



News, Promos, and Musings for Erin's Readers

May 2012

Welcome Erin, If you would like to view in your web browser [Click Here](#)

Forget Me Not



Quick: Can you fill in the missing pieces of these trios?

The Way, the Truth, and the _____.
The truth, the whole truth, and _____.
I came, I saw, I _____.
Life, liberty, and _____.

Chances are these phrases are familiar to you, because there's something user-friendly about "the rule of three," something that has to do with the way we learn and store information. "In our language and culture, three provides a sense of the whole," says writing teacher Roy Peter Clark (Writing Tools). It creates a sense of "completeness, wholeness, roundness."

About two years ago, after receiving some unsettling news, my attention was drawn to Isaiah 7:4: "Be careful, keep calm, and don't be afraid." The wisdom helped me respond to my situation without anxiety, which was in itself a miracle. Even more remarkable is that the passage has stayed with me (the world's worst memorizer) ever since.

The ancient Celts had similar appreciation of things that come in threes. Because theirs was an oral culture, they handed down truths and traditions with the help of triads, poetic trios that helped make things easier to remember. Here's an example from a translation by Dr. Juliette Wood (The Celtic Book of Living and Dying):

Three kinds of men are there:
Men of God who return good for evil,
Men of this world who give good for good and evil for evil,
And the Devil's men who repay good with evil.

The simplicity of the form is what makes it so effective.

So I've started a creative experiment to see if triads can help my recall through that fragile stage between knowing and believing. One I've written looks like this:

Three steps to quiet the mind:
Let the past not overshadow.
Let the future not overwhelm.
Let God's presence in the present overcome.

Or, on a lighter note:

Three reasons to go to bed promptly:
The neighbors play late,
The children rise early,
But creativity must be on time to work.

Want to try your hand at a few triads of your own? I'd love to read your creations. Please share them with me at erin@erinhealy.com, and check out my "Write a Triad, Wow an Author, Win a Book" contest information (just a few articles below). Three triad writers will win a copy of House of Mercy before it hits bookstores or Booksneeze. And your triad, winning or not, might also show up in a future edition of this newsletter or on [my Facebook page](#).

May 6 ONLY: Get The Baker's Wife NOOK Edition for \$3.40



Most of you are receiving this newsletter because when The Baker's Wife first released, you participated in my über-fun Baker's Wife Kitchen-Aid Giveaway. Next week, SUNDAY MAY 6 ONLY, the [Barnes & Noble Daily Find](#) will be selling the NOOK edition of The Baker's Wife for \$3.40 (list price \$9.99). Follow the link on May 6—or go there now and sign up to get a daily e-mail announcing each NOOK Find, so The Baker's Wife won't slip past you.

Releasing August 4: House of Mercy



When a cowgirl makes a fatal mistake that jeopardizes her entire family, making things right will take nothing less than a miracle. When God doesn't give her the solution she wants, she goes on a journey to find it for herself—in an estranged grandfather, a mysterious wolf, and a supernatural gift of healing that she can't control. Contemporary supernatural suspense as viewed through a soft-focus lens, from Thomas Nelson Publishers.

Write a Triad,
Wow an Author,
Win a Book

I have three ARC's of my upcoming novel, House of Mercy, to bestow upon three creative triad-makers. Don't know what a triad is? Read "Forget Me Not" at the top of this newsletter. Don't know what an ARC is? It's an "Advance Reader's Copy," or an uncorrected proof. (Yes, you will find typos and other silly errors in these rare editions, because the proofreaders haven't had their turn yet.) These typeset and bound manuscripts

are sent out to media and very special readers, like the three winners of my “Write a Triad, Wow an Author, Win a Book” contest.

To enter, e-mail your original triad to me at erin@erinhealy.com by May 15, 2012. I’ll send a House of Mercy ARC to the writers of my three favorites by the end of the month.

- Enter as many unique triads as you like.
- Put “Write a Triad, Wow an Author, Win a Book” in the subject line.
- Entries will not be acknowledged or returned.
- By entering, you guarantee that the submission is your original work and free of all claims to copyright but your own.
- By entering, you grant me permission to share your triad in a future newsletter or on [my Facebook page](#).
- Entries received after May 15, 2012 will not be considered for the book giveaway.

What I’m Working on Right Now

These days I’m mapping out the family’s summer schedule, juggling end-of-the-year school activities, reading Great Expectations (somehow I missed that one in school), and trying to keep the dogs from tracking their love of the outdoors into the house. As for my work-in-progress, it seems I’m not supposed to be talking about it too much. Yes, my publisher is keeping me on the q.t. for the time being. But my first draft



is due to my superb editor May 15, so this baby’s about to be birthed from the realm of private and happy reflection into a kicking and screaming reality in a very short time. Come visit me on [my Facebook page](#), where I’ll soon be sharing things like title (to be picked this week), cover (revealed later this summer), what my editorial team thinks (always good thoughts, even when I must revise, revise, revise), and other fun details (such as how this odd duck came to be). But I hate to tease too much, so here’s a little trivia to tide you over: While still a contemporary supernatural suspense, this book, unlike my previous novels, has a central romance in it too.

Please tell me what you might want to see in future newsletters. My goal is to share my thoughts with you from time to time, keep you informed of my projects, specials, and contests, and share ideas that might interest you.

If you liked this newsletter and want to share it with a friend, please feel free to [forward to a friend](#).

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