

story craft

SERVICES & PRICING GUIDE



www.storycraftnc.com



Hey friends!

Does putting the information in your head on paper or on screen intimidate, overwhelm, or exhaust you? That's where I come in.

My goal is to help you feel confident about your work.

You believe in your brand, message, and mission, and I believe others should too.

I'm here to walk with you as we get your project where you want it to be, from planning to edits to discussing revisions to creating final drafts and suggesting next steps.

Whatever brought you my way, I'm so glad you're here!

As we consider a publishing partnership, this packet will tell you a little about who I am and how I can help you, define different edits, and show what my editing process looks like.

You'll also see some sample costs, a list of deliverables, my specializations, what clients are saying, and suggested next steps.

I can't wait to connect with you!

Your friendly neighborhood editor,

Stephanie



My Story

Story Craft was established in 2021, but Stephanie Cross has worked in the publishing industry since 2014 when she began editing Bible studies and devotionals for Lifeway Press in Nashville, Tennessee. In 2018, Stephanie left full-time editing to be a guest services coordinator for a resort in the Smoky Mountains and started her freelance business.

In 2019, Stephanie moved home to North Carolina and became a writing coach at a local community college. Two years later, she turned freelance editing into a full-time career. She continues to serve clients like Lifeway as well as non-profits, businesses, small presses, and indie authors.

Stephanie resides in Lexington, North Carolina, with her husband. When she's not working, you'll find her at the gym, traveling, exploring outdoors, or hanging out in coffee shops working on her newest interest: writing a fantasy novel.



The Works

- 01 Submit an inquiry via email, including a short summary of your project, word count, and services you're interested in.
- 02 Fill out a short questionnaire describing your project and writing experience in detail.
- 03 Receive a personalized estimate and suggested schedule for your edits.
- 04 Sign a contract and send your completed manuscript.

connect

website

storycraftnc.com

email

stephanie@storycraftnc.com

social media

[@stephaniecedits](#)

hours

M - F 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. EST

The Big Picture

DEVELOPMENTAL EDITS

The developmental edit (sometimes called the content or substantive edit) focuses on the big picture of a story. This is a collaborative process, during which I work with you to fine-tune your manuscript, enhancing its message and power.

What we might focus on:

- structure, organization, flow of content
- character arcs and development, point of view, and dialogue
- plot, pacing, and setting
- clarity and continuity of theme
- style

Timeline: 4-8 weeks

DELIVERABLES

- Word document with in-line comments
- 5-10 page editorial note with specific instructions on how to improve your manuscript
- 60-minute wrap-up phone call after you've reviewed the marginal comments and editorial note
- **First-time Client (Optional):** line edit of your first chapter
- **Optional: Details Packet** including graphs and tables that break down the structure of your book (chapter length, amount of chapters per POV, a reverse outline and a proposed outline of suggested restructuring)
- **Optional: Highlights** the editor will choose ten scenes and/or quotes for marketing

Three Passes

-
- 01** I start by reading it as a reader, not an editor. I might note how I feel about events or characters or general questions I have, but I don't make technical notes or changes at this point.
- 02** During my second read, I'm all in on my edits. I comb through the document with an editor's eye for those big-picture details. All comments are labeled with a heading that corresponds to a section in the editorial note, like theme, audience, structure, characters, point of view, style, plot, setting, or pacing. I'll add one comment at the end of each chapter, sharing my thoughts about the overall feel and flow of that section. I'll also share reactions to your story from my first read and plenty of encouragement.
- 03** As I complete my final round of edits, I clean up any changes to the text, review my comments, and make sure all the feedback is super clear as I compile my editorial note.
- When that's all done, I'll send you a digital packet via email or Dropbox link.


recommendations

If you'd like a second set of eyes on your manuscript after the developmental edit, ask for a recommendation. I've created a list of trusted copy editors and proofreaders, and I'll happily connect you!

LINE EDITS

The line edit gets into the details. I read line-by-line for sentence-level and grammatical issues in this type of edit.

Focus:

- word choice
 - subject-verb agreement
 - sentence structure
 - punctuation
 - readability
 - fact-checking
 - formatting
- 

Timeline: 4-6 weeks

PROOFREADING

A proofread is a quick review of the final manuscript. Typically, this occurs after typesetting and design.

Focus:

- glaring errors in grammar, organization, or design

DELIVERABLES

- Word document with in-line comments and track changes
- personalized style sheet, as well as a style guide, to help you create consistent content across all projects and platforms

Fact-checking requires an additional fee and accesses to sources.

DELIVERABLES

- PDF with comments, or
- final InDesign, InCopy, or KDP file
- Word document with comments

COACHING

I can help you meet your work-in-progress (WIP) goals or grow in your writing process. This might mean I help you move from a story seed to a first draft or review each chapter of your first draft with you as you write. We might also practice for pitches and/or publishing meetings.

Focus:

- brainstorming for a specific project
- building book or chapter maps
- reviewing proposals
- establishing and meeting deadlines
- preparing for publishing meetings and/or pitches
- completing exercises to grow your writing skill

DELIVERABLES

- 60-minute meeting, bi-monthly (discounts for booking a six-month package)
- follow-up email after each session with a short summary and list of next steps

CONSULTING

When I consult on a project, usually I offer my expertise by reading from a specific perspective.

