

# Through the Power of Words

## January 2025 Terri Maue Newsletter



*“For last year’s words belong to last year’s language, and next year’s words await another voice. And to make an end is to make a beginning.” – T.S. Eliot*



### *Dark Mirror Update*

I hope everyone enjoyed the holidays in whatever fashion worked best for them. Book Two of the Zee & Rico series is coming along. With the new year, much of my energy has returned, and I am enjoying working on the book again.

Since I spend so much time alone, I sometimes forget about all the people who enrich my life. I took this picture of the cards I received for the holidays. I’ll look at it when I need a reminder of blessed I am to know all these wonderful people.



## **The Inside Scoop**

Sometimes, just the right question will launch me on a journey I never expected. This was the case when the line editor I'm working with asked me to clarify the ages of several characters in *Dark Mirror*. Figuring that out was easy, but it led me to think about how their ages affected their relationships—and I can't say more because I know you don't want any spoilers.

So let me just say that, in exploring that, I discovered a great deal about what motivated their actions with respect to each other, and what I discovered has really strengthened the plot. This is not what editor asked me to do, but it's what happened when I answered his request.

I feel a bit chagrined at this. I feel like I should have done this much earlier, like when I plotted the book. But I will argue in my defense that I just didn't know the characters well enough until I had lived with them for a year or so. As in any new relationship, they did not reveal their secrets all at once.

All part of the adventure!

## **Where to Find Me**

**January 25, 10:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.:** **The Clark County Library Authors & Artists Fair**, at the Clark County Library, 1401 E. Flamingo Rd, Las Vegas. I have two appearances:

**12:30 – 1:30 p.m.** *No Free Rides! Make Description Earn Its Place.* I will present a hands-on workshop featuring playful exercises to demonstrate how descriptions can create mood and illuminate character. Even if you're not a writer, you can enjoy a peek behind the scenes, learn a few tricks, and perhaps learn to appreciate your favorite authors in a new way.

**2:30 – 4:30 p.m.** I'll be signing copies of *Knife Edge* in the Theatre Lobby. Snag a copy at a special price for those still-to-come chilly winter nights.

**Coming April 3-5, 2025:**

**The Las Vegas Writers Conference!**



I'm so excited that the conference will be in-person this year. The Henderson Writers Group sponsors this conference, and organizers have assembled a great line-up of presenters, panelists, editors and agents. Registration includes blue-pencil and pitch sessions, great opportunities to have a professional review your work. Early bird registration is open until December 31 and can save you \$50. There's also on single-day option and a virtual option.

All the details are on the website: <https://lasvegaswritersconference.com/>

## **The Great Pastry Hunt: Apple Tart**



This year, a neighbor brought this delicious tart to our annual New Year's Eve open house. I liked so much, I asked her for the recipe. She told me she bought it at Trader Joe's!

As I usually do, I tasted the crust first. The edges are biscuit-like, not too sweet, the perfect base for those large sugar crystals. The bottom crust is delightfully NOT soggy—my continual problem with pies I try to make. It's firm and fully up to the task of containing all the juicy apple slices.

The filling is chock full of apples, firm and bursting with fresh tart-sweet flavor. I can find nary a speck of gelatinous filling. For a final touch, the sprinkle of sliced almonds on top adds a nutty richness and crunch.

I ate this for breakfast with a slice of cheddar. Perfect. Zee may have to buy one of these, but I wonder how long it will last in her refrigerator.

I'm still open to suggestions for bakeries I should visit. You can email suggestions to [terri@terrimaue.com](mailto:terri@terrimaue.com)

Thanks for reading!

May 2025 find you happy, prosperous, and surrounded by love.

See you in February!