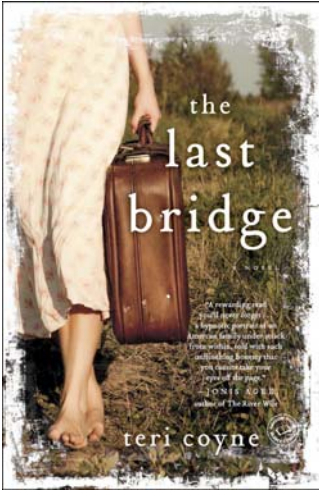


Talking points



Teri is an engaging speaker who can adapt to any audience. As a former stand-up comedian she is charming, at ease with groups and reads with clarity and energy. In addition to conducting a reading, Teri can discuss key elements and themes from [The Last Bridge](#) and talk about any or all of the following:

- How her experiences as a stand-up comic inform this darker look at human nature
- How Teri uses humor to reveal character and keep the reader engaged in the more intense moments of the book
- How women she knows deal with family secrets—and whether our confessional, reality-focused culture provides a legitimate forum for discussion and healing
- Whether it's better to confront a traumatic event or leave it behind to create a new life
- How Coyne's own upbringing and family environment influenced Alex's story—and the extent to which our own childhood experiences determine who we are today
- The unexpected response from abuse survivors to the book
- The top three questions Teri gets asked the most about The Last Bridge and how she responds to them
- Although it is fiction, do most readers think it is true?
- Teri's road to publication how it took over ten years to finish The Last Bridge

Program Ideas

In addition to doing a reading with a Q&A after, Teri can create or participate in any of your ongoing program needs. Here are some ideas:

- Conduct a **workshop** on how to use humor to express your feelings in writing or in life.
- Give a **talk** on the long road to publication. How did a stand-up comedian end up writing a dark book? How do you get published? Where do you start?
- The Last Bridge **reading group**. After reading The Last Bridge, Teri can participate or lead a discussion on the book
- **Author panel or event**. Teri hosts a quarterly reading event in NYC called Ordinary Women: Extraordinary Heroines which features women writers who create strong female protagonists who are flawed and unapologetic. Teri can arrange for a panel of local authors to conduct a reading and discussion on the role of the heroine in literature and in life.
- You did what? Since leaving Pittsburgh for NY at 18 Teri has had a number of jobs from Security Guard to Housekeeper to stand-up comedian. Teri can take you on an **odyssey** of employment and share the lessons she learned about working.
- Getting the word out. Teri can lead a **discussion** on how writers are using sites like Facebook, Twitter, Library Thing and blogs to connect with readers.