

Dead Man's Party: 1178 words today, some nice tension, and just three chapters left

By Holly Lisle

I got my words this morning in three ten-minute runs – and I love what I got. I ran a smidge over my goal, but that's okay. This scene was a short, tight run through the third of four scenes that are occurring simultaneously in the novel as my characters go tearing toward the ending.

The world of *Dead Man's Party* is talking to me. I like it, at least the part of it that occurs later, as I understand the story that's been crawling out of my process.

I like it enough that after I do the revision, I'm going to revise and publish it and see how it does for me, and consider writing other books in the same world. I can already think of a number of other books in the world.

But post-apocalyptic cannibal/zombie/AI is a bit outside where I usually play. So we'll see whether the first one gets any interest before I fling myself yet again into "gee, I could write in this world forever."

For writers:

My revision of this novel is going to become the *Streamlined Revision Process* demo for my *How to Revise Your Novel* class, which is getting its long-overdue upgrade/update after I finish the first draft of *How to Write a Novel*.

Which is going to be soon now.

I'm kicking myself for not having used the process I came up with in *How to Write a Novel* to write other novels. I could

have had so much more fiction written, even though most of my time has been going toward class-building.

Regret gets you nowhere, though – so now I can just be grateful that I asked the right questions while I was building the class, and that I'll have finished the first drafts of two novels written simultaneously just a couple weeks apart.

And will have a LOT of fiction to revise in the next couple of months.

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