

Through the Power of Words
March 2025 Terri Maue Newsletter



***“If you can't explain it simply, you don't understand it well enough” –
Einstein***

”””””

Dark Mirror Update

Starting the new year with unexpected surgery certainly puts a damper on plans! I knew I was ill when I couldn't summon the energy to write, and I was immensely grateful when the energy began to return. I'm happy to report now that I am recovering well. Thank you for your patience.

I'm also happy to share that revisions to *Dark Mirror* have been completed. Next step, proofreading the final copy. Fingers crossed that I can provide an approximate release date soon!

Meanwhile, I am busily promoting *Knife Edge*. Be sure to check out the 'Where to Find Me' section to see what's in store.

Clark County Authors & Artists Fair

Oh this was such a blast! I'm so glad I got to do this before my gall bladder decided to revolt and demand surgery.

My workshop on making description earn its place was very well attended. We had a lot of fun doing interactive exercises. These two pictures show attendees sharing their creative responses.



And here's a happy purchaser of *Knife Edge* at my table later on.



My thanks to the Clark County Library for offering such a great opportunity. The fair is an annual event. I encourage everyone to come next year!

The Inside Scoop

It's an axiom among authors that revision is an integral part of the writing process. Some say it's what differentiates serious writers from dabblers. I don't know about that, but here's why I like the Einstein quote above.

It points to a tension inherent in writing, especially fiction. On the one hand, it's true for me that if I can't explain something simply (like in a single declarative sentence), I don't understand it well enough. On the other hand, readers do not want to be spoon fed, to have everything written out plainly for them. At least as far as I'm concerned, I want them to experience the story, to discover it along with the main character.

So, how does this relate to revision?

When I get feedback from readers as I work through versions of the story, their questions and comments show me where I did not communicate clearly. (How often I have exclaimed to my critique partner, “I know what I mean, but (frowny face) I can see that it's not on the page.”) Maybe I got a little too creative with my word choices and obscured the meaning, or – heaven forbid – sent a different message entirely from what I intended.

Feedback also shows me where I have not spent enough time examining an aspect of the story. For example, I may be challenged to answer the question, plainly and simply: Why does this character act in this particular way? Sometimes, to get that answer, I need to stop and create a backstory.

Feedback and revision push me to make sure the story is clear and told with as much elegance and skill as I can muster. My goal is to give my readers a worthwhile reward for their investment of their most valuable resource: time.

Where to Find Me

April 3-5 The Las Vegas Writers Conference! The Orleans Hotel & Casino, 4500 W Tropicana Ave, Las Vegas. I'll take part in an **author signing event on Friday April 4, 5:30-7:30 pm**. This event is open to the public. *Knife Edge* will also be on sale in the conference bookstore during the entire 3-day conference, at a special LVWC price.

You can still register for all or part of this great conference, including an online option! All the details are on the website: <https://lasvegaswritersconference.com/>

And a sneak peek at what's ahead:

May 16, 5-8 pm Deadwood Meadery, 7705 Commercial Way Unit #100, Henderson NV. This is a Coffee House Tours signing. I'll be appearing with

another author (details to come). Come, sample a brew or two, and pick up a copy of *Knife Edge* at a discount price.

The Great Pastry Hunt: Chocolate Raspberry Pop Tart



The Coffee Class, 709 E. Horizon Dr. #100, Henderson.

I was hooked as soon as I saw the combination of two of my favorite flavors. There's something magical about the dance of rich chocolate and tart raspberry.

First, I nibble at a corner. The shell is dense, almost like a moist brownie. I slow to savor it, delicious in its own right, and detect a surprising hint of fruit. With my next bite, the thick chocolate filling caresses my taste buds with bittersweet kisses. It's almost too much—I know, heresy to true chocoholics! Finally, I include a bite with frosting, and raspberry melts on my tongue, a delicious sweet counterpoint.

Warning: this pastry is rich and good-sized. I could eat only half at a time, but then that just meant I had more to savor later!

I'm still open to suggestions for bakeries I should visit. You can email suggestions to terri@terrimaue.com

Thanks for reading!

See you in April!

I know people's lives change, and I don't want to bother you. If you no longer want to receive this newsletter, please email me at terri@terrimaue.com and I will unsubscribe you.