

Through the Power of Words

December 2023 Terri Maue Newsletter



Sometimes I'll start a sentence and I don't even know where it's going. I just hope I find it along the way. – Michael Scott (NBC The Office)



Book Two Update!

I'm so excited to share this news with you. I had a great conversation with my editor about book two of the Zee & Rico series. We have no production timelines yet. I have half a dozen things to work on, but rest assured, a second adventure for Zee, Rico, and Fontina (and Candy and Shelby) is in the works.

Meanwhile, I keep spreading the word about *Knife Edge*. That's why this issue of the newsletter is out early, because I have two events on December 15, and I don't want you to miss the opportunity to finish your holiday shopping. Who doesn't like a murder to heat up these chilly winter nights? Here's where I'll be:

Friday, December 15, 9 a.m. – noon: Coffee House Tour, Skimo's Coffee Shop, 1533 W Sunset Rd, 200, Henderson.

Friday, December 15, 1-3 p.m. Tropicana Palms, 6420 E. Tropicana Ave, Clubhouse #2, Las Vegas.

Speaking of spreading the word, my heartfelt thanks to everyone who has posted a review of *Knife Edge*. If you liked the book, please consider posting a review. And if there was something that didn't work for you, please consider emailing me at terri@terrimaue.com.

Sterling at Silver Springs Community Craft Fair

What a good time this was, surrounded by lots of crafty Christmas items, talking to people about *Knife Edge*, the mystery genre, writing as a 75-year-old retiree. Here are a few happy buyers—and the happy author. Even if people don't buy my book, I have such fun talking with them.



The Inside Scoop

I mentioned above that there would be a new adventure for our characters, including Shelby. If you weren't sure who Shelby was, that's all right.

Shelby is a fictional detective that Zee invented when she was about nine years old. Originally, I was going to have Zee be inspired by Sherlock Holmes, but my very astute editor said no to that. I let a day or two pass while I tried to figure out how to replace the Sherlock references that moved the story along. And Shelby popped up from my subconscious.

She's mentioned maybe half a dozen times in *Knife Edge*, but always through Zee's thoughts or in conversation with Fontina. However, when I started to write book two, Shelby insisted on speaking for herself. What could I do but obey? Especially when she turned out to be so funny.

As in the opening quote from Michael Scott, sometimes I start a story and I don't know where it's going. I just hope to find it along the way. And it's wonderful when I do.

The Great Pastry Hunt: Update

Almond Crescents



I'm ending this year by sharing one of my Christmas cookie favorites, almond crescents. These arc-shaped cookies are made with only a few ingredients: ground almonds, butter or margarine, flour, sugar, salt, and powdered sugar to sprinkle on top like snow. They are delicate, flaky and lightly sweet. Best of all, they are my grandmother's recipe. Every year, I light the Christmas tree, put on some Christmas music, and fire up the oven. I carry on a tradition, and it is Christmas.

Thanks for reading! See you in January 2024!

Happy Holidays!