

Water Plays Cupid

Hello – my name is Cathryn Wellner, and this is my water story.

Water played cupid in my life, at an age when I figured romance was a distant memory.

Robin and I met when he was 64, and I was 59. We had had the usual heartaches. Neither of us was looking for a mate.

He had retired early from teaching and embarked on a second career as a professional tour director.

My career had been far more meandering – teacher, librarian, storyteller, farmer, rancher, community developer.

I was planning to work overseas for a few years. He was planning to move back to Australia, where his Canadian-born children had settled. We spent our first date telling each other we only wanted to be friends.

Still, each time he was in town, we were together.

Then came the flood. He had moved into the tallest condo tower in Kelowna. He was away on tour when I heard the news on CBC. Someone had opened the fire hydrant on the 21st floor. One side of the building was flooded, his side.

He had left me the key so I went to survey the damage. An inch of water covered every floor of every room.

My place, however, was dry. When he came home, I invited him to stay with me until repairs were completed. In Kelowna's hot construction market, that took months.

By the time the condo was ready, we no longer needed two homes. That was two years ago. We never will need two homes again – thanks to water.

©2009 Cathryn Wellner

Aired June 6, 2008 on Definitely Not the Opera