

WAIT! It's a SCAM!

With:

- Anna Mociak
- R01, "The Scammah"
- Ashleigh Bonner
- William Gensburger
- Matt Aldcock



13th Ed.

Cover Art by:



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How to detect a scam, with the one and only, ROI, The Artist, Podcaster and Scammah

Hello there ROI, and WELCOME to our E-mag, it's a pleasure to have you with us! We are great fans of your work. For those who don't know you yet, or heard [your awesome podcast](#), can you talk a little about you?

Hi! Thanks [for having me](#). I'm super excited to take part in the E-mag, I've been a subscriber for a while now. To those who don't know me, [I'm R.O.I.](#) aka *Renouncing Our Isms*. [I am an artist, scammah,](#)



[thinker, and spy](#) and I bring those many facets of myself to my podcast, "[Let Me Tell You Somethin', Bitch](#)."

Can you tell us a little about the [Podcast](#) and its gutsy name?

Fa'sho. I knew my [podcast](#) was going to cover a myriad of topics and wanted to give it a title that let folks know to be ready for anything. It's been more than a year of "[Let Me Tell You Somethin', Bitch](#)" and I still have a lot to say. Lol.

There are sure great episodes on your [Podcast](#). OK, onto the topic. You denominate yourself as: "[An Artist, Scammer, Thinker and Spy](#)", and from your [very short and practical book](#) on the topic of Scamming, it grabs eyeballs, so tell us: How can people avoid being scammed?

The book, "[Scamming 101: How To Scam](#)," can definitely help people of all ages avoid being scammed.

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The best way to avoid any scam is to ask questions.

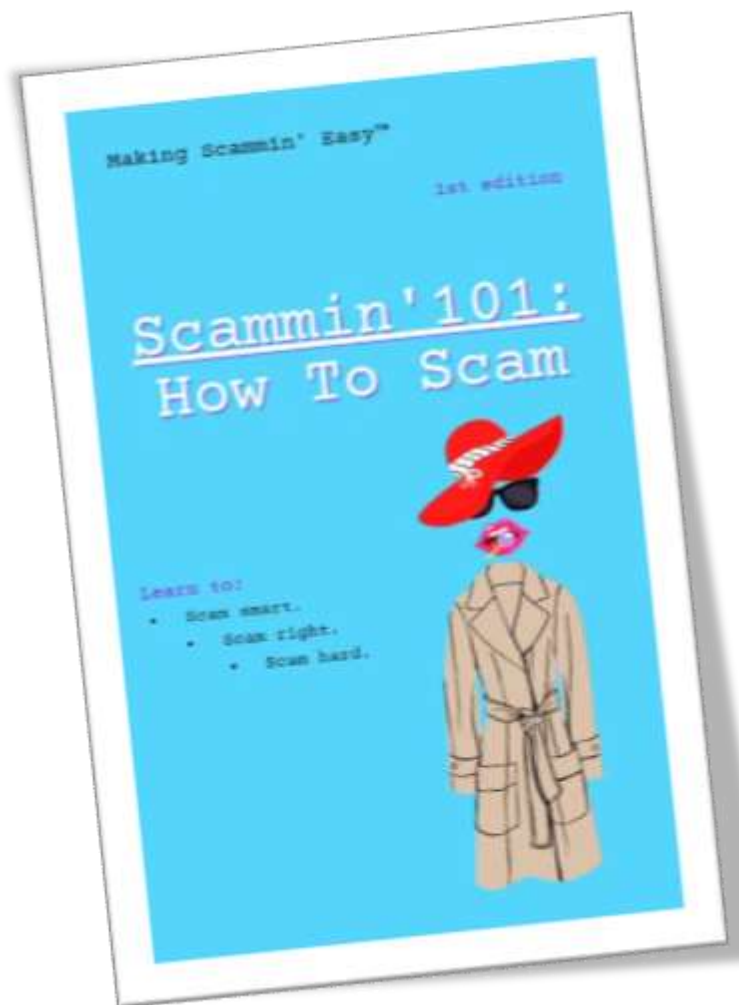
Taking a genuine interest in folks and listening to them when they speak can uncover tell-tale signs of duplicity. Though it's mostly a tongue-in-cheek response to the state of the world and how the 99% is being scammed out of life and liberty by the 1%, beneath the jokey undercurrent, lies real information about how people operate.

Ya know, as a spy I spend a lot of time watching people 🕶️.

Scamming is about knowing how people tick and the easiest way to spot a scam, is to pay attention.

Folks are so often distracted, glued to one device or the other, they're

clicking and "agreeing," to what? They haven't a clue. We have to get present and face life head on. That's what [scamming is all about](#), really.



Thank you so much ROI! Where can people find out more of what you do and who you are?

4. Yeah! Here are some links to my social media, as well as, my [Website](#) || [Buy Me A Coffee](#) || [Patreon](#) || [Podcast](#) || [Twitter](#)

Visit [Scribble's Worth Book Reviews](#)



An Artist to Watch Out for.



This gorgeous cover was created by one of the most talented, hardworking, (and our favourite), graphic, digital graphic artist, [J-Man](#).



[J-Man](#) has consistently created impressive and many [times outstanding, works of art](#) during the time we have known him, [on a daily basis](#). We did write [an](#)

[article about him](#) a few years back, but the sheer amount [of progress he made](#), from that point to this date, renders us speechless.



Turtle by [J-Man](#)

If you are an author looking for a [GREAT artist](#) to work with that will create covers, merch, or characters designs that will be not [only boastable](#), but also worth your *every penny*, **don't think twice and order your project to [J-Man](#)**. He is taking on [Art](#)

[commissions](#) from writers now, especially if you are a scifi/horror/fantasy/cyberpunk author looking to give that extra humph to your stories Commissions [available in 3D & 2D](#).

[J-Man](#) also has a very [cool store and site](#) where you can get stickers, AWESOME shirts, pullovers and other type of merch. Do visit [his Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) and [Store](#).

Cheers!

Can Editors Scam You?

- Scams in the editing and freelancing world with Ashleigh Bonner -

Ashleigh, have you ever had experiences related to scams? Have you ever been scammed in the writing or freelancing world?

