

Spring has Sprung



It was a long winter, but here in Calgary, we seem to be moving straight to summer. Which brings us to, "What do you do over the summer?"

Being an author, I suppose I will be starting a new book. I expect my current work to be complete in the next few months and be off to editing, getting a cover designed, beta readers, etc. I might also pick up a historical book or two covering the time period for my next book. It will be epic, telling the story of when the Rainey Clan acquires the sword around 1300 AD. As they are from Scotland and the sword is from Japan, I have a lot of territory to cover. With any luck, that one will be out by Christmas.

My life is changing, or should I say, reversing back to an earlier time. An old employer of mine has asked me back, which includes travel around North America. Will this slow down my writing? I don't think so. I wrote about 25% of *The Great Celt* flying to and returning from Turkey on a business trip. 9 hours each way. I just have to make sure I've got my little HP laptop fired up as it is the only one I have that you can open up while sitting on a plane. There are a lot less distractions on a plane than in my home.

I have lots to write and edit. Apart from work on two *Rainey Chronicles* stories, I have ideas for two other books unrelated to the *Chronicles* and a relative of mine has written a science fiction novel that needs rewrites and editing. On first read, I was impressed. It is a very good story. Just needs editing and refining, much like my first book did. I hope to encourage him to write more.

Spring and summer are also that time to get out into the yard. I've got raking to do, a fence to complete and a garage to empty (ie: distractions from writing). My wife and I are seriously looking at going through all our stuff and getting rid of a bunch. Not that our house is cluttered, but it could use a bit of cleaning up. Paper is the big thing. We've got filing cabinets full of documents dating back to 1996.

Going on trips is high on the agenda this year as well. Being only an hour from Banff means many a road trip will occur. Last year, the park was too smoky from all the forest fires in British Columbia. We're hoping this year will be much better. With the new job, traveling, writing, cleaning, the grandkids, Masons, church, and a bunch of other things, I'm pretty sure I will have full days throughout the summer and on to Christmas.

So I hope you enjoy the summer of 2018. Do some quiet reading, enjoy the weather, travel to interesting places. And if you have a chance, visit an independent book store, go to a book fair or conference. There are many adventures to be found between the covers of a book and you never know where the next gem will be found.