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UP A DRY CREEK (The Dry Creek Series)
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A Guest Posting from Avery Flynn

Amid all the excitement of having my first novel published, I've been asked about my "road" to publication. How long was it? How bumpy? How often did I get lost? Finally, I stopped celebrating long enough to piece it all back together.

I worked hard to meet my goal—that being for **Up a Dry Creek** to be a sexy, fun, fast-paced romantic suspense. I wrote those fateful words—"The End"—and started submitting. The rejections came in. Each one hurt like a nun smacking my knuckles with a wooden ruler. Then came the request for revisions—by a big house no less. I crafted a villain's back story, added another layer of emotion and tightened it up. As soon as I hit send on my e-mail to the publisher, my eyes locked on the clock.

Tick, tick, tick. Nothing. Days passed. Weeks passed. A month and a half passed with not a peep from the publisher. Being the queen of doom and gloom, I made my mind up that it wasn't going to happen. What was I doing investing all of my time and energy into writing a book? Sure it had been recognized in contests, but so were a lot of stories. What made me think mine stood out? Gathering my courage, I sent an e-mail to the publisher asking for an update. Then I spent quality time staring at my computer screen vainly waiting for the bing to sound.

Nervous energy burning a basketball-sized hole in my stomach, I went to the one place where I could distract myself from all thoughts about my book. Yes, I went shoe shopping. I was there in the clearance racks filled with glittery four-inch heels that I had no hope of being able to walk in, when I finally got word.

The word was no.

Cue the pity party. I drank beer and fell off the smoking wagon. I whined to friends and generally pouted and felt sorry for myself. I was the awkward high school girl who'd gotten dressed for the prom, but her date never came to pick her up. I was crushed.

The next morning I brewed an extra-strong pot of coffee—which for me means it was a few degrees away from counting as nuclear sludge. Sitting down at the computer, I wrote a nice thank-you-for-considering-my-manuscript e-mail to the publisher. Then I did what every writer has done. I submitted again.

And again.

And again.

Soon, I had not one but two publishers interested in *Up a Dry Creek*. This caused anxiety on a whole other level and resulted in more whining to friends. I walked away from my computer, read a book ([A Lot Like Love](#) by Julie James—thumbs up) and tried not to think about it. The next morning, I knew what I was going to do.

I signed my contract with [Evernight Publishing](#) and *Up a Dry Creek* is now on sale.

Up a Dry Creek is available at these online retailers...

1PlaceforRomance

<http://1placeforromance.com/>

Amazon Kindle

<http://www.amazon.com>

AllRomanceEbooks

<http://www.allromanceebooks.com>

Barnes & Noble

<http://www.bn.com>

BookStrand

<http://www.bookstrand.com/>

Diesel Books

<http://www.diesel-ebooks.com/>

Digibook Café

<http://www.digibookscafe.com/>

iBookstore (Apple)

<http://www.apple.com/ipad/built-in-apps/ibooks.html>

Kobo

<http://www.kobobooks.com>

ReaderStore (Sony)

<http://ebookstore.sony.com/>

... and, of course, at

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