No, [Scribble's Worth](#), I haven't been scammed so far. Thank goodness. I had one client who wanted to revise 95% of their book based [on my developmental edit](#), then get the second round of editing for free, but that wasn't my policy.

We resolved this by going back to my policy, which states that the second and third rounds of editing cost the same as the first round.



Can editors scam writers? Or, can scammers pose as editors?

Scammers can definitely pose as editors, yeah.

Some editors or editing companies either don't do the work or don't have the skills to help the author. Some people aren't editors; they're trying to make money. Others charge way higher prices than others, but this isn't a sure sign of a scam because, with freelancing, editors can charge what they want.

Most writers use [the-efa.org](#)'s guidelines to see if their potential editor is in the EFA's (Editorial Freelancers Association) range of editing rates. But, these ranges are *guidelines*. While most editors are somewhere close to the range, editors are free to charge what they want for their time, experience, skills, and business needs.

Just watch out for editors whose rates are extremely high or low.

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How can you detect a scammer vs. a real editor?

To distinguish a real editor from a possible scammer:

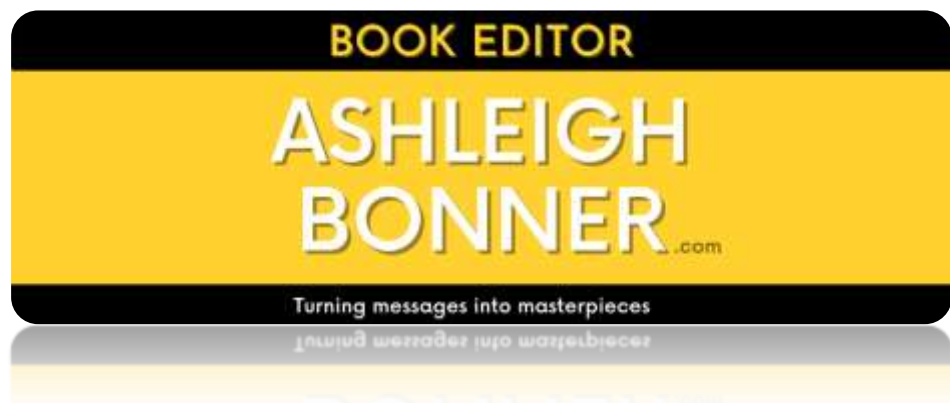
1- Look at their portfolio , previous projects, and reviews , especially if these reviews are on freelancing sites (Fiverr, Upwork, etc.) and can't be changed.

(Check Ashleigh's [portfolio here](#), get 10% discount on your order using the code "SCBW10")

2-Get an editing sample before hiring them. Unless you're satisfied with their portfolio and reviews, request an editing sample. Usually, these editing samples are free. Getting an editing sample can help determine if this editor will work well with your book.

(Ask for an editing sample [to Ashleigh here](#) .)

3- See if they're part of the EFA or some other association. This method isn't foolproof. You only have to pay a hefty annual fee to join the EFA. I'm not in the EFA or any other association, but I'm legitimate.



4-Get details. Your potential editor or editing company should provide details (what kind of editing they will do, when will they return your edits). *Beware people who are vague or can't explain what they're offering.*

5- Watch out for editor's websites that have many typos. Having said this, *sometimes freelance* editors don't have the most-professional websites; it doesn't mean they're scammers.

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6-Raise an eyebrow at someone who says they're qualified to edit all kinds of work. Most editors list genres they either don't want to edit or don't have the skills to edit.

7- Watch out for people who seem like all they want is your money. They want to close the deal super fast. They don't want to give an editing sample. They're "too busy" to answer your questions. They aren't a native or bilingual speaker of your work's language.

8- Remember that just because someone's new to editing doesn't mean they're scamming you. New editors may have lower prices or even offer free services while building their portfolios. Often, they're looking for testimonials to boost their credibility.

9- Set milestones and deadlines. If the editor isn't turning anything in—or their work is of poor quality—don't pay them anymore. Give the editor a trial run and keep the prices low if you're unsure about their legitimacy.

10- Don't pay the full amount upfront. Many editors charge half at the start. Others, like me, ask for a reservation fee and charge per week on longer projects. A few do the work and then get the payment.

11- Lastly, some high-quality editors charge lower prices, especially if they focus on the indie writing community.

Best places to learn more about scams in the freelance and writing world? Here are some great sites I know and have used to avoid being scammed:

1. [Freelancer Scams](#) (Article @Freelancer)



2. [Freelancer Scams 10 Warning Signs](#) (Article @Freelancer.com)
3. [Freelancer Scams](#) (Article @Comparitech)

Tough question, Ashleigh, were you ever scammed by a writer client? If so, how?

No, I haven't been. When I used to freelance write, I had a client pay after a month. I thought they weren't going to pay, but they did after I hounded them through the freelance platform.

Another tip for freelancers: Keep all messages and payments on freelance platforms.

Thinking about this question further, I *have* been scammed. I scammed myself by charging too little. I was doubtful of my abilities and didn't think I deserved much. So, I worked for low amounts and stressed myself out.

Are you currently available to edit indie books? Where can writers submit?

Yes, I'm currently available to edit books, blogs, and website content. Primarily, I focus on books, but I enjoy polishing other kinds of content.



Website: ashleighbonner.com

Portfolio: tinyurl.com/EditorAshWork

Email: abonnereditor@ashleighbonner.com

Twitter: DM [@editorashbonner](#)

BONUS QUESTION: What are some signs you and an editor won't get along?

You don't like the editor's feedback style. For example, suppose the editor is too blunt. It may not be a good writer-editor relationship

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if you want a softer feedback style. [I infuse my direct editing feedback with tons of humor](#), but you may not enjoy our relationship if you like a gentler editorial style.

I don't believe sugarcoating my feedback will help authors, and I want to help you make your book as good as possible.



([Find Ashleigh's services here](#), and get a 10% discount using the code: **"SCBW10"**)

Thank you so much for being with us, Ashleigh 😊.
You're very welcome, Scribble's Worth! Thank you for having me!

Have a lovely day.



