

Joseph Editorial Services

Services & Pricing Guide

*Helping your story develop flavor
without losing its soul.*



Megan Joseph

Manuscript Development Consultant & Editorial Strategist

JosephEditorialServices.com

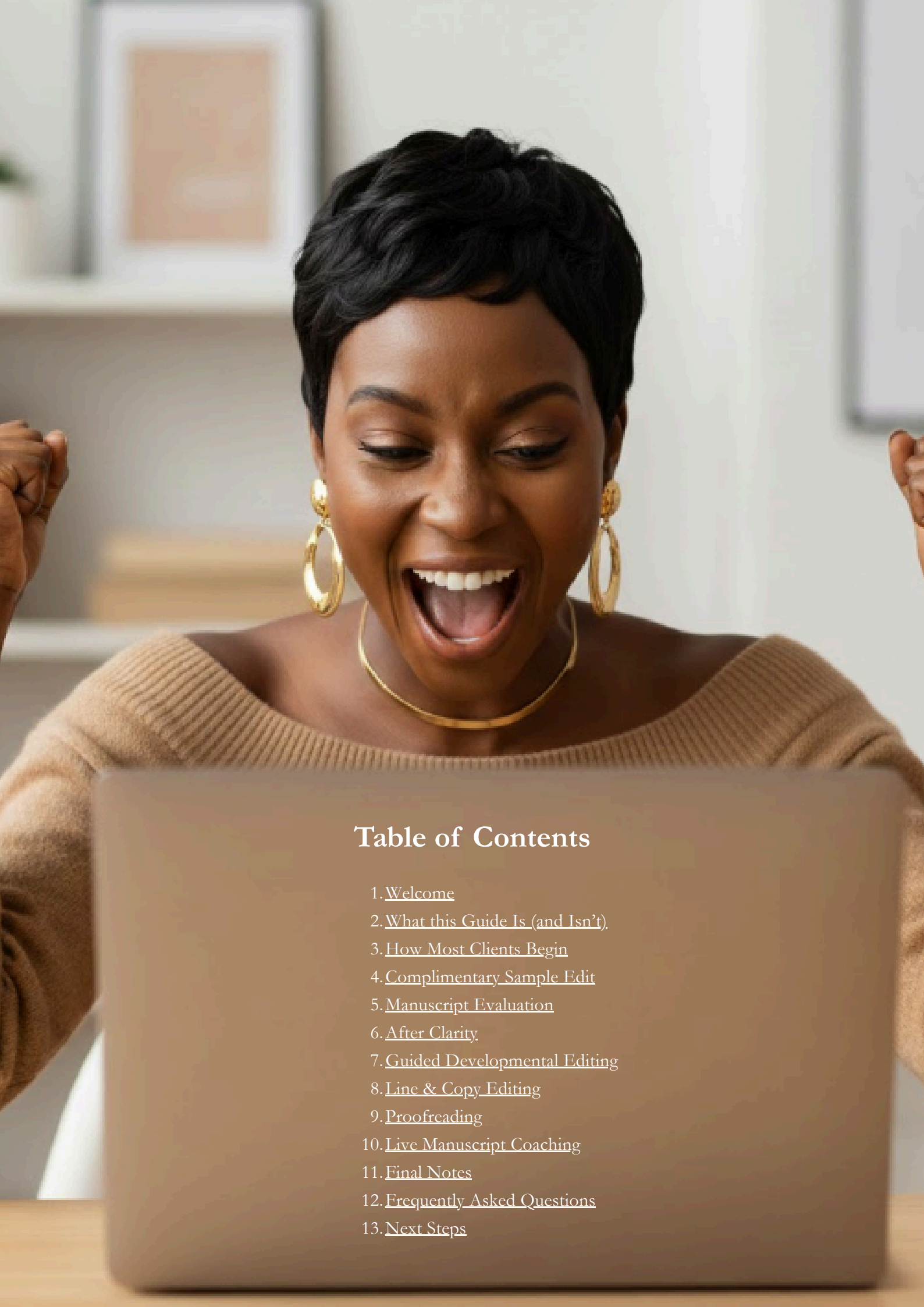


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My name is Megan Joseph, and I'm a Manuscript Development Consultant & Editorial Strategist. I've been editing professionally since 2018 and have supported more than a thousand manuscripts across fiction and nonfiction, including articles, short stories, novellas, and full-length books. My clients include authors whose work has charted on the New York Times, USA Today, and Amazon bestseller lists—many of them for months and even years at a time. More importantly, many of those authors continue to work with me book after book, returning not just for edits, but for clarity.

