

Editorial Portfolio

Selected Projects, Services & Testimonials

Taylor Melendy

Founder & Lead Editor

info@thelastdraftstudio.com

thelastdraftstudio.com



THE
LAST DRAFT
STUDIO

EDITORIAL PHILOSOPHY

The Last Draft Studio is a boutique editorial studio dedicated to helping authors transform manuscripts into polished, publication-ready books. With more than seven years of professional editorial experience and over 125 manuscripts edited, we partner with independent authors and publishing companies to provide thoughtful, collaborative editing that strengthens every manuscript while preserving the author's unique voice.

Whether refining a first draft or preparing a final manuscript for publication, our goal is simple: deliver clear, actionable editorial guidance that helps authors tell their stories with confidence.

Why Authors & Publishers Choose The Last Draft Studio

- ✓ ✓ 125+ manuscripts edited
- ✓ Developmental editing through proofreading
- ✓ Direct collaboration throughout every project
- ✓ Publication-focused editorial guidance
- ✓ Reliable communication and deadline management
- ✓ Editorial feedback that strengthens the manuscript

EDITORIAL SERVICES AT A GLANCE

Every manuscript is different. Whether your project needs big-picture guidance or a final polish, each service is tailored to meet your manuscript where it is in the publishing journey.

Developmental Editing

Best For

Authors preparing early or mid-stage manuscripts.

What I Focus On

Structure, pacing, organization, character development, and overall reader experience.

What You'll Receive

- Detailed editorial letter
 - Manuscript comments
 - Prioritized recommendations for revision.
-

Line Editing

Best For

Authors with a solid manuscript who want to elevate the writing while preserving their unique voice.

What I Focus On

Sentence flow, word choice, rhythm, tone, clarity, transitions, and overall readability.

What You'll Receive

- Annotated manuscript with stylistic revisions
- Suggestions to strengthen voice and readability
- Line-level recommendations that improve clarity and impact

Copyediting

Best For

Manuscripts nearing completion that require technical accuracy and consistency before publication.

What I Focus On

Grammar, punctuation, spelling, syntax, consistency, style, fact-checking, and continuity.

What You'll Receive

- Professionally copyedited manuscript using Track Changes
 - Customized style sheet
 - Editorial queries and consistency notes
-

Proofreading

Best For

Final manuscripts that have already been edited and are nearly ready for publication.

What I Focus On

Typographical errors, punctuation, formatting, spacing, spelling, and final quality control.

What You'll Receive

- Final proofread manuscript
 - Corrections for remaining mechanical errors
 - Publication-ready quality review
-

Manuscript Evaluation

Best For

Authors seeking professional editorial feedback before committing to a full edit.

What I Focus On

Overall strengths, areas for improvement, market readiness, manuscript potential, and next steps.

What You'll Receive

- Comprehensive editorial assessment
 - Written evaluation with strengths and recommendations
 - Suggested editorial path based on your publishing goals
-

EDITORIAL PROCESS

A streamlined, collaborative approach designed to support your manuscript at every stage—while preserving your voice and keeping the process clear and focused.

01 — Discovery

Understanding your manuscript, publishing goals, timeline, and the level of editorial support that will best serve your project.

02 — Editorial Assessment

Evaluating the manuscript to identify strengths, opportunities, and priorities before detailed editing begins.

03 — Editorial Review

Applying developmental editing, line editing, copyediting, or proofreading based on the manuscript's unique needs while preserving the author's voice.

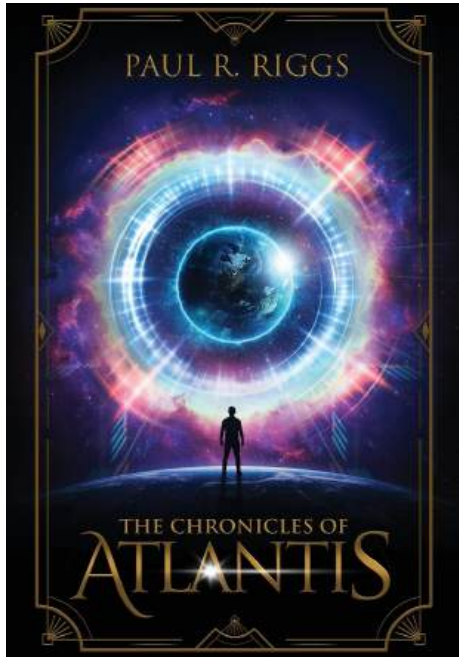
04 — Author Collaboration

Working collaboratively through revisions, questions, and ongoing communication to refine the manuscript.