[More free tips on the editor-writer relationship are available on my support platform.](#)

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Call the Bluff By O. E. Tearmann (Aces High Jokers Wild #2)

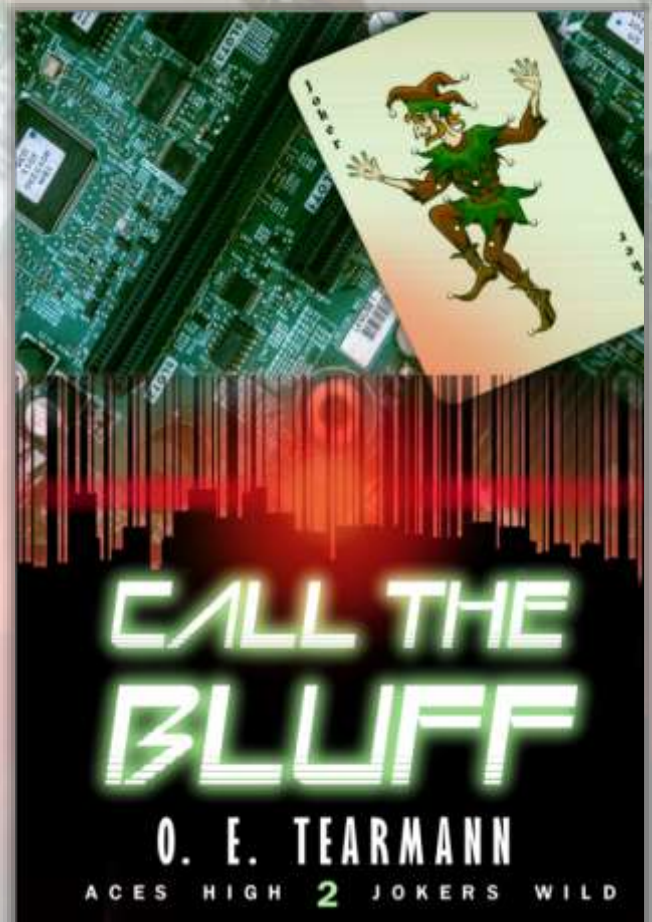
“But when perfect became a possibility, imperfect became criminal.”

A mission that is **“too big to drop”**, and almost impossible to do. One chance, if they fail, *everybody* dies.

[This book \(and series\)](#), is not for the faint of heart, and it feels like a slap in the face to the ignorant, the righteous, and those who think that they are above their own human condition in some way.

You better have a seatbelt for your tears because they will crash to the ground [reading this fast-paced emotional adventure of a novel](#). *You have been warned.*

“Is this a series worth reading?” You are wasting time *by not* reading it. [Grab the first book, this one](#) and the rest of the series because [this is a MASTERPIECE!!!!](#)



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Book Score: 9.5/10

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O. E. TEARMANN
ACES HIGH 2 JOKERS WILD

Raise The Stakes By O. E. Tearmann (Aces High Jokers Wild #3)

“..this’s about as easy as fuckin’ a porcupine with a chocolate dong.”



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After [reading book one](#) and [two](#), we thought that we were used to the level of tension the writer could throw at us. We *were wrong*.

The [authors](#) did great with this aspect of the book! [You get a trans, gay cyberpunk book](#) filled with action, thriller, conspiracy, power, values, personal development tips, examples, motivational and inspirational quotes, *and* mental-health tips that you can apply *happy screams*.

This is the type of literature we need! [These are the types of books that this generation needs](#). The hell with the perfect Cinderellas, we need Tweaks, Janices, Aidans and Billies. [*Your favourite cuss*] yeah!

How can a book be *this* perfect? I mean, it even has *poetry* in it. It has... Rumi. I simply can't. I simply can't take the *gorgeousness* of this book, omg... *this* is too much. This book is *too* perfect, this book is too, damn, perfect.

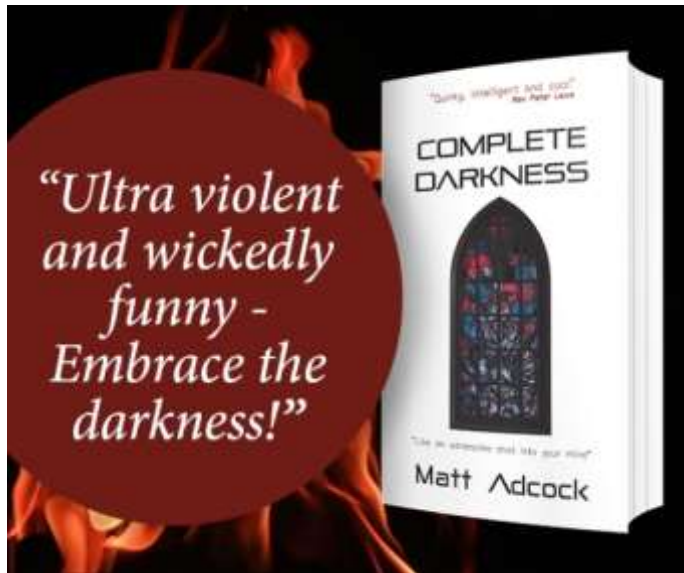
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“Writers are such EASY prey...” with Matt Adcock

Matt Adcock, Author of [Complete Darkness novel](#) and [comic](#).



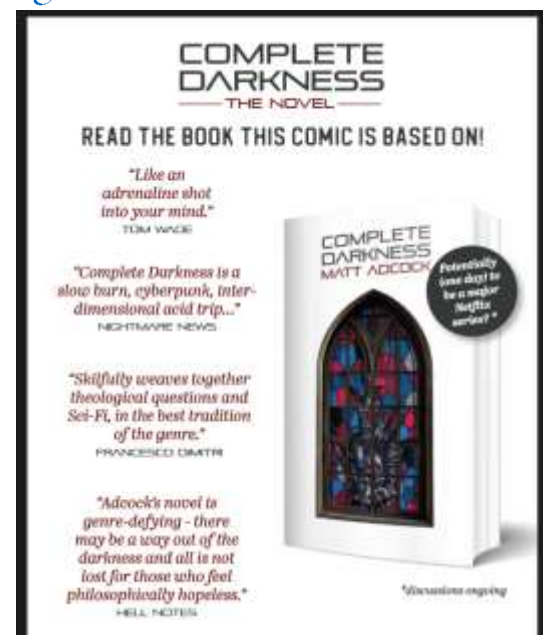
Please introduce yourself Matt:

Just some guys who writes stuff

Hey I'm [Matt Adcock](#), by day I am head of communications for the international aid charity 'Embrace The Middle East' but by [night I'm an author, podcast co-host and comic creator](#).