I believe strong editorial work begins with discernment. Not every manuscript needs the same level of support, and not every story benefits from heavy-handed intervention. My approach is diagnostic, instructional, and deeply intentional. I don't overwrite voice. I don't force stories into trends. And I don't do the work for authors. Instead, I identify patterns, explain why they matter, and guide writers through strengthening their work in a way that preserves what makes their story theirs.

In many Black households and communities, we understand something instinctively: flavor doesn't come from replacing ingredients—it comes from knowing how to develop what's already there. Time, care, restraint, and intention matter just as much as technique. I approach manuscripts the same way. I look for what's present, assess what needs development, and guide that process with clarity and respect. Helping your story develop flavor without losing its soul isn't just a tagline—it's the foundation of how I work.

That also means I'm not a ghostwriter, and I'm not here to "fix" a manuscript while the author watches. Growth happens through understanding and application. My goal is not just a stronger book, but a stronger writer—one who leaves our work together with more confidence, more skill, and a clearer sense of direction. Because no one wants to read a bland book, and flavor should never come at the cost of authenticity.

This guide exists to help you choose the right next step without pressure or guesswork. Whether you're seeking clarity through a manuscript evaluation, hands-on guidance through developmental editing, or support while drafting, my role is to meet you where you are and help you move forward wisely. Most clients begin with a complimentary sample edit, which allows us both to assess fit and determine what will serve your manuscript best.

Clarity comes first. Everything else follows. *xo Megan Joseph*





What This Guide Is (and Isn't)

This Services & Pricing Guide is designed to help you make wise, informed decisions about your manuscript—not rushed ones.

Inside, you'll find:

- A clear starting point if you're unsure what your book needs
- A diagnostic evaluation designed to bring clarity before commitment
- Editorial support options for authors who want guided implementation
- Transparent pricing and realistic expectations
-

What you won't find:

- One-size-fits-all recommendations
- Pressure to book services you don't need
- Vague feedback or confusing options

My role is not to sell you something.

My role is to help you see your manuscript clearly so you can move forward with confidence.

How Most Clients Begin

Most authors don't start knowing exactly what kind of editing they need. They start with a feeling—something is missing, something isn't landing, something needs to be clearer.

That's why most clients begin with:

1. A complimentary sample edit, followed by
2. A Manuscript Evaluation, if appropriate

From there, additional editorial support is recommended only if and when it truly serves your goals. Clarity should always come before investment.

For Authors and Publishers

While this guide is primarily written for authors navigating their next steps, I also partner with publishers and publishing teams who need early-stage manuscript evaluations or developmental support for their authors.

If you're representing a publishing house, you'll find a dedicated section later in this guide outlining how we can work together efficiently and professionally.

Whether you're:

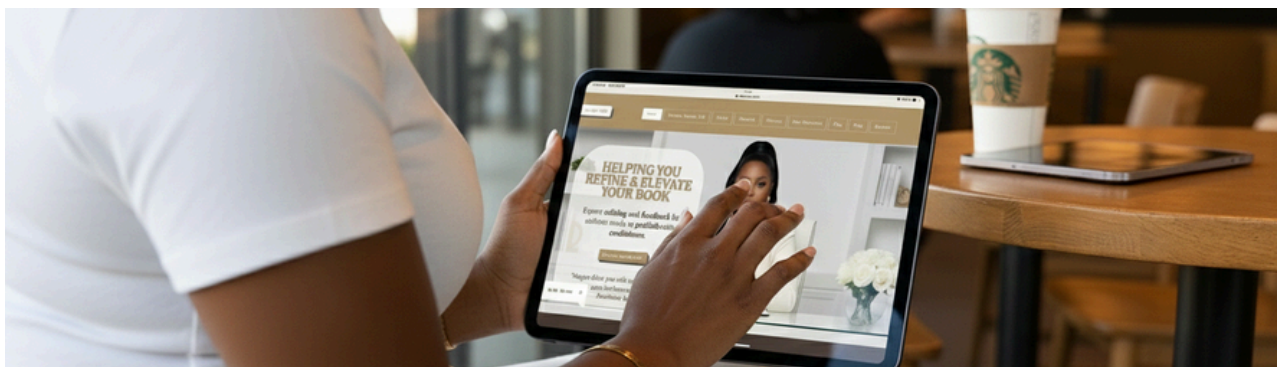
- Writing your first book
- Revising a manuscript that feels unfinished
- Recovering from feedback that didn't help
- Or trying again after a discouraging experience

You don't have to figure this out alone.

