

Melanie M. Austin

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Freelance Editor **Seattle Editing/Peninsula Editing**

Qualifications Include the Following:

- Extensive experience editing memoirs, science fiction, fantasy, mystery, fan fiction, short stories, self-help books, academic essays, academic journals, newsletters, reports, and essays.
- Professional training and experience working as a developmental editor, copy editor, and proofreader.
- Familiarity with standard style guides, including CMOS, AP, APA, and MLA.
- Proficiency with online and traditional research methods and data-checking techniques.
- Wide knowledge of the publishing process.
- Experience with MS Word, Excel, Acrobat, Photoshop, and Outlook.
- Experience teaching writing and English language skills to both native and non-native speakers and writers.

Education:

- Ph.D. in English from Washington State University (Pullman) in January 1998
- M.A. English from University of Idaho (Moscow) in 1986
- B.A. English from Western Washington University (Bellingham) in 1976

Editorial Courses & Certificates:

- Barbara Sjöholm's Author-Editor Clinic (Developmental editing)
- TESL Certificate from Seattle University
- Keys to Effective Editing (Jacquelyn Landis' online copyediting course)
- Copyediting Fiction: An Online Course (Editcetera/Ziporah Collins, instructor)
- Oregon Coast Children's Book Writers Workshop

- Book Mapping for Editors (Editors Freelance Association)
- ACES Intermediate Editing Certificate (online at Poynter)

Work Experience as Freelance Editor and Writing Instructor:

- Freelance editor since 2006, editing on several levels to help writers produce high-caliber and publishable texts, including memoirs, self-help books, mysteries, young-adult novels, fan fiction, academic reports, essays, theses, marketing brochures, quarterly reports, employee handbooks, and many other projects.
- Instructor at North Seattle Community College, Continuing Education (2014–2018) “Proofreading” workshops.
- Developmental editor under contract as freelance editor for Book Buddy Audio in 2015, Epic Press, 2016–2017
- Volunteer ESL instructor at Refugee Federation Services Center and writing instructor at Edmonds Community College
- Assistant Editor on three academic journals at WSU (1988–1989)
- Instructional Assistant/Instructor at Washington State University and University of Idaho, from 1983–2005

Selected List of Book-Length Manuscripts (most were self-published):

As copy editor:

Ahlers, John P. *Papa’s Papers: A Memoir* (2025: Unpublished)

Bergstrom, K.M. & K.L. Campbell. *Inside The Journey* (1).

_____. *Living the Journey* (2).

_____. *Beyond the Journey* (3).

Bond, Mike. *Remember to Duck: A Trial Lawyer’s Memoir*.

Bugni, Michael W. *Consumed*.

Crawford, Brian. *Prisoners of War* (young-adult series), 2016.

DuHamel, Thomas R. *The Ins and Outs of Poop: A Guide to Treating Childhood Constipation*. (nonfiction)

Layser, Earle. *Darkness Follows Light*, 2016. (memoir)

Jarvis, Ingrid, *Losing Tina*, 2020. (memoir)

White-Parks, Annette. *My Butterfly Girl*, 2013. (memoir)

Reynolds, Tom K. *A Lullaby for Toby*, 2019.

_____. *The Dreams We Bring*, 2024.

Mannfield, Hugh. *A Place to Embrace* (Our Place in Space),

2014. Waeschele, Amy. *Going Over the Falls*, 2017.

_____. Meet Me on the Mountain: The Prequel to the Cassidy Kincaid Mystery Series

Wells, Steven M. *Harvest Homicide: A China Connection* (The Winemaker Series, 2).

As developmental editor:

Doughsmith, Jaime. *Card Up My Sleeve: Adventures of a Credit Card Smith*.
(nonfiction)

Follansbee, Joe. *Bet: Stowaway Daughter*. (middle grade).

_____. The Future History of the Grail, Books 1–3.

McPike, K.J. *XODUS* (The Astralis Series Book 1). (young

adult) Murray, Arthur C. *The Badass Bureaucrat: A Memoir*.

Skogen, Jennifer. *Haunting of Grey Hills* (young-adult series),

2015. Spada, R. L. *Last Resort* (middle grade).

Other editing & proofreading obs:

Climate Change Curriculum for Washington State, High School
Social Studies (copy editor), 2024

FreyBuck P.S. Employee Handbook, 2024.

St. Stephen Church. Project Objectives and Benefits, 2014.

Professional Memberships:

ACES: The Society for Editing

Editorial Freelance Association

Northwest Editors Guild