



**Maya Berger**

**Introduction to editing erotic fiction**

[Maya Berger](#) is a copy-editor and proofreader specialising in erotic fiction, sci-fi and fantasy, YA fiction and academic texts. She has degrees in English literature, philosophy and children's literature, and she worked as an editorial manager for a higher education specialist publisher in London before going freelance in 2016. After having spent 13 years in the UK, Maya returned to her native Canada in October 2017 and is now a member of the Toronto local SfEP group. Maya can talk for hours about censorship, sex and gender politics, and everything that's good and bad about *Fifty Shades of Grey*.



**Paul Beverley**

**What can macros do for you?  
Advanced macros**

Paul joined the SfEP 12 years ago, since when he has proofread or edited over 30 million (mainly technical) words, has developed a huge range of macros (used in 40 countries) and set up a YouTube channel with 60 training videos.



**Robin Black**

**Lightning talks**

Robin Black has spent his career in finance in the USA, Canada and the UK. He relishes the intellectual novelty that editing provides, not only because it's different from his day job but because each new project is likely to offer something edifying or amusing.

Robin feels that his history, both personal and professional, is characterised by a search for excellence and clarity. It has driven him to be a better editor, to invest in a Michelin-starred restaurant, to bolster his word skills by studying typography, and to encourage his clients to do good work for its own sake. Robin is using his association with the SfEP and its networks to secure projects where the quality of writing and execution are paramount.



**Erin Brenner**

**Live editing: non-fiction  
Using business information to increase your profits**

After quitting her full-time job, Erin Brenner built Right Touch Editing up to fully replace her salary in three years, a feat she credits at least partially to tracking business information. While not loving maths, Erin realised early in her freelance career that she loves business information (aka, 'data') for what it tells her about her business. Erin is also a frequent editor educator and her articles on language and editing can be found on her [blog](#), and on [Visual Thesaurus](#) and [Copyediting](#).

Erin Brenner is the co-owner and publisher of [Copyediting](#), a brand that offers

publications and training for copyeditors. Additionally, Erin is a frequent speaker at editing-related conferences. Connect with Erin on [LinkedIn](#), [SlideShare](#), [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).



### **Vaclav Brezina**

### **Corpus linguistics**

Dr Vaclav Brezina is a lecturer in English language and linguistics at Lancaster University.



### **Tony Carritt**

### **Helping the EU write clearer English**

Tony Carritt works as an English-language editor for the European Commission in Brussels. He also gives training to Commission staff on how to write more clearly. He has written or edited continuously since working on his university newspaper as a student. He spent 18 years as a journalist, 11 of them as a foreign correspondent for Reuters. He then moved into corporate communications as press officer and speechwriter for the European Environment Agency and later for the Commission's environment and climate change departments.



### **Eleanor Collins**

### **Getting stuck in: editing narrative openings**

Eleanor Collins is editorial director at the independent publisher Floris Books in Edinburgh. Before becoming an editor, she read narrative theory for her doctoral research. She enjoys thinking through the connections between the narrative repair she suggests for fiction and the more abstract theories of narratologists.

Eleanor has extensive hands-on editing experience with children's books, and quality adult fiction and non-fiction, both freelance and in-house.



### **Denise Cowle**    **The healthy editor: managing yourself and your workspace**

Denise is a freelance editor and proofreader based in Glasgow. She enjoys working on ELT materials for a variety of global publishers and also with businesses and organisations on all sorts of written content: marketing materials, reports, web content and blogs.

She has an interest in continuing professional development and content marketing, and when she's got spare time she loiters on social media and writes her blog.

She is an Advanced Professional Member of the SfEP and serves on the SfEP council as marketing director.



**John Espirian**      **Using LinkedIn to build an online presence and find work**

John began his career in IT, managing a quality assurance team and writing help documents for some of the UK's largest internet service providers. He has a keen interest in web development and was a Microsoft Most Valuable Professional (MVP – Consumer Mac) from 2003 to 2007.

Working freelance from his home in South Wales, John offers [technical writing services](#) to non-publishing clients.