05 — Publication Ready

Delivering a polished, consistent, publication-ready manuscript prepared for its next stage.

SELECTED EDITORIAL PROJECTS



The Chronicles of Atlantis

Paul R. Riggs

Editorial Focus

Narrative structure

Character development

Story pacing

Worldbuilding consistency

Fantasy

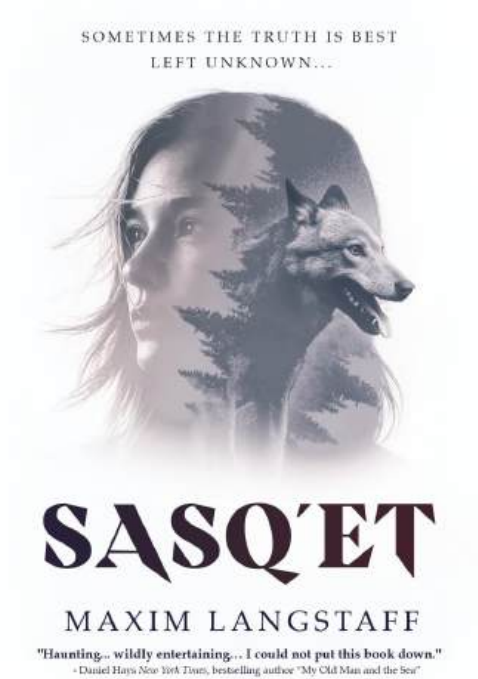
Developmental Editing • Copyediting

Publishing Partner: *MindStir Media*

This manuscript required significant structural refinement to strengthen narrative flow, improve pacing, and enhance continuity while preserving the author's distinctive voice and immersive worldbuilding. Editorial collaboration focused on preparing the manuscript for publication while maintaining the creative vision of the author.

Outcome

Strengthened story structure and consistency while preserving the author's creative vision.



Sasq'et

Maxim Langstaff

Editorial Focus

Scientific accuracy & consistency

Dialogue

Story progression

Balancing multiple narrative themes

Mystery

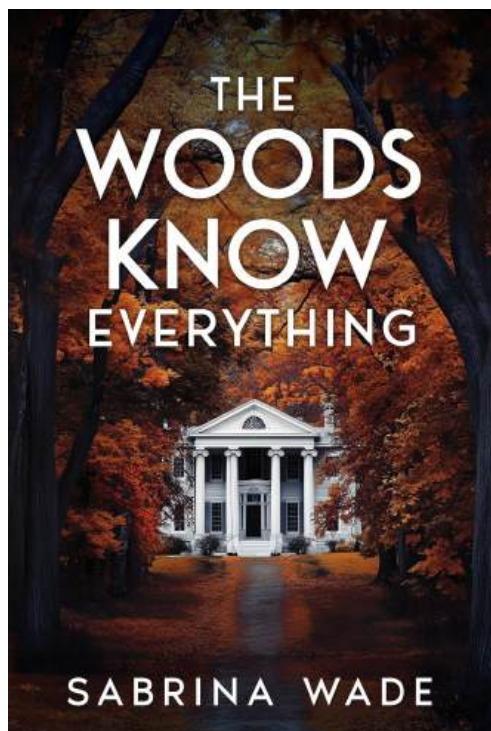
Copyediting • Proofreading

Publisher: *Manhattan Book Group*

Working in collaboration with the publishing team, I provided copyediting and proofreading to strengthen consistency, refine characterization, and improve narrative clarity throughout this genre-blending novel. Particular attention was given to maintaining scientific accuracy, balancing multiple thematic elements, and preparing the manuscript for publication while preserving the author's distinctive voice.