I write speculative stuff which [crossed cyberpunk, hard sci-fi, horror and more](#) – my first novel [Complete Darkness](#) ([our review here](#)) has topped charts and was picked by Den of Geek as one of their 'Top Books of the Year' which was incredible. [The comic version of the novel](#) is in production – [issue two coming this year](#) along with an exhibition of the art!? I've also [got some short stories published](#) –



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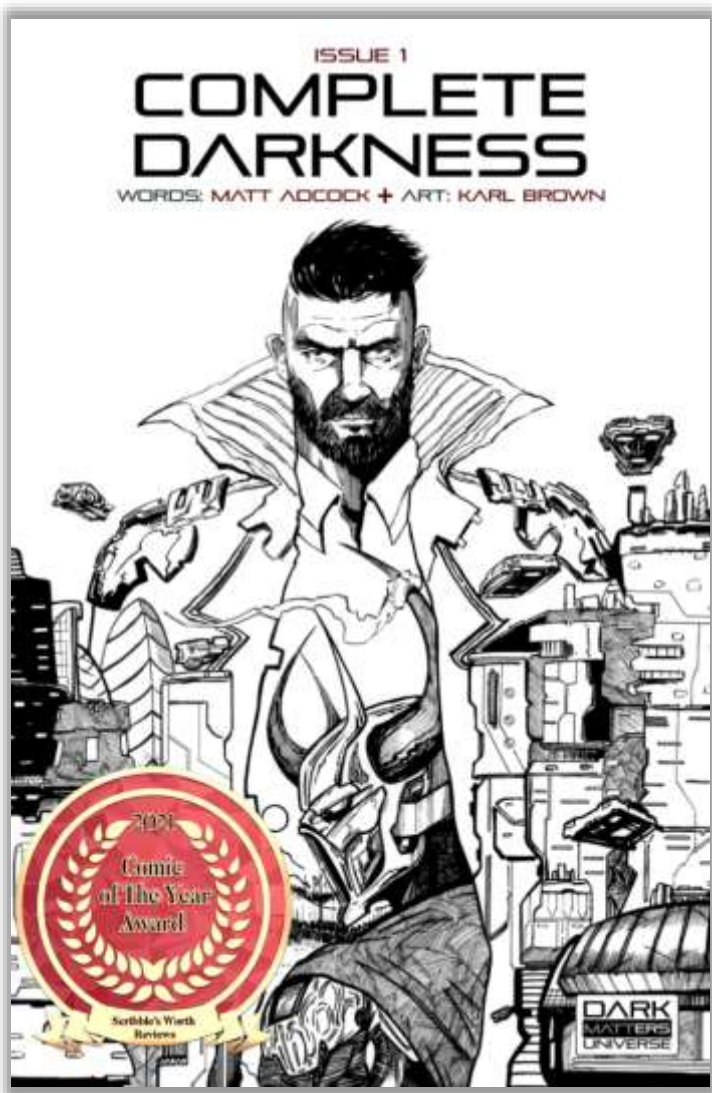


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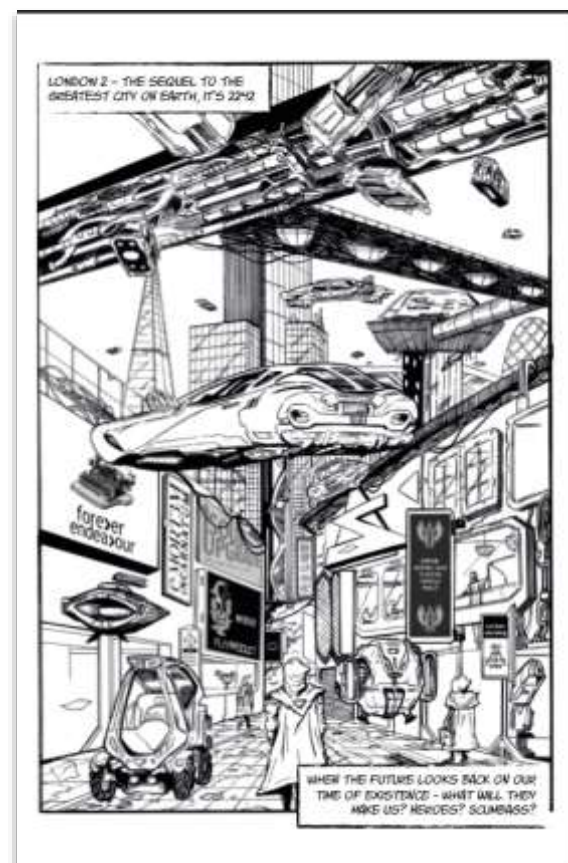
Book Reviews

look out for my first horror tale which comes out at Halloween in an anthology currently called 'Dread Cold'.

Starting out as an author is, I only now realise, quite fraught with dangers. Not so much 'life and death' threats to your person but rather serious jeopardy to your bank account... As a fresh-faced guy with his first novel picked up by a legit indie publisher, it took only about a day after posting a 'coming soon' social media about the novel to have several unsolicited emails and messages arrive.



Can I just point out straight away that [Scribbles Worth are an excellent team](#) who I've been delighted to get to know. Do keep up the good work! *In entirely unrelated matters* – they gave Complete Darkness the '[Comic of the Year Award](#)' which is a huge honour!! So when they asked me to share some thoughts on scammers out there – I said I was very happy...



Getting Scammed: Buyer Beware / *or I was young and didn't know any better...*

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When I initially got messages from 'Book Promotion' sites and companies, each promising to put my title in front of thousands of eager readers – I was excited. I mean surely *no one* would offer such 'services' if they weren't really going to work right – right?

