

## NEUROTICA

How adding Humor can Jumpstart your Career like Crazy!

“Make us laugh or cry, and we'll get you a deal.  
Make us do both, and we'll get you an auction.”  
~ Andrea Brown, Literary Agent

Why write funny . . .

1. Market demand
2. Need for humor in a post 9/11 world
3. Laughter is good for everyone—including the one who writes the joke!

How funny should funny be? Your Humor Quotient

1. A knowing smile
2. A smirk
3. A giggle
4. A full throated guffaw

Anatomy of a Joke

How to make ‘em laugh—A 10 point plan for adding humor to any manuscript

1. No slapstick allowed.
2. The Rule of Three
3. Malapropisms, Funny names and dialogue echoes
4. Secondary Characters carry the humor ball
5. Creating a Belamy and how to use him/her
6. Non sequiturs
7. Hyperbole
8. Zingers and the Smart-Ass Character
9. Mistaken identity
10. Misunderstandings and misdirection

Bibliography: *Writing the Romantic Comedy* by Bill Mernit, *Comedy Writing Step by Step* by Gene Peret, A host of romance authors who’ve mastered the gentle art of light humor and the not-so-gentle art of the belly laugh!

Look for Emily Bryan’s titles from Leisure Books!  
And for a walk on the dark side, try her Diana Groe historicals.