Outcome

Delivered a polished, publication-ready manuscript with improved consistency, clarity, and editorial accuracy.



The Woods Know Everything

Sabrina Wade

Editorial Focus

Narrative cohesion

Plot structure & pacing

Managing multiple twists

Concise, impactful prose

Mystery

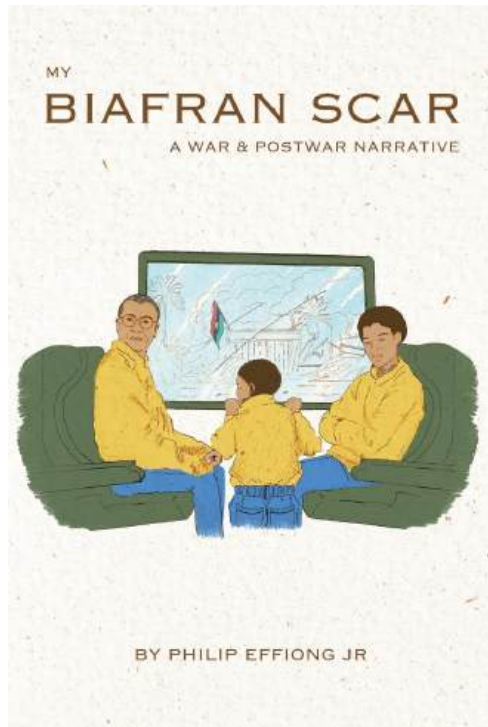
Developmental Editing • Copyediting

Client: *Independent Author*

This thriller manuscript featured an ambitious, twist-driven narrative that benefited from structural refinement and developmental guidance. Working collaboratively with the author, I helped streamline the story, strengthen pacing, and improve cohesion across multiple plotlines while preserving the suspense and emotional impact of each reveal. Developmental editing and copyediting focused on creating a tighter, more immersive reading experience without compromising the author's unique voice.

Outcome

Strengthened narrative cohesion and pacing, resulting in a more concise, engaging, and publication-ready manuscript.



My Biafran Scar: A War & Postwar Narrative

Phillip Effiong Jr.

Editorial Focus

Historical accuracy & consistency

Readability

Terminology consistency

Author voice preservation

Memoir

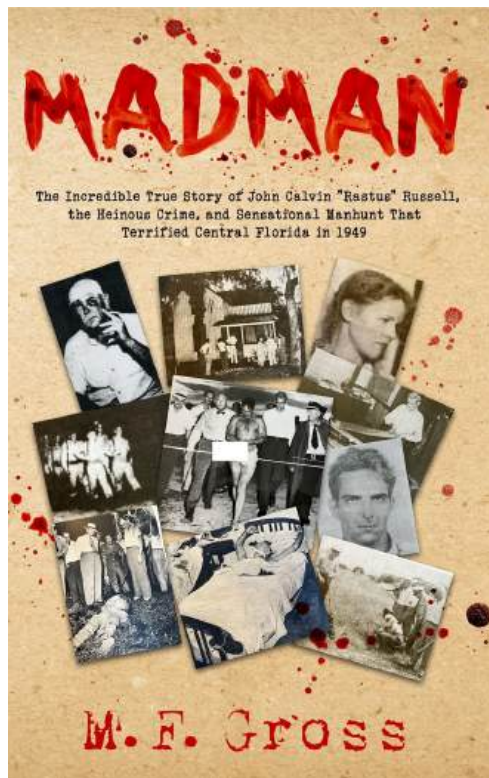
Copyediting

Publisher: Seacoast Press

This memoir explored the Nigerian–Biafran War through both childhood memories and adult reflection. Editorial work focused on improving clarity while preserving the author's authentic voice and historical perspective. Particular attention was given to maintaining consistency in names, events, terminology, and historical references throughout the manuscript, ensuring the narrative remained accessible without compromising accuracy or cultural context.