I immediately tried one which offered to put a review in their newsletter, and promote it across their social media channels – for the 'discount' price of £50. Yeah, it was an absolute scam. Easy (if not very much) money for the Book Promotion scumbags. Their so called 'review' was just the blurb copied from my Amazon listing – *with a couple of added typos for good measure*. The social media posts (I think I saw 3 tweets and one Instagram) were just a low-resolution pic of the cover. It was all a bit embarrassing as I'd worked hard on getting some great artists to create promotion images from the book and in comparison, their posts just looked weak.



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The worst thing about the whole experience was that these weak ass posts were like blood in the water and the very next day – I got a response. No, not a huge spike in pre-order numbers but rather a **deluge of very similar 'promotional offers'** – some of them I swear were from the same company using a mildly different name and slightly changed burner email.

What advice would you give to avoid scams?

Find some like-minded amigos

Getting into a group with other authors in the same genre is a great idea and allows you to swap feedback and results from the myriad of promotional opportunities out there. You can give each other the heads up on ones to avoid and if you find something that works – share that too.

It's important to mention that there are a host of non-scammer promoters but even they can never 'guarantee' results. A successful campaign depends on many factors, and for some a price drop backed up with a social media campaign can bring in hundreds of sales, whilst another book in different genre might not see any such results.

I've got to know a bunch of great cyberpunk authors and we have become 'pals'. We've put together two anthologies of our stories ([Neo Cyberpunk Vol.1](#) & [Vol.2](#)) which sell well and I've somehow become the co-host of a cyberpunk podcast ([Hosts in the Shell](#)) that in itself is a fun way to help promote not just the genre itself but works by other authors who we get on as guests.



Any specific examples of scammers?

Beware the Insta-Spammers

Over the almost 3 years of [Complete Darkness being out](#) I have tried to sound out others who have used services and get 'real'

feedback before putting any money down. One guy on Instagram I remember was very persistent asking me every day to pay him £250 to do a review which he'd post to Amazon and Goodreads, and of course his Instagram which would *'guarantee to sell 100 copies of my book'*, oh, he also wanted me to add £8.99 to pay for the book too... When I asked him to put me in touch with authors who had used his 'service' as if it did the sales numbers, he was **guaranteeing it still only** just broke even for me - he suddenly got really rude which was unbelievable.

My advice for what it's worth is to insist on getting feedback from people who have used any service that you are looking to try. If others have found it successful – great! But in so many cases, those I talked to warned me that the return on investment was so pitiful (if any) that they would never use them again.

Is the Comic book world different at all?
Picture the love

The comic book / artist world which I've become part of thanks to my novel [being turned into a comic](#) seems less fraught.

There is an even stronger sense of artists and writers looking out of each other than in the often-abused hashtag of 'writing community'.

I may have just got incredibly lucky to have found an artist who is super passionate about the book, has reasonable rates and is amenable to the Kickstarter funding mechanic but there are great groups who will advise on good practice, offer up opportunities that they have found worked for them and generally be really supportive.





[As Karl and I](#) are working on [issue 2 of Complete Darkness](#) we are getting to know so many more established artists out there and are getting opportunities to give talks at events, and even have an art gallery wanting to do an exhibition of the comic.

Wow, that's amazing! Congratulations. Matt, can you tell us about a funny scam you've seen?

I got into some funny business

It might not be a major league scam but I do remember trying one site that offered author interviews. It was cheap to 'advertise' so the deal was you got to answer q's and they would run promo ads alongside the interview. Let's just say that their site was one of the worst I've ever experienced. The interview text got mangled so that it made no sense – with lines run together and words missing, and to make matters worse the 'ads' were huge – I mean *whole screen* huge and dropping off the edge so it was basically unusable. All of that I could have let go if it had not been the super over-the-top endorsements that the editor of the site put in. My favourite was “*Nothing on planet earth has prepared you for the reading experience of having complete darkness on your lap*” which doesn't even seem to make sense...

SO what promotion actually works?

The good stuff is out there (*and offline*)

Along with "[Scribble's Worth](#)" online - it may sound counter-intuitive these days of online-everything but I have found I've generated a great number of sales by having hard copy promotional devices like [art cards, pens and sweets](#).



COMPLETE DARKNESS LAUNCH: ARTWORK CARDS



When I got my first art cards made, I approached events that might attract the sort of readers I'd resonate with such as FrightFest London, ComicCon Scotland, Stars of Time etc who all agreed to distribute the [art cards](#) to their delegates in the show's goodie bags.

I also got in touch with the organisers of TitanCon in Belfast who asked if, alongside the card promo, I'd like to do a reading on stage there – what I didn't realise was that the event also had George R.R. Martin reading!?

DOUBLE JEOPARDY

Double Jeopardy by Alan Bayles (Mirror Wars #1)



[Double Jeopardy](#) is the first book in [Alan Baylbes'](#) Mirror Wars series and this science fiction thriller is **one book you're not** going to want to miss. What if your reflection was watching *you*? What if it was plotting to take life as you know it away from you? What would *you* do? Would you fight? This thrilling novel asks these very questions and digs deeper as the characters find themselves plagued with a danger that threatens everything they know.

[Double Jeopardy](#) is the first book that I have read by [this author](#), and I am already eager for book two. I **have** to know what happens next!

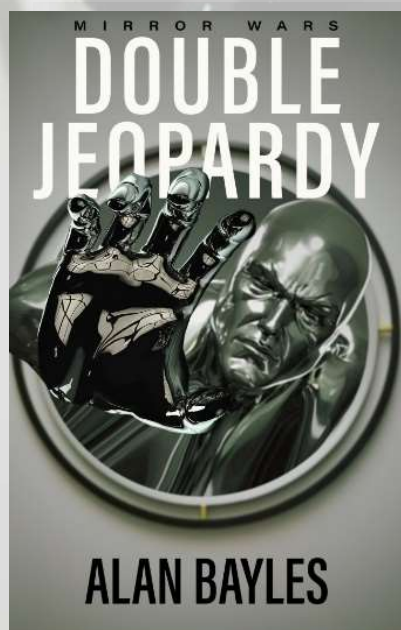
At the end of this first chapter, I *literally* had tears in my eyes. Once you start **you're not** going to want to put it down.

