

Through the Power of Words

July 2023 Terri Maue Newsletter



“How do I know what I think until I see what I say?”*



Now it feels real!



My author copies have arrived! I can't tell you what a thrill it was to finally hold my book in my hands. It's on its way to birth in the wider world. The release date is August 8, but you can pre-order it now.

Ask at your local bookstore, or order it from Amazon, Barnes & Noble, Target, Walmart, and other outlets. You still may need to find the book under Terri Maue instead of *Knife Edge*. I hope that changes once the book is released.

Whether you have a book or not, please join me to celebrate at one or more of these events:

Sunday, September 3, 2-4 pm Pacific Time, I will be a guest on *Dime Grinds*. Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3652434388> or Zoom ID [365 243 4388](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3652434388) If you plan to attend, remember to adjust the time for your time zone. I'll actually be zooming in from my sister Pat's home in West Seneca, NY, so I'll have to adjust my timeline as well.

Saturday, September 23, 1-4 p.m., my debut author celebration at Copper Cat Books, 1570 W. Horizon Ridge Pkwy in Henderson NV. Come and sample one of Zee's favorite pastries and maybe have a little fun.

Saturday, October 7, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., I'll be participating in the Summerlin Book Festival, Mountain View Presbyterian Church, 8601 Del Webb Blvd.

Saturday, October 21, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., my first Coffee House Tour signing at Shasta's Sweet Treats, 290 E Horizon Dr, Henderson.

The Inside Scoop

You know that saying, "It takes a village ..." That is certainly true for writers. I probably shouldn't admit this out loud, but *Knife Edge* would be a very different book if not for one of my closest colleagues.

I had written the story with an entirely different villain. When my colleague read the penultimate chapter, he stopped before I revealed the culprit and congratulated me, praising how well I'd set it all up to lead to the conclusion that so-and-so committed the crime.

The only problem was, he was wrong.

That should have pleased me. I fooled him, and he's a really sharp guy. But in that moment, I saw that his solution made a much better story! It certainly necessitated some significant rewriting to make it all work, but the result was a stronger, more compelling tale, with a more satisfying ending.

Writing partners help each other in many ways. It's a great gift to belong to this 'village.' I am grateful.

The Great Pastry Hunt: update

After slacking off last month, I made it a point to try a new bakery in July. I'm glad I did, because this month's discovery is unlike anything I've tasted. It's from Delices Gourmands French Bakery in Las Vegas.

Coconut Roll



I don't know what they call this. I had a little trouble understanding the man behind the counter, so I just pointed and said, "Coconut?" He nodded and I ordered one.

In a nutshell, this roll is like a coconut cream pie I can eat out of my hand. (It's good-sized, so I cut it into quarters to make that easier.)

The roll is fashioned as a spiral. Its crusty, almost caramelized outer layer yields to soft, slightly sweet inner layers of pastry. Cradled in the center is a vanilla-coconut, pudding-like filling, cool and silky on the tongue.

I was a bit nervous to see so much area covered with frosting, but I needn't have worried. The pièce de résistance is actually a thin sugar crust, lavishly garnished with shaved, lightly sweetened coconut.

I thought I'd narrowed my choices for the pastry to feature in Zee & Rico Book 2, but now I'm not sure! If you'd like to help with my research—and possibly make my selection more difficult—send your pastry recommendation to terri@terrimaue.com.

A good researcher explores many options. It takes discipline to withhold judgment, but I accept the need to examine all reasonable possibilities. After all, I am a professional.

Thanks for reading! See you in August!

*The E.M. Forster quote is one of my favorites. To me, it says that clear writing indicates clear thinking. And conversely, fuzzy writing indicates fuzzy thinking. When our son was young, we played a game. Whenever anyone in the house said *thing*, we challenged it, demanding a more precise term. To this day, some 50 years later, I can't use the word *thing* without an inner cringe. And I think that's a good thin—uh—habit.