

Through the Power of Words

January 2023 Terri Maue Newsletter

Pop Quiz: What am I saying?

The orb that signals the diurnal course will disclose itself at the nocturnal expiry.

Answer at the end of the newsletter.



I hope you enjoy the third issue of my infant newsletter. Please feel free to send your comments and suggestions to terri@terrimaue.com.



***Knife Edge* 2023 publication: update**

No launch date yet for *Knife Edge*. I feel a little like I'm waiting at the airport. I've checked in, surrendered my luggage, and gotten through security. Now I'm hanging out while behind-the-scenes processes roll to completion, anticipating that at some point a plane will arrive at my gate, ready to take me where I want to go. I'm still expecting a late summer release. Keep watching this space!

Support Your Local Author & Discover a Cool Bookstore, too

A few days ago, I attended a book signing at Copper Cat Books in Henderson. If I owned a bookstore, it would be just like this one, full of cozy spaces, gorgeous bookcases, jigsaw puzzles, 3D bookmarks, jewelry, and of course, a wide selection of books. Here's a photo of me with owner Wendy Marcisofsky.



And here's a photo of me with Wayne R. Ferren Jr., author of *Conscientious Objector: A Journey of Peace, Justice, Culture, and Environment*.



In addition to supporting Wayne, I wanted his book because my main characters all were influenced by parents who came of age in the 60s and 70s, a tumultuous time that is one focus of the book.

The Inside Scoop

I read recently that 85% of Americans want to write a book. I was/am certainly one of them. I played with writing while I was employed, and when I retired in 2016, I had *Knife Edge* in the form of a 45,000-word novella. I thought it was finished. When I attended my first writers conference in the spring of 2017, I was thrilled to get two requests for the full manuscript. I was on my way!

And then I wasn't. Both declined to accept the story.

Thus began my journey from writer to author, three years of workshops, revisions, and critique sessions, culminating in over a hundred ‘no thanks’ responses from agents. Then came the phone call that changed everything. The executive editor at Camel Press expressed interest, but she wanted me to make some changes.

I spent almost a year addressing her requests, and the story got stronger and stronger. In November, she offered me a contract. My husband and I broke out the champagne.

Maybe we would have held off if I had known that I’d spend most of 2022 doing additional revisions. Today, the now 90,000-word manuscript is finalized.

Although every author’s journey is unique, I think to bring a book to fruition, you really must love writing. It’s hard work. I sometimes described a critique session as akin to sticking my hand in a blender.

On the other hand, I’m thrilled to see my dream coming true. I don’t know what lies ahead, but I’m glad that I can share the next part of my adventure with you.

The Great Pastry Hunt: update

Zee Morani, the protagonist in *Knife Edge*, is legendary for her love of pastry. I’ve dedicated myself to finding one or more particularly tasty delicacies to feature in book 2. (I know, research is hard, but I’m a professional.)

Here’s one recommended by a writer friend, Paul Atreides. It’s from Great Buns bakery in Las Vegas.

Cinnamon Crunch Danish



This generously sized, delectable roll boasts an outer ring that is mildly crusty, providing flakiness that contrasts nicely with a soft, sweet interior laced with ribbons of cinnamon-sugar. The crunch topping offers

more cinnamon and sugar, in the form of sprinkles and nuggets, and is brushed with frosting in just the right proportion to bring out the spice, not overpower it.

If you're in Las Vegas, check it out; but fair warning, Great Buns has a wide variety of goodies. It was hard to choose, and I'll be back.

If you want to recommend a pastry, send your suggestion to terri@terrimaue.com. Zee and I thank you!

Answer to the quiz: The sun will come out tomorrow.

Remember: Vocabulary is best used to EXpress, not IMpress.

If people are thinking about your words, they're not thinking about your message.

Thanks for reading! See you in February!