John was the SfEP's chief web content editor (formerly 'webspinner') from 2010 onwards, and came to the internet director role following a successful period supporting the previous incumbents.

In 2012, he created the Society's online discussion forums, and in 2015 he managed the development and release of the new SfEP website. For his work on the website, John was nominated for the [Unsung Heroes of Publishing 2016](#) award.

John is a lover of Apple products and a keen supporter of Liverpool FC. Conversations with him about either tend to go on for a while.



**Luke Finley**      **Plain English for editors**

[Luke Finley](#) set up Luke Finley Editorial in 2013 and is an Advanced Professional Member of the SfEP.

He briefly worked in publishing in the 1990s, but most of his working life has been spent in the voluntary and public sectors, in social policy development and implementation, particularly in fields such as intercommunity relations and community engagement and empowerment. He was often asked by others to check their writing, and his experience of local government gave him a keen interest in plain English and trying (sometimes in vain) to persuade people to communicate more clearly. As public sector employment became less secure, starting an editorial business seemed a natural alternative.

Luke will edit or proofread anything from academic books to charities' annual reports to travel agents' websites, but mostly works on social policy and politics texts.



**Sarah Grey**      **Live editing: non-fiction**  
**Inclusive language: the ethics of conscious editing**

Sarah Grey is an editor, writer and indexer at Grey Editing LLC in Philadelphia, USA. She received the American Copy Editors Society's Robinson Prize for Excellence in Copyediting in 2016. She teaches editing-related courses for the EFA, Copyediting and Ideas on Fire, among others. She specialises in academic non-fiction, the humanities, social justice and food writing.



### **Louise Harnby**

### **Building a brilliant editorial brand**

Louise Harnby is a fiction line editor, copy-editor and proofreader who specialises in supporting self-publishing authors, particularly crime writers. She is an Advanced Professional Member of the SfEP and an Author Member of ALLi.



### **Nigel Harwood**

### **What do proofreaders do to a poorly written master's essay?**

Nigel Harwood is a reader in applied linguistics at the University of Sheffield. He has edited two volumes focusing on English language teaching materials and textbooks, *English Language Teaching Materials: Theory and Practice* (CUP) and *English Language Teaching Textbooks: Content, Consumption, Production* (Palgrave Macmillan). He has published articles on academic writing, and proofreading in particular, in various journals, including *Journal of Second Language Writing*, *Written Communication* and *Studies in Higher Education*. His most recent book (co-authored with Bojana Petrić) focuses on students' experiences of supervision: *Experiencing Master's Supervision: Perspectives of International Students and Their Supervisors* (Routledge). He is co-editor of the journal *English for Specific Purposes*.



### **Anya Hastwell**

### **Upgrading Q&A**

Anya started her publishing career in 2005 as editorial assistant on a journal for the emergency services, later taking on assistant editor and books editor roles over the following nine years while working in-house.

In 2014, she went freelance and became a Professional Member of the SfEP and an Advanced Member in 2017. Working from home in London, she offers [editorial services](#) to publishing, media and business clients (mostly on academic and medical texts), ably ~~distracted~~ assisted by three feline helpers.

In her spare time, Anya can either be found organising her ever-growing bookshelves, or volunteering at Highgate Cemetery. She's more than slightly partial to a bit of old-fashioned Gothic horror, whether that's in the form of a dusty 1790s novel or a 1960s Hammer Horror, but does draw the line at modern-day sparkly vampires. Her degree is in English literature.



### **Alison Hughes**

### **Growing your business organically**

Alison has been a freelance translator for 21 years, after working for 13 years in the wine & spirits business in France, London and Glasgow. She is a Fellow of the Institute of Translation & Interpreting and the coordinator of its Media, Arts & Tourism network.

She specialises in French to English translations for the creative industries.



### **Chris Jennings**

### **eEditing for multi-channel publishing**

Chris Jennings is an eBook consultant and lecturer who teaches in the Oxford International Centre for Publishing at Oxford Brookes University. He is currently leader for modules on 'Design and Production', 'Multi-Platform Publishing' and 'Digital Product', where the focus is more and more on design for multi-channel publishing.

