

Editing Services Available from Helene Prins Smith

My goal in editing is to respect and maintain the writer's voice and to assist and challenge the writer to produce their most engaging manuscript.

My experience includes editing published fiction and non-fiction books, several unpublished books, and the articles of two newspaper columnists. I belong to the Wolf Creek Christian Writers Network and the Christian PEN. My education continues with editing courses from the PEN Institute and various writing classes.

Copyediting

What is included:

- Checking that the manuscript is understandable and clear
- Checking that sources are cited
- Noting any continuity/connection issues.
- Flagging errors and inconsistencies, including character point of view and tenses
- Noting redundancies
- Checking for sentence clarity, word choice, and tone.
- Making minor changes, noted for writer review.
- Providing suggestions for rewriting.

Content Editing (aka Substantive Editing)

Checking for:

- clarity, accuracy, order, gaps, too much content, sentence structure, consistency, readability, flow, structure, rhythm, faulty logic, factual errors, inconsistencies, poor examples, and content that doesn't fit.
- For fiction add:
 - pacing, plot, dialogue, character point of view, character development, setting, lack of conflict or tension, and too much or too little description.
- Issues are noted and suggestions made, but only minor issues are corrected by the editor.

General Guidelines

- Manuscripts are accepted in Microsoft Word only.
- Please submit your first chapter for an estimate of approximately 500 words, along with a completed request form.
- There is no charge for this step.
- I will return your edited chapter with an estimate to edit the entire work. The comments are meant to assist you in your decision to continue with me or not.
- If I believe I am not a good match to edit your piece, I will say so and not provide an estimate.
- Hourly rates apply. The more polished the manuscript, the less time is needed to perform an edit.
- Full or partial (half) payment is required upfront if you wish to continue with me after receiving the estimate.
- If the hours are less than estimated and you have paid in full, I will refund the difference.

Request for Editing Services

Name:

Email address:

Type of Editing requested:

☐ Fiction Genre:
☐ Non-fiction Genre: Memoir

Total Word Count:

A brief description of your manuscript:

Who is your intended audience?

What is your timeframe for edit completion?

Is there anything else you want me to know upfront?

Please email this form and the opening chapter (approximately 500-1000 words) in Microsoft Word to Helene at heleneyl@yahoo.com for a sample review and an estimate. There is no charge for this sample review.

Thank you.