

## A little research is a good thing

Doing research is part of a writer and editor's role. We need ensure any "facts" included in published materials are true. I've spent many hours searching for weather conditions in various regions of the US, journey times, names, dates, and even the medicinal properties of seeds and beans.

I know, you're probably thinking, "But I'm writing fiction. It doesn't need to be true." All those things I mentioned were in my client's novels. I had to check them because readers pick up on those things and then get dragged out of the story, which can lead to bad reviews.

There is another reason research is so important. There are a lot of people trying to sell us their services. It can be tempting to take them up on their offer especially if the price is attractive.

Please spend a little time researching editors, formatters, cover designers, and publishing companies before you sign a contract, hand over your manuscript, or pay any money. Trust me, the bad reviews always show up.

Thankfully, my clients are all happy with my work. If you need help with your novel, get in touch so we can chat about your goals.

In the meantime, have a great week, Kerry













## **Kerry Murphy Editor**

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