



Using Simile and Metaphor

Readers (and Literary Agents, Editors and Publishers) LOVE when you intersperse simile and metaphor into your writing! It adds to your description by helping the reader picture something in his/her mind and can be literary and poetic if done well. Don't force it but do try your hand at it occasionally when trying to describe someone/something/somewhere. Just don't use cliches!

Simile – when two unlike things are compared using the words “like” or “as”

Examples:

His voice was smooth like butter.

Her face was as bright as the sun.

His heart was as hard as stone.

His cheeks were like roses, his lips like a cherry.

Metaphor – when two unlike things are compared that have something in common – without the use of “like” or “as”

Examples:

The road was a ribbon of moonlight.

A man is but a weak reed.

He drowned in a sea of grief.

She is fishing in troubled waters.

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