

## Young Acworth author publishes fifth book

By Kerry Miller | Apr 30, 2014



Photo by: Kerry MillerCeara Comeau, a 21-year-old Acworth resident, just published her fifth book, "Master of Illusions," which she is shown here proudly holding up.

ACWORTH — Besides traveling the world someday, a young Acworth woman aspires to join the ranks of Mary Higgins Clark, Stephen King and Dan Brown and write novels for a living. Considering at the age of 21 she has already written five books, it seems she is well on her way to achieving one of her life's dreams. "I love writing so much," Ceara Comeau said with a smile.

While she began writing in journals at the age of 4, it was when she turned 15 that her first book was published. With her dad, John Comeau, serving as her editor, and her mom, Charlotte Comeau, formatting her books, the first volume in the "Amber Oak Mysteries" series came to life.

The series follows a 15-year-old sleuth who uncovers mysteries about her family's past, faces challenges and dangerous situations. The fourth installment and latest book is "Master of Illusions," which Comeau said took her a year and a half to write.

"[Master of Illusions] is unique because I'm starting to get somewhere I never thought I would get," she explained.

Comeau described her character, Amber Oak, as being unique to her own imagination and "so much more than just another ordinary character that's a detective."

"I'm not sure if they'll ever end at this point," she said of the series. "I have the next three books in my mind."

One of her ultimate goals, Comeau added, specifically with the series is " to get so involved with my Amber Oak Mysteries and her world that they're sad when a character dies or happy when something happens that they just don't want to let the book go."

She is especially excited about "Master of Illusions," she said, because it's her first full-length book.

"I'm so proud I actually did the cover [art] of that. It's the most difficult book I had to write," she revealed.

To face any difficulties she encounters during her writing process, Comeau has friends on hand offering help and support. She has also been known to use an unorthodox method of working through writer's block — she and her friends will act out potential scene ideas for her books.

"My friends help me go through road blocks in my brain. They love it," she laughs. "Everybody has a unique process. Every writer has their way of doing things. That's what makes us writers all unique."

Her family — including her parents and brother, Jason, have also been especially supportive, she said.

"It's a huge family thing we have going," she said. "[My dad] he helped me better communicate what I want to tell readers. He's been a huge inspiration for me. My parents have been more supportive of me than I could ever imagine. My brother has been very encouraging — saying 'don't get discouraged, keep at it.' I'm blessed beyond anything."

A cousin even made a video of a short story from the her book "Adventures of the Young and Curious," which is her only book not part of the Amber Oak series. The video was screened in a real movie theater.

"It was like the best day of my life," Comeau revealed. "Fifty people showed up [for the viewing]."

It's because of how much her loved ones stand by her as she pursues her passion that Comeau believes you can achieve your dreams when you follow your heart.

"If love doing it, do it. It's not the end of the world if people don't listen,"she said, adding that her friend Deborah Hansen once told her "You make time for the things that you love."

Comeau is also inspired by several famous authors including Stephen King, J.K. Rowling, Suzanne Collins, C.S. Lewis and JRR Tolkien.

"I'm a reader of almost anything. It's important to read other peoples books [see] what's in their mind. It's important [as an author] to be well-rounded," she said. "I've never seen a point of perfection, I'm always wanting to improve. I'm not where I want to be but I will get better eventually."

Her books "mature with my age," Comeau continued. She said it's fascinating for her to to "go back and see where I started and where I am now." Where she is now is wanting to delve into one particular genre.

"Lately I've been doing more in the sci-fi world. I'm a huge sci-fi fan, I grew up watching Dr. Who," she said.

Comeau uses an online self-publishing site, lulu.com, to publish her books. Both the "Amber Oak Mysteries" series and "Adventures of the Young and Curious" are available for purchase on lulu.com, as well as barnesandnoble.com and Amazon.com.

She is a 2011 graduate of Fall Mountain Regional High School and previously wrote for a teen magazine called Teen Zeen based out of the Keene Library. While she is taking this current school year off, Comeau will return in the fall to Pensacola Christian College in Pensacola, Fla. to begin her junior year. For more information about Comeau and her books, visit amberoakmysteries.com.