[As this book](#) shifts forward to the present day it seems to move forward innocently enough. Do **not** believe it. **Don't be lulled into the** false sense of security and calm [the author](#) wants to lure you into! **Don't do it!** I fell for that trick and by the end of the chapter my jaw was **literally on the floor**, my eyes were bugging out of my head, and I was in **pure shock**. If you're guessing that I immediately dove right back in to find out what exactly is going on, you'd be 100% correct!

Page by page the author builds scenes of calm and then moves in to **smack you in the face with danger and drama**. The twists keep you on edge as you just **don't know** what is going to happen next.

When I first started reading [this book](#) and Inspector Barnes was introduced I was so sure that the story was going to focus on him. So, you can imagine my surprise when the author takes a different tract. I was literally thinking “Wait! Where are we going?? Barnes is over there...” I can imagine [the author](#) shushing me and telling me simply “Just pay attention. You're not going to want to miss this upcoming twist.”

Trust me when I say that [this book is packed with mystery](#), intrigue, and edge-of-your-seat thrills. My eyes are probably going to need to be checked with as many times they bugged out of my head reading this book. There are particular scenes that are dark on their own, but the **author doesn't stop with the expected**. *No*, the author takes things a step further with the full intent of leaving readers horrified and shaken. Being a fan of horror – [I absolutely LOVED it!](#) I love it when an author keeps me on my toes and takes me down the road of the unexpected.



The ending is going to send a shiver up your spine. Cue sinister smile. LOL! The [author's attention](#) to detail, the **mystery**, and the drama make [this sci-fi conspiracy thriller novel a must-read](#).

Book Score: 8.9

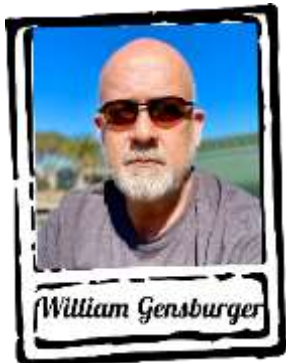
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This amazing review was written [by Bunny](#).

ALAN BAYLES

William Gensburger on Books, Magazines, and Scams

Welcome to our E-mag Mr. William!! It's a pleasure to finally have you here. For those who haven't had the pleasure to interact with you, or your gripping work, would you please tell us about yourself and your career?



Thank you, Julio. I appreciate the interview opportunity. I'm the multi-award winning bestselling author of '[Texas Dead](#)', that is the first mystery in the Mackenzie Michaels series, '[Angle of Death](#)', the sequel and '[The Extremist](#),' the finale that is coming out in the near future. I've also written '[Distant Rumors: 16 Tales of Life and Death](#),' which is a critically acclaimed collection

From Award-Winning Bestselling Author
WILLIAM GENSBURGER
"A Compelling Mystery Trilogy"

Someone is trying to **kill you**
and you don't know why?
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-Indie Today

"An Epic Crime Novel"
-Online Book Club

"Deeply Intriguing"
-Literary Titan

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"Pride Among Predators"
A SPRING
CONTEST
Tosta Lee
an success and life
and balancing it all

of short stories, and a non-fiction collection of essays titled: '[Homo Idiotus](#)'.

I've been writing most of my life, dabbled in some screenplays, worked for a newspaper as a journalist, started my own community newspaper in California (still running under new ownership since I do not live there,) and also started a magazine for writers and readers in 2017 titled: [Books'N'Pieces Magazine](#) [www.BooksNPieces.com] where we interview bestselling and up-



and-coming authors, publish paid short stories, articles, book reviews (including [Scribble's Worth's](#)) and more. This magazine is available as a digital and print publication.

Mr. William, you have quite the experience in the writing world, a plethora of books, and a quite popular E-mag as well! Truly impressive. Do you have to, or did you have to deal with scams frequently? In your point of view what type of scams are more frequent and why?

Thank you for the kind words. As for scams, I'm old enough to have had much experience with scams. These days I usually get the email scams informing me that I have won millions or inherited millions, which I usually ignore. I can only imagine some poor fool devising the scam only to be thwarted by a lack of solid English, especially when they claim to be from the IRS or some official government agency. I guess there are people who fall for these scams or they would not be so common.

I am always skeptical of any offers, always research it if it interests me—there are enough sites out there that warn you of the scam and often the identical scam has been reported by other people.

Have you ever suffered a scam of some big name of the publishing industry?

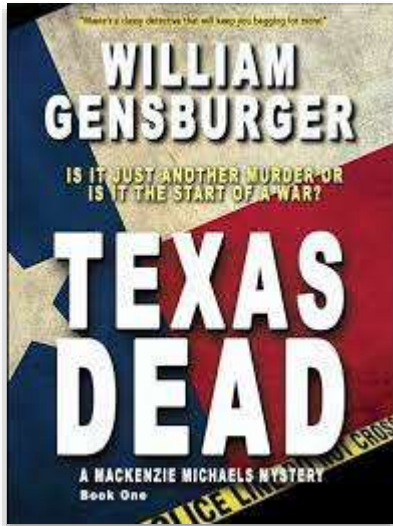
I have not been a victim of a scam, however in the writing industry and as a publisher I am aware of companies that scam writers. Not all small publishers are bad. But there are vanity publishers that charge fees that are scams. They are called vanity press because they play on the author's desire to see their name on a book cover and the hopes of fame.

Ok. Talking about scams, on one of your excellently written books (Angle of Death), of your latest series, you revealed that the villain performed a clever scam throughout book one and we didn't even noticed! It was BRILLIANT! Can you tell readers about the series and each of the books?



