple of times a day to answer reader questions and make comments.

#### Reviews (Susana Says):

Susana enjoys writing informative, thought-provoking, and hopefully entertaining blog posts, as well as corresponding with readers and authors. She's been a voracious reader since first grade when she was introduced to Dick and Jane and all their delightful adventures. From there she moved on to Nancy Drew and when she discovered romance novels in junior high, she knew she'd found her niche.

Susana is also fond of expressing her opinion, which is undoubtedly why she has been writing book reviews for Amazon for many years. However, since she decided to become an author herself, she's had to limit her reading—and also review-writing—in order to get some actual writing done.

The other issue is that she has decided that her friendships with her author friends mean more to her than expressing her opinion about their work. While she does wish to promote their books, she does not wish to get into the position of feeling obligated to read everything they produce when she has so many other books in her TBR pile. Nor does she wish to feel obligated to write stellar reviews instead of the honest, objective opinions she is used to giving.

As a result, Susana has formulated the following **Review Policy** for *Susana's Parlour*, which is NOT a review blog, by the way):

- **Susana does not take requests for reviews.** If she does one, it's because she wishes to do it. Period.
- **If she reads the book and can't in all conscience give it at least four stars out of five, she will not post the review.** Four stars is an excellent rating. Only a superstar book gets five stars.
- **No review ≠ Susana's not liking the book.** It most likely means she's too busy to read it at that particular time. If she reads it later and really likes it, she'll more than likely post a review on Goodreads.