Here are some prior areas of focus in my consulting work. I've looked at how a manuscript might hit . . .

- for women
- for people who don't have children
- for someone who's grieving
- for someone struggling with anxiety, depression, or PTSD

DELIVERABLES

- Word doc with in-line comments on your manuscript
- letter with a summary of the major issues
- 60-minute wrap-up phone call to discuss any remaining issues and/or questions

Editor

“I Will”

- partner with you to set goals for your project
- guide you to answer questions about target audience, timeline, format, proposals, etc.
- be a sounding board for creative ideas
- provide constructive notes and critiques
- suggest sources for further learning & research
- explain major changes
- treat you and your manuscript with care and compassion
- meet all deadlines and let you know ahead of time if, for some reason, deadlines must shift
- connect you with other publishing professionals as needed
- help you determine next steps





Specializations

01

non-fiction

theology, mental health, grief, anti-human trafficking, Bible studies, devotionals

02

fiction

fantasy, paranormal, mystery, romance

03

style guides

Chicago Manual of Style, 18th edition; Christian Writer's Manual of Style, 4th edition

04

memberships

Editorial Freelancers Association

the specifics

- books
- book proposals
- query letters
- beta reads
- book coaching
- writing coaching
- editorial reviews
- consulting in areas of expertise



The Breakdown

Every quote is constructed based on the project and the author's needs. Rates are often aligned with the [Editorial Rates](#) chart from the Editorial Freelancers Association. All accepted projects require a 50% deposit, with the remainder of the fees being paid upon completion of services.

I also offer new clients a FREE sample edit of the first three pages. This helps us see if we're a good fit and allows me to get a feel for where to focus your manuscript edits.

sample rates based on 100,000 words

developmental edits

non-fiction: \$5,000

fiction: \$2,000

proofreading

non-fiction: \$2,700

fiction: \$500

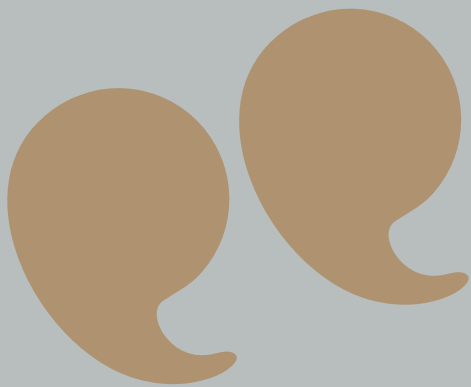
line edits

non-fiction: \$4,000

fiction: \$1,000

coaching & consulting

\$75/hr



What People Are Saying

Tyler Zach

Gospel for Enneagram

Steph is an upbeat, positive editor who helped take my book series to another level. She has proofed over 350,000 words for me, doing detailed line-by-line edits. She suggested re-writes in the comments to help with the flow and did developmental editing to help me get better as an author. As a bonus, she left personal encouraging notes along the way to show support. I highly recommend her!

Over the past three years, I have had the privilege of working with Stephanie on all different types of projects. From lengthy developmental edits on my books and workbooks to line edits for my blogs, Stephanie always sharpens my skills as a writer. She is insightful in her suggestions, quick and timely in her responsiveness, and thorough in her work. She also does a great job documenting my sources and tracking down hard-to-find quotes and references. With Stephanie as my editor, I have greater confidence and freedom as a writer, knowing she will hone my words, making them the best they can be. I highly recommend both her work and her character.

Susannah Baker

author of **Rebuild: Connecting to God through the Psalms** and **Restore: Remembering Life's Hurts with the God Who Rebuilds**

Karen Daniel

manager of Lifeway Student
Ministry Small Group Resources

"Stephanie is our go-to when it comes to just about any editorial work our team needs. We've worked with her on many projects ranging from ghost writing to copy editing, and she's delivered excellent content and results every time. I can't recommend her enough.

David Snead

missionary to Ukraine
author of **Public Speaking in a
Second Language**

It was awesome working with Stephanie. She seemed even more enthusiastic about my project than I was! Thanks for the great work!

This was my first time working with a professional editor, and I found Stephanie a joy to work with. She didn't just focus on correcting the language; she focused on learning my message and collaborating with me to clarify it even more. Her enthusiastic feedback showed me that many parts were working well, some parts needed tweaking, and a few parts needed untangling. Her work brought a level of consistency to the text that I wouldn't have achieved on my own. By the time we reached our final review, the manuscript had been thoroughly combed through and cleaned up. We finished on schedule. The message of the book is even clearer now, and the text shines! I'd definitely work with her again."

Jeff Smith

Author of **On Your Side Today**

Morgan Davis

Crime Fighter & Fantasy Author

Working with Stephanie was such a joyful experience. She took extra care to understand my story's needs and encourage my writer's heart when I felt unworthy as an author. She provided thoughtful feedback and worked with me during brainstorming sessions to make my tale the best it could be!

Stephanie has been such a blessing to our organization. She has created impactful email marketing appeals for our organization by crafting informative copy accompanied by engaging images. I can always trust that her work will be creative, thoughtful, and exceed expectations. It is so easy to collaborate and work with Stephanie because she is kind, genuine, and knows what she is doing. I highly recommend Stephanie!

Alexa Arciero

Communication-Marketing and Youth Program Director for **Fields of Hope**



GOT QUESTIONS?

Send me a message!



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@stephaniecedits on Telegram