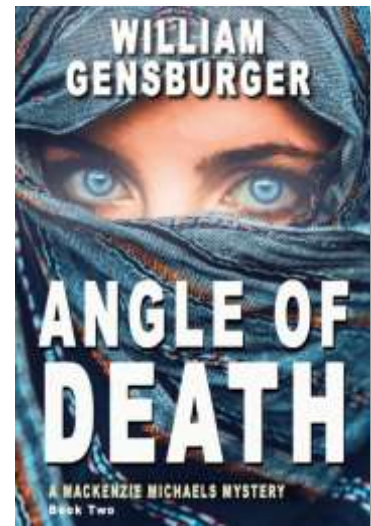
Scribble's Worth

Book Reviews—



'Texas Dead' starts with a body. The lead detective is a feisty woman whose nickname is Maxie. She is fashionable, tough, no nonsense. Her partner is Kobe Jameson, originally from Jamaica, a decent man, soft spoken with impeccable English. **He will not use contractions such as don't and** instead says do not. Together they work the case and meet Devin Parker, a journalist and relative of the victim. No one can figure out why the murder took place. Until Devin becomes a target, and then Maxie. I won't spoil the rest.

'Angle of Death' the second book, picks up where the first ended. Called by someone from Maxie's past, they tackle a missing person's case in Santa Barbara's wealthy Montecito enclave, home of many movie stars, as well as the royal couple, Harry and Meghan. As they work the case—the lead suspect is a big name movie star—villain from the first book escapes and we learn that he plans to kill the royals, as well as cause a major attack on Los Angeles. Worse, some radioactive plutonium, is stolen and fears are that it could become a dirty bomb. *Or worse.*



'The Extremist,' the final book in the trilogy, follows the hunt for the terrorist and begins as we learn that Maxie has been taken hostage. The villain has huge plans, a team of supporters who will reign terror and death upon Los Angeles and a target for the nuclear material that would bring the city to its knees. This book is action packed right to the end.

Where can we find out more about you Mr. William?

I have a website at www.MisterWriter.com and I am on social media:

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/AuthorWilliamGensburger>

Twitter <https://www.Twitter.com/mistewriter>

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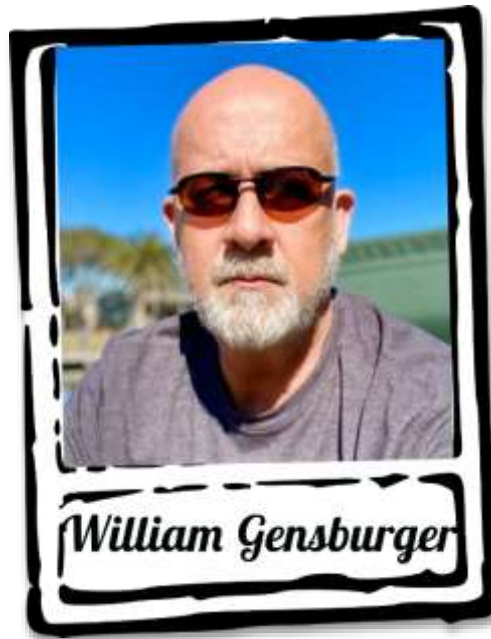
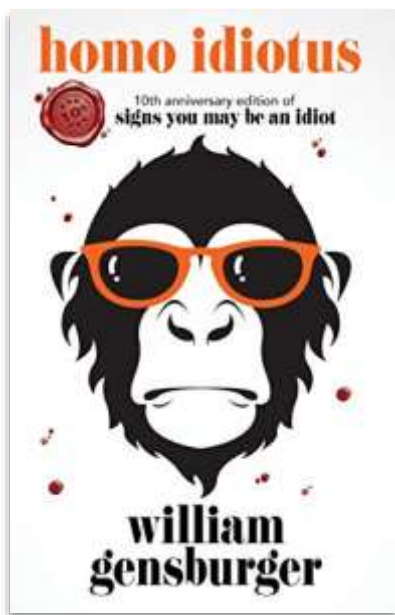
Scribble's Worth

Book Reviews—

TikTok <https://www.tiktok.com/@williamgensburger>

Books'NPieces Magazine <https://www.BooksNPieces.com>

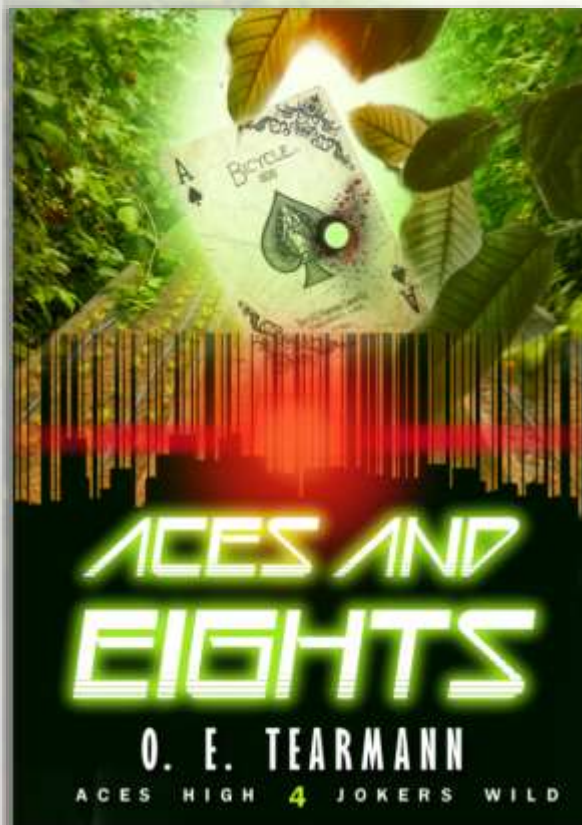
Thank you so much for soaring the time to being here with us, it was a pleasure, Mr. William.



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Aces and Eights by O. E. Tearmann (Aces High Jokers Wild #4)



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“You see, they’ve given you an enemy to hate. They’ve given you something to fear and to fight; the perverse, the Other. Because what does it matter that there are no more civil rights, that shareholders and corporations run our lives, when there’s threats out there? Threats like two girls in love or someone planting apple trees.” (...) Because while you’re fighting the terrorists and the immigrants and the ‘fags’, you’re not thinking. And if you ever had the time to start thinking, you might wonder why it’s illegal to collect rainwater (...) You might start noticing the bars on your cage, if you weren’t given something ‘better’ to fret over.”

