

FROM THE DESK OF
KEITH M. LEONARD - AUTHOR

from Under The Bridge

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WELCOME!

A Year of Firsts

So, yeah, 2025? It's been kind of a wild ride of firsts. I remember when I actually got to hold my first published book, **Short Not Sweet!** It still feels a bit surreal. And now, BAM! You're reading the very first issue of my newsletter. Seriously, I'm stoked to have you here!

But wait, there's more! I'm also excited to launch this little thing called **Under the Bridge Creative**. Basically, I'm taking everything I've learned about self publishing and branding a side hustle to help my fellow indie authors who aren't interested in doing these things themselves. I know how crazy it can be trying to juggle writing with the extra strain of marketing. So, I thought, "Why not make it easier?"

Under the Bridge Creative is all about taking the stress out of the non-writing bits. I'm talking author websites, newsletters (like this one!), and cool marketing ideas (business cards, bookmarks, stickers, etc.).

Also, I'm announcing a collaboration with **Tall House Publishing**, a new small press publishing company preparing to help indie authors affordably publish their work. From editing, cover and interior book design, and publishing, Tall House will be there from start to finish.

Under the Bridge Creative and Tall house Publishing are teaming up to offer authors a one-stop-shop for all your publishing and marketing needs. Check out our websites for information on our services and for contact information.

<https://underthebridgecreative.com>

<https://tallhousepublishing.com>



Writing Update

SO MANY WORDS!

Buried Alive

If you've read my first publication, entitled *Short Not Sweet*, you will have met Trey Clouston. He has been terrorizing Dawn's Crossing for some time now.

I am deep into the writing of the first draft, with the goal of finishing it later this year.

Shadowed Quill (Working Title)

A short story collection consisting of 15 stories (each much longer than those in *Short Not Sweet*) spanning horror, fantasy and the supernatural. First draft is 70% complete, and I hope to start editing soon.

The Secret of Sparkles' Cove

I have written a children's book entitled *The Secret of Sparkles' Cove*. To ensure kids who read the children's series aren't searching for more stories and stumbling upon my dark fiction, I decided to use the pseudonym Noah D. Carver. This is the first of at least three books in a series called *Tales of Tidehaven*. I am currently waiting for art to be created to include with the story.



What I'm Reading

Thanks to Catlyn Ladd, a previous podcast guest, who recommended the novel in her newsletter, I was introduced to **Maeve Fly** by CJ Leede. I recently finished the audiobook, and I have to say it was a wonderfully fucked up read!



As I await the third book in the Empire of the Vampire series from Jay Kristoff, **Empire of the Dawn**, I decided to give another series of his a go. I'll let you know when I finish **Nevernight**, but so far it is quite an enjoyable read.



Write Out Loud

May 21 is the last Write Out Loud event for the summer. I will Emcee this event (another first) as we welcome Saskatchewan author Misty Rae.

Misty Rae is an award-winning, mixed-race writer currently living in Morse, SK with her husband and 2 dogs. Born and raised in Oromocto, New Brunswick, she enjoyed a rewarding career as a lawyer before leaving the practice to follow her passion for the written word. When she's not writing, she can be found out in nature, taking photos or picking wildflowers.

Join us at the Lyric Theatre in Swift Current, SK on May 21, 2025.



Special Events

BOOK SIGNINGS

I am currently working with some local coffee shops and an Indie Bookstore to arrange book signings. Check my website keithmleonard.com for timely updates.

Brewing Fiction Podcast

SEASON 1 COMPLETE

I've just completed the last episode of the podcast until October 2025. I decided to take some time to enjoy my favourite time of year, and to get back into some writing projects that have taken a back seat to the podcast.

What I'm calling **Season 2 - Unlocking the Stories** will still feature authors from around the world, but will focus more on their written works. Subscribe now to ensure you don't miss an episode.



BREWING FICTION
PODCAST



UNDER THE BRIDGE
CREATIVE

Coming Soon!

I'm excited to announce my new marketing and brand creation company known as **Under the Bridge Creative**. With affordable website design and hosting, and marketing materials for brand creation, UTBC will walk with you on your writer's journey.

[VISIT](http://keithmleonard.com)