

CHRISTINA PALAIA

Cortez, CO 81321

970-846-9662

christina@emeraldedit.com

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Accomplished editorial professional with over 25 years of experience in the book publishing industry, contributing to more than 500 successful projects for leading publishers and independent authors. Specializes in nonfiction editing, including scholarly, trade, and narrative nonfiction, with expertise in copyediting, line editing, developmental editing, and ghost editing. Known for exceptional clarity in communication, sharp editorial eye, and the ability to guide manuscripts from concept to polished publication. Proficient in industry-standard style guides and dedicated to delivering engaging, high-quality content under tight deadlines. Passionate about fostering authors' ideas and creating captivating books that inspire and inform readers.

WORK HISTORY

Emerald Editorial Services, Steamboat Springs, Clark, Cortez, Colo.; Elmer, N.J.

Copyeditor / Line Editor, 06/1997–Present

- Refined grammar, mechanics, and overall text clarity, ensuring coherence, logical organization, and adherence to style guides, enhancing the readability and professionalism of diverse publications.
- Collaborated with authors to polish flow and restructure content as needed, maintaining consistent communication to address queries and deliver a final product that aligns with the author's vision.
- Partnered with top-tier publishers, including Hachette/Perseus Books Group, Lynne Rienner Publishers, Cambridge University Press, and Beacon Press, to deliver precise and impactful editing services across academic, nonfiction, and trade titles.
- Successfully managed the editing lifecycle for manuscripts, liaising with production editors to ensure timely delivery and seamless transition from draft to publication-ready material.

Ghostwriter / Ghost Editor, 06/2020–Present

- Evaluated works-in-progress to determine author's vision for the book, then further developed book idea and devised outline and plan for finishing the book.
- Researched topics and patched informational or plot holes, ghostwriting missing sections or scenes.
- Finished incomplete manuscripts for authors who were stuck, transforming the text into an engaging, publishable work that met the author's or publisher's vision and goals.

Developmental Editor, 11/2018–Present

- Analyzed manuscripts, noting in the editorial letter whether the manuscript addresses and engages the target audience and whether the author's arguments build to a logical conclusion (or plot resolution).
- Reorganized chapters or scenes to improve flow and sense, noting gaps in logic, argument, information, or plot.
- Devised comprehensive revision plans to strengthen manuscripts, suggesting rewrites for passages that wandered off course or out of focus and effective writing craft techniques to implement to engage readers.

Book Coach, 11/2018–Present

- Collaborated extensively with authors to strategically plan and meticulously structure their writing projects, ensuring a clear and coherent path from the initial idea through to manuscript completion, thereby transforming concepts into polished, publishable works.
- Provided innovative creative strategies and introduced a range of effective writing techniques to help authors navigate through creative blocks and refine their writing skills, significantly enhancing the quality and impact of their manuscripts.
- Offered ongoing developmental editing and comprehensive feedback, empowering authors to enhance their manuscripts, better express their vision, and produce work that resonates strongly with their intended audience.

Coauthor, 11/2004 – 03/2005

- Engaged extensively in researching and co-writing *Degunking Microsoft Office* (Paraglyph Press, 2005), a project aimed at demystifying software usage for a broad audience by providing clear, accessible guidance on Microsoft Office applications.
- Developed deep empathy and understanding for authors through personal experience in the coauthoring process, which significantly informed and enhanced subsequent editorial practices by providing firsthand insight into the challenges writers face.
- Participated actively in all stages of the book's production—including writing, proofreading, and editing—to ensure that the final product was both highly informative and easily accessible to users of varying levels of technical expertise.

CORE QUALIFICATIONS

- **Copyediting:** Over 25 years of experience refining manuscripts for clarity, consistency, and adherence to publisher-specific style guides, ensuring polished and publication-ready text.
- **Nonfiction Editing:** Specialized in developing and editing nonfiction works, particularly for major book publishers, guiding projects from concept to completion with a focus on clear communication.
- **Line Editing:** Expertise in enhancing narrative flow, organization, and readability while maintaining the author's voice and creating engaging and effective content.
- **Book Coaching:** Skilled in mentoring writers through the creative process, offering strategic guidance to help authors develop their ideas into compelling and cohesive manuscripts.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Copyediting | Line Editing | Developmental Editing | Book Coaching | Ghostwriting | Book Indexing | Manuscript Styling | Author Liaison | Project Management | Style Guides | Scholarly Publishing | Nonfiction Editing | Fiction Editing | Environmental Topics | Social Sciences | Biology | Humanities | Personal Development | Organic Farming | Regenerative Farming | Educational Tutoring | Study Abroad | Writing Workshops

EDUCATION

Drew University: Bachelor of Arts in Behavioral Science, Concentration in Cross-Cultural Studies, Minor in Nonfiction Writing, Madison, NJ

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Owner / Farmer, Firefly Mountain Produce, Steamboat Springs and Clark, Colorado, 09/2005–2015
- Copyeditor / Book Indexer, North Market Street Graphics, 02/1996 - 06/1996

emerald
editorial
services
emeraldedit.com