His [website](#) is his main web presence although he can also be found on Twitter: @pageboy.

Chris is the author of *eBook Typography for Flowable eBooks* and *From Print Book to eBook*, both published as eBooks for iPad.



### **Kelly Lamb**

### **Working as an editorial collective**

Kelly Lamb is an Advanced Professional Member of the SfEP focusing on fiction and creative non-fiction, but happily works on corporate communications and other non-fiction documents. After an exciting career as an entertainment reporter in Los Angeles, Toronto and London, Kelly returned to university (Ryerson University in Toronto) to hone her editing chops, where she was awarded the Marsh Jeanneret Memorial Award for excellence in editing. She relishes the variety that comes from working across genres and the rewards from working with first-time authors, in particular, as well as working in a team. As one fifth of the international collective Editing Globally and as the co-coordinator for the Toronto SfEP local group, Kelly enjoys both learning from and helping other editors. Away from work, Kelly loves travelling with the two wonderful men in her life, her husband, Massimo, and her teenage son, Ben, and attending concerts. She's been known to fly to another country to see a great band.



### **Janet MacMillan**

### **Working as an editorial collective**

Janet MacMillan is an Advanced Professional Member of the SfEP specialising in law, criminology, international development, politics, all the social sciences and education, and provides editorial services to everyone from publishers to international professional services firms, NGOs, think tanks and academics, and has clients in many countries. Janet is also one of the five members of Editing Globally, an international editorial collective, and loves working with a team. Janet is committed to collegiality and the sharing of knowledge and is the Cloud Club coordinator and a co-coordinator of the Toronto SfEP local group, and frequently speaks at conferences and leads discussions for local SfEP groups. Following a successful career as a lawyer, mostly in the UK and Europe, but with forays into Canada (her homeland) and the US, Janet now has her main base in Toronto, with Rosie her Best Dog in the World, but spends periods of time each year in rural Suffolk. When not editing, Janet particularly enjoys cooking for family and friends, reading, listening to the CBC and the BBC, talking to all the people she meets each day while out walking Rosie and travelling.



### **Tony McEnergy**

### **Corpus linguistics**

Tony McEnergy is Director of the ESRC Centre for Corpus Approaches to Social Science and Distinguished Professor of English Language and Linguistics at Lancaster University.



### **Stephen Pigney** **Surviving the first year of your full-time editorial business**

Stephen Pigney joined the Society for Editors and Proofreaders in March 2017, at the same time as launching his full-time editorial business (having previously failed dismally as a non-editorial freelancer). His background is in academia: he has spent nearly two decades as a researcher and lecturer in history, specialising in cultural and intellectual history. He also tries – not very successfully – to write. When not editing, writing or lecturing, he spends time trying to work out the meaning of life, musing on art, ideas and literature, listening to Bob Dylan and fantasising about West Ham winning something. Despite the ridiculous expense of it, he lives in, and loves, London.



### **Laura Poole**

**How do I say that?  
Show me the money!**

Laura Poole has been a full-time freelance copy-editor since 1997. She specialises in scholarly nonfiction and has clients all over the world. She began creating training for other editors in 2009 and is an Advanced Professional Member of the SfEP. She was the featured speaker at the Scotland SfEP mini-conference in 2017.



### **Simon Raybould**

**How to make presentations that people remember**

Simon started life as a researcher at a university; by the time he'd completed his escape tunnel he was centre manager for the UK's largest social science research unit. That means everything in his presentations is based on the hard-core science of what works. Don't panic, this isn't a lecture, because Simon's also worked as an actor, a lighting designer for dance companies, a teacher, a trainer and a fire-eater. His last book on presenting (*Presentation Genius*) became a bestseller, sitting in the top ten book list for a while. He trains people in how to present themselves, their work and their interests, and clients range from one-man bands to multinationals like Dell.



