

The Virgin Widow's Heart Stopped When She Saw the Workshop That Would Change Her Life Forever: Recognize Clichés and Use Them to Make Your Writing Shine

Recognize a Cliché

Top clichéd phrases and descriptions that should never show up in your writing.

Top clichéd characters who should never inhabit your novels.

Top clichéd situations that should never happen.

Top clichéd openings that will get your manuscript tossed every time.

Top clichéd love scene elements that make a reader groan (not in a good way...).

Top clichés romance writers use in promo and why they need to be dumped.

Cut Those Clichés: Watch the Editing Process in Action (How Diana and Ellen edited clichés out of actual manuscripts)

Identify and rewrite clichés to give your scenes more impact and let your voice sing.

Examples of writing made stronger by cutting clichés.

- **Think unique.**
- **Make it specific and tangible.**
- **Use your character's voice or perspective.**
- **Increase the drama, emotion, or humor.**

Think through clichés in the planning stages of your novels to make your writing shine.

Examples of stories made stronger by turning clichés on their heads.

- **Do NOT use your first idea.**
- **Why matters more than what.**
- **Swap the expected gender.**
- **Think modern. Think relevant.**

Cliché-free Style: Scrub Your Pages

Bring a 2-paragraph sample from your romance manuscript/book to the workshop, and we'll work together to spot your clichés and change them for the better.