How powerful is this?! *Oh my god.* Love it, love it, love it!

[Love this book.](#) [Love this series.](#) [Love these authors.](#) Love this story. Love **every** page, not only for the tension, not only for the dynamics of the character, not only for the originality of the story, for the immersiveness of it all, **the couples and the ways they just... become, it's....** (*play a Keanu meme*) ***breathhtaking!***

[This is a book series](#) that readers, *once they give it a chance*, will find that it's not just a set of books that they want, but that they *need*, and **that** ending, oh, god, *fucking priceless!* Priceless!

Book Score: 9.4/10

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O. E. TEARMANN
ACES HIGH 4 JOKERS WILD

Draw Dead Hand by O. E. Tearmann

(Aces High Jokers Wild #5)



[eBook](#) // [Open on Goodreads](#)

Even before the book starts we are already on the balls of our feet! How [can a book](#) be this good? Simple answer: The Tearmann are writing, *of course*. [THE, BEST series you'll read](#). Love this to the core of my existence!

After a while of romantic scenes, lots, of success, happy moments, and Tweak smiling a lot, it hits you: this book is starting off *too good...* Too good...

Don't expect action because [this part](#) of the series doesn't have much, if any, action scene, but there's thriller, *oh you bet*, the gut-punching, nerve-racking, *throw-the-book-to-the-wall* type of thriller and suspense, so

hold your hat tight and prepare the tissue papers because [this will be wild!](#)

[This book is outstanding](#), deep, relatable, incredibly unexpected, especially once we regard all of Janice's time in front. Loved it. In a weird and sad way, yes, sure, but still, [it's another incredible book](#) by theses incredible authors, and you will totally agree with me once [you read it, so do get the book](#). See you in book 6. :)

Book Score: 9.4/10

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O. E. TEARMANN

ACES HIGH 5 JOKERS WILD

The Cyberpunk Queen and her experience with Scams.

So, lets go back in time Anna. Can you walk us through the first time you were scammed in the writing world? How old were you, how did it happen and why did you fall for it?



I don't even know haha. I've been in the creative industry all my professional life and I'm sure I've been scammed a long time ago for the first time, so I can't recall a particular incident.

But I can tell you about one of the worst scams I fell victim to, and that was a publisher that refused to pay me my royalties. That sounds extreme but unfortunately, it happens more often than one would think, that authors are scammed by publishers.

You told us you were scammed many times. Can you relate other experiences, the starkest ones that you were a victim of?

Another scam I fell victim to, was by an "artist" I hired on Fiverr. Someone recommended him and he had tons of great reviews, so I thought, *why not*. It was the first and the last time I hired someone from Fiverr.

The artwork the guy delivered was good but it turned out that it wasn't his, he had stolen from Deviant Art and sold it as his own. **Luckily, my cover designer didn't** fall for it and recognized that it was fake. I contacted Fiverr and demanded my money back, sending them **proof that I've been scammed**. Luckily, they refunded me fully – *they didn't remove him from their platform though*.

This is why I can only recommend keeping away from Fiverr.

Book promo scam sites. Any word on that?

Unfortunately, there are only a couple of book promo sites that are legit and worth the money. Most are scams. I never fell for any of them, but I know authors who did.

I wouldn't recommend using any promo person or company, that contacts you by email, on Twitter or Instagram. You can be almost **100%** sure that *those people are scammers*.

If you want to get any ROI at all, you should stick to the legit promo platforms such as Freebooksy, Book Barbarian and others.

Unfortunately, indie authors have become *a very* lucrative business. People have discovered that many authors are willing to pay quite some sums to achieve book sales. It seems to me that over the last two years the amount of scammers on social media has outright **exploded**.

We know that you are very hard working and focused as a person, and that you take notes. So, allow me to ask this: "What did you learn?". What are the lessons you wish you knew (and the ones you now know) about the workings of the writing world that keep you away from scams? . Are there any tools, places or people that writers, specially newbie writers should be acquainted to so they can prepare and defend themselves from scams?

As mentioned above, I would keep away from Fiverr and the majority of promo platforms. Sometimes those people pretend that they have 100k followers on Twitter or IG, but in most cases those are bots. **You'll pay money and receive no ROI.**

With publishers, I would recommend staying away from those who want money from you for their services. **NEVER get involved with such publishers. They don't earn their money by selling books, they earn their money from authors who desperately wish to get published.**



Scribble's Worth

Book Reviews

But even if you're careful and experienced, you might end up with a fraudulent publisher, as happened to me. I think most authors are better off self-publishing than going with a small press publisher.

Ok! Anna, [last time you were with us](#), you mentioned an anthology coming out, and it's out, featuring great Cyberpunk authors, including Matt Adcock! Tell us a little about that please. . Where can people acquire it?

Yes! I'm the Editor of [the Neo Cyberpunk anthology series](#) and I'm extremely proud of this project. [Each book](#) features 15 cyberpunk authors, each contributing one short story. And yes, my friend and very talented [author Matt Adcock](#) has been part of the project since day one. I hope there are many more to come.



You can find [Neo Cyberpunk on Amazon](#) and [book 2 is also available on Kindle Unlimited](#).

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And.... You have a new book, and audiobook, from the BBE series, is that correct? Tell us a little about that please. How are the receiving it?

Yes, I just released [the third book in my Behind Blue Eyes series](#) in March and it's been received very well. I couldn't be happier! [BBE has a steadily growing fan base](#) and most people [who start reading it](#), love it. It's a wonderful experience for me, especially since there are [many more books in the series to come](#).



And yes, [the first three books are currently turned into audiobooks](#). Soundbooth Theater has picked them up and is turning them into a full-cast narration with music and SFX. It's going to be amazing!



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Book Reviews

Congratulations on your success Anna, you deserve it and we can't wait to read it, and we will soon review this bestselling series. Hahahahaha. Before we go, do you want to leave a word for your fans reading this?

Thank you for all your feedback and kindness! Every single time one of you tells me that you enjoyed my books, no matter if personally or in a review, it makes my day! Stay with me on this exciting journey as I have [many more projects to come!](#)



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“Raw, Precise, Unbiased”

