

**Melanie M. Austin**

---

**110 Warbler Ln., WA 98365 (206) 784-7070 [seattle\\_editing@comcast.net](mailto:seattle_editing@comcast.net)  
<https://seattle-editing.com/seattle-editing.com>**

## **Freelance Editor**

### **Objective: Seeking Copyediting Work**

#### **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 nonnative speakers and writers.

#### **Education:**

- Ph.D. 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/Zipporah 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) “Review of Common Writing Errors”
- 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* (Unpublished)

Bergstrom, K.M. & K.L. Campbell. *Inside The Journey*, 2014.

\_\_\_\_\_. *Living the Journey*, 2014.

\_\_\_\_\_. *Beyond the Journey*, 2015.

Bond, Mike. *Remember to Duck: A Trial Lawyer’s Memoir*, 2014.

Bugni, Michael W. *Consumed*, 2014.

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

DuHamel, Thomas R. *The Ins and Outs of Poop: A Guide to Treating Childhood Constipation*, 2012.

Layser, Earle. *Darkness Follows Light*, 2016.

Jarvis, Ingrid, *Losing Tina*, 2020.

White-Parks, Annette. *My Butterfly Girl*, 2013.  
Reynolds, Tom K. *A Lullaby for Toby*, 2019.  
\_\_\_\_\_. *The Dreams We Bring*, 2024.  
Mannfield, Hugh. *A Place to Embrace*, 2014.  
Waeschele, Amy. *Going Over the Falls*, 2017.  
\_\_\_\_\_. *Meet Me on the Mountain*, 2018.  
Wells, Steven M. *Harvest Homicide: A China Connection*.

As developmental editor:

Doughsmith, Jaime. *Card Up My Sleeve: Adventures of a Credit Card Smith*, 2015.  
Follansbee, Joe. *Bet: Stowaway Daughter*, 2008.  
\_\_\_\_\_. *The Future History of the Grail*, Books 1–3.  
McPike, K.J. *XODUS*, 2015.  
Murray, Arthur C. *The Badass Bureaucrat: A Memoir*, 2009.  
Skogen, Jennifer. *Haunting of Grey Hills*, 2015.  
Spada, R. L. *Last Resort*, 2011.

**Other editing & proofreading jobs:**

Washington Student Climate Assembly: *Climate Change in the Civics Classroom* (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