Outcome

Produced a polished manuscript that preserved the author's personal voice while improving readability, historical consistency, and editorial accuracy.



Madman

M.F. Gross

Editorial Focus

Timeline reconstruction

Historical chronology

Research organization

Story cohesion

True Crime

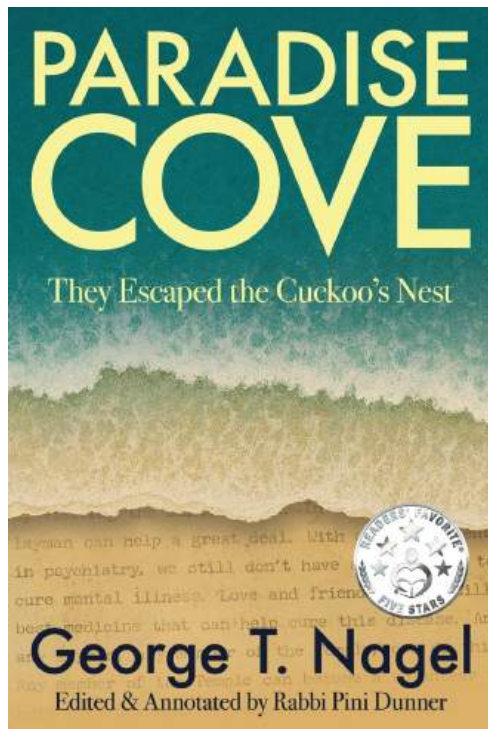
Developmental Editing • Copyediting

Publisher: *Dark Madder Media, LLC*

This true crime manuscript required significant editorial organization to strengthen clarity and narrative flow. The project involved restructuring the chronology of events, ensuring timeline consistency across multiple accounts, refining and organizing footnotes, and performing a comprehensive copyedit. The goal was to create a clear, engaging narrative while preserving the integrity of the historical record and supporting documentation.

Outcome

Transformed a complex, research-heavy manuscript into a cohesive, well-organized narrative with improved readability, accurate chronology, and publication-ready consistency.



Paradise Cove: They Escaped the Cuckoo's Nest

George T. Nagel

Editorial Focus

Narrative flow

Chapter transitions

Clarity & readability

Style consistency

Memoir

Copyediting • Proofreading

Publisher: *Manhattan Book Group*

This memoir arrived with a compelling narrative and a clear authorial voice. The editorial focus centered on refining sentence flow, improving transitions between scenes, and strengthening overall readability while preserving the authenticity of the author's firsthand experiences. Careful copyediting helped create a smoother reading experience without altering the emotional impact of the story.

Outcome

Enhanced readability and narrative flow while maintaining the author's authentic voice and personal perspective.

AUTHOR TESTIMONIALS

"Taylor was wonderful. She was clear, professional, and communicative from start to finish. She exceeded my expectations, and I couldn't be happier with how my book turned out."

Laura Walsh, Author of Littlepage

"Thank you so much for the speedy turnaround. The work you did was superb. You're my go-to proofreader for sure."

Jan Lefebvre, Author of Little Stars

"Taylor was a pleasure to work with. She delivered a thoughtful, detail-oriented edit with invaluable feedback. Quick, attentive, and incredibly helpful throughout the process."

V.R Vaka, Author of Nexus

"Taylor was a complete pleasure to work with. She committed to the timeline, exceeded my expectations, and I look forward to working with her again."

Sarah Voldeng, The Art of an Enlightened Woman: A Manifesto

"The author was incredibly happy with the editing and greatly appreciated all the work Taylor did. We also sincerely appreciated how quickly she was able to turn everything around."

Michelle, Project Manager, MindStir Media

"I have finished my review of your editing. I was very impressed! I added the comment, 'I wish I could write as good as you can edit.' It is the truth."

Craig E. Pearson, Author of Lessons Learned

Let's Work Together

Thoughtful editorial support for authors and publishers.

Taylor Melendy

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info@thelastdraftstudio.com

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[LinkedIn](#)



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