### **Lucy Ridout**

**Lightning talks**

Lucy edits fiction for trade publishers and self-publishing clients. Her first editorial job was in Japan, where she lived for several years while working on a listings magazine for English speakers. Then came 20 years of travelling around Southeast Asia, researching, writing and updating many guidebooks, including *The Rough Guide to Thailand* and *The Rough Guide to Bali and Lombok*. She now specialises in editing literary and commercial fiction, working closely with debut and established novelists as well as in-house editors ([lucyridout.co.uk](http://lucyridout.co.uk)). She lives in London but continues to travel widely in Asia and can also often be found in the Scottish Highlands.



### **Laura Ripper**

**Plain English for editors**

Laura began her career in 2004 at Plain English Campaign, where she translated all sorts of documents into plain language. In 2008 she moved to a wider editorial and communications role, which included raising awareness of the UK's switch to digital TV. She set up her proofreading and editing business in 2012 to concentrate on the aspects of her job that she loves best, and she is now in her sixth year of business.

Among Laura's clients are charities, businesses, academics and independent authors. She also works closely with a colleague to provide double the editing strength when this is needed. She still specialises in plain English, and has found these skills useful for every type of document – from journal articles to board game rules. She is an Advanced Professional Member of the SfEP.

When she isn't at her desk, Laura loves walking in the hills. She has two feline assistants.



### **Julia Slone-Murphy**

### **Introduction to medical editing**

Julia is an experienced biomedical editor with a background in research and an enduring enthusiasm for clear and effective communication. She began editing for colleagues during her years in academia and pharmaceutical companies in the UK and abroad. After realising she preferred this work to lab work, Julia embarked on a career change into editing and has never looked back. She works with native and non-native English-speaking researchers at every stage of their career, helping them publish their work in high-impact journals and books. In 2011 she founded NeuroEdit, which is now a growing company providing specialised editorial and scientific assistance to neuroscience researchers around the world and has an established collaboration with Springer Nature. Julia is an Advanced Professional member of the SfEP and a BELS-certified Editor in the Life Sciences.



### **Kia Thomas**

### **How the f\*\*k do I style this?**

Kia spent 12 years in the arts before realising that if she became a freelance fiction editor she'd get to work with books, and also get to spend a lot more time in jogging bottoms. She set up Kia Thomas Editing at the beginning of 2016 and works primarily with independent authors, specialising in contemporary romance. She is an Intermediate Member of the SfEP, and she can often be found networking with her colleagues in online spaces (i.e. spending too much time on Facebook and Twitter).

Kia lives in South Tyneside. Her hobbies include adding books to her never-decreasing TBR pile, telling her children to stop arguing, and buying new jogging bottoms.



### **Melanie Thompson**

### **How to stay calm in a crisis**

Melanie Thompson has worked in and around publishing since 1988. Her 'portfolio' career has covered science journals, technical magazines, in-house PR, government PR/publishing and science communications. Since turning freelance in 2000, she has dipped a toe back into each of these sectors and has also branched out into training and online publishing. To mark her 30 years in the industry, she has launched a research project, [proofreading2020](#), which will culminate in the publication of a book about current and future proofreading, in early 2019. She works from her home in a small village on the Herts/Beds/Bucks border. Connect with Melanie on Twitter: @EditorSpice.



### **Katherine Trail**

#### **Live editing: fiction Working as an editorial collective**

Katherine Trail is a former newspaper chief sub-editor who now specialises in fiction, mainly for independent authors and small publishers. She is an Advanced Professional Member of the SfEP and enjoys training other editors and talking all things fiction. She is a member of the Editing Globally collective and is based in Aberdeenshire.



### **Howard Walwyn**

#### **Writing for business**

Howard Walwyn is a freelance writer, editor and trainer, who aims to help people to write clear business English and to bridge the worlds of language and finance. Howard spent 30 years working in financial risk and regulation at banks including the Bank of England and J.P. Morgan. Through his company Prism Clarity he now works with mainly financial sector clients, including regulators, investment banks, wealth and investment managers, consultancy firms and risk management organisations. He is a visiting lecturer in Writing for Business at City, University of London. Howard recently completed his first academic book edit, and is working his way through the SfEP training and mentoring levels. He lives and works in Hertfordshire.