This guide is here to help you start with clarity—and move forward with purpose.

Ready to Begin?

Most clients start with a complimentary sample edit, which allows you to experience my approach and receive initial insight into your manuscript before making any commitment.



Complimentary Sample Edit

If you're unsure what your manuscript needs—or you've received feedback that left you more confused than confident—this is the best place to begin.

You do not need to decide on a full service right now.

You do not need to have everything figured out.

You just need clarity.

That is exactly what the complimentary sample edit is designed to provide.

What This Is

- A diagnostic preview of your manuscript
- An opportunity to experience my editorial approach
- A way to determine fit—without obligation

What You'll Receive

- Review of 500–1,000 words
- In-document editorial comments
- A brief overview identifying:
 - Strengths
 - Areas of concern
 - Opportunities for improvement
 - Potential risks if issues go unaddressed

Turnaround: 48 hours

This step exists to create clarity—not obligation.

“Megan was such a joy to work with. She was patient with me and gave very thoughtful and constructive feedback. She made me a better writer. Her knowledge and experience gave me confidence in the concept I wrote, and her encouragement was invaluable.”

— Stacy McCall-Martin, Published Author

Manuscript Evaluation

Diagnostic Clarity Before Editing

A Manuscript Evaluation is a strategic diagnosis, not an edit.

It is designed for authors who want professional insight into what their manuscript needs before committing to hands-on editing.

Best For

- Complete or near-complete drafts
- Authors comfortable revising independently
- Writers unsure what kind of editing they need
- Publishers seeking early-stage clarity

What You Receive

- A comprehensive written editorial report addressing:
 - Structure and organization
 - Clarity and flow
 - Reader experience
 - Narrative or argument effectiveness
 - Repeating patterns that weaken the manuscript
- A prioritized revision roadmap
- A clear recommendation for next steps

What This Is Not

- In-manuscript editing
- Sentence-level corrections
- Rewriting

This service identifies what needs to change and why—so you can revise with intention instead of guesswork.

Investment

- Up to 25,000 words: \$125
- Up to 50,000 words: \$250
- Up to 100,000 words: \$500
- Over 100,000 words: Custom quote

Each evaluation includes two rounds and a consultation.



After Clarity

Editorial Support Services

Once you understand what's working in your manuscript—and what needs strengthening—you can decide how much support you want moving forward.

Some authors prefer to revise independently.

Others want guided, hands-on support.

Both paths are valid.

Editorial support is most effective when it is intentional, targeted, and informed by diagnosis.

“I’ve been working with Megan since 2020, and her feedback has always been actionable and helpful. Even when I submitted an early draft, she helped me clearly see what needed strengthening and how to move forward. Her insight, availability, and kindness made a difficult season much easier.”

—Janee Thompson, Published Author

Guided Developmental Editing

Hands-On Structural Support

Guided Developmental Editing is for authors who do not feel comfortable implementing major revisions on their own.

This service provides clear, step-by-step guidance on how and where to apply changes identified during evaluation.

Best For

- First-time authors
- Writers overwhelmed by feedback
- Manuscripts with structural issues
- Authors who want collaborative revision support

How This Differs From a Manuscript Evaluation

- An evaluation identifies what needs to change
- Developmental editing supports you through applying those changes

This difference is why this service requires more time and investment.

What's Included

- In-manuscript developmental comments
- Clear revision instructions
- Feedback on revised sections
- Structural and narrative guidance

What's Not Included

- Line editing
- Copyediting
- Proofreading
- Rewriting

Investment

- Up to 25,000 words: \$500
- Up to 50,000 words: \$1,000
- Up to 100,000 words: \$1,500
- Over 100,000 words: Custom quote

Line & Copy Editing

Instructional Sentence-Level Editing

Line & Copy Editing focuses on clarity, consistency, and craft at the sentence and paragraph level. This service is instructional—not corrective.

Best For

- Structurally sound manuscripts
- Authors ready for refinement
- Writers who want to strengthen their voice

How This Works

- Select examples are corrected as models
- Patterns are identified and explained
- Additional instances are flagged for author revision
- Revisions are reviewed to confirm understanding

I am not a ghostwriter.

My goal is to help you become a stronger writer—not to do the work for you.

Investment

- Up to 20,000 words: \$300
- Up to 50,000 words: \$600
- Up to 100,000 words: \$900
- Over 100,000 words: Custom quote

“I trusted Megan with my story during one of the most vulnerable seasons of my life. Her guidance helped me shape my manuscript into a finished book I could stand behind. If I write again, I will absolutely work with her.”

— Marcia Lewis, Published Author

Final Quality-Control Review

Proofreading is the final review after all revisions and edits are complete.

It is not editing.

It is quality control.

Best For

- Publication-ready manuscripts
- Final checks before submission or release

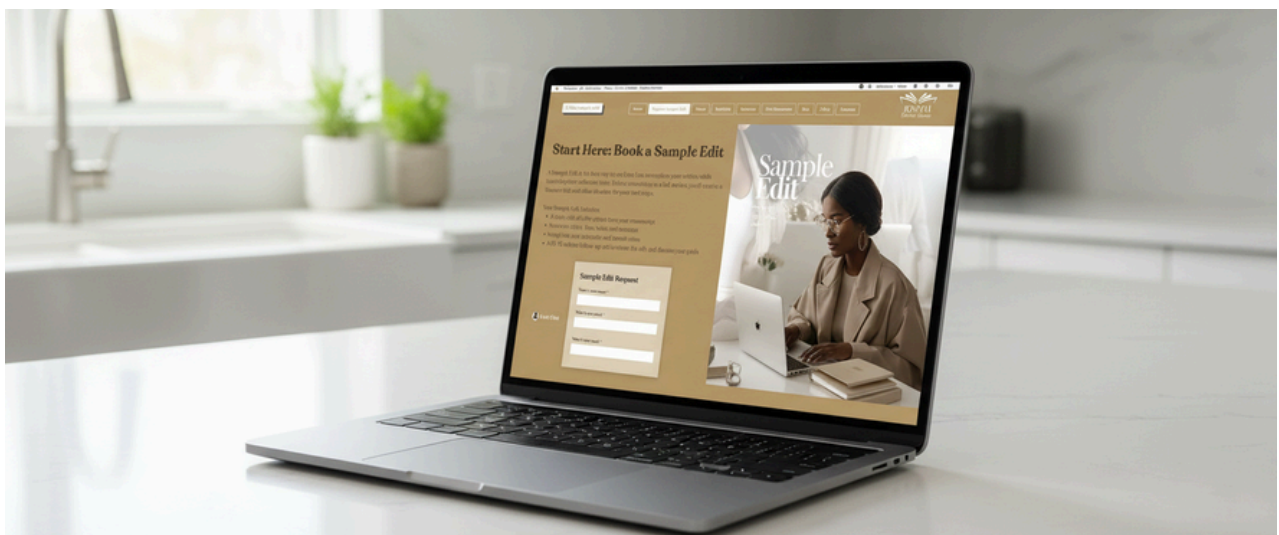
What's Included

- Spelling and typographical corrections
- Basic grammar and punctuation checks
- Consistency review

No proofreader can guarantee a completely error-free manuscript. The goal is professional readiness.

Investment

- Up to 20,000 words: \$200
- Up to 50,000 words: \$400
- Up to 100,000 words: \$600
- Over 100,000 words: Custom quote



Live Manuscript Coaching (Monthly)

This service provides ongoing developmental guidance while you write.

Investment: \$400 per month
(\$100/week)

Best For

- Authors without a full draft
- Writers who feel stuck mid-manuscript
- Clients who benefit from real-time direction

This service focuses on development and instruction—not editing or rewriting.



“You didn’t just edit my work—you taught me how to write. I learned how to think through scenes, dialogue, and storytelling in a way I never had before.

You are a teacher in every sense of the word.”

— Delicia McIntyre, Published Author

Final Notes

- Services are non-refundable once work begins
- Payment plans may be available
- Manuscripts over stated word counts are quoted individually
- Not every manuscript is a fit—and that protects everyone involved

My role is not to do the work for you.

My role is to help you do your best work—with clarity and confidence.



Frequently Asked Questions

No bland books. Just clear, well-developed stories.

How do I know which service I need?

Most clients don't start knowing exactly what level of support their manuscript requires. That's why the complimentary sample edit exists. It provides initial insight and a clear recommendation for your next step—whether that's a manuscript evaluation, guided developmental editing, or independent revision.

You are never expected to guess.

Do I have to start with the complimentary sample edit?

No—but it is strongly recommended if you're unsure what your manuscript needs or want to experience my approach before committing.

Many clients begin there for peace of mind and clarity.

What's the difference between a manuscript evaluation and developmental editing?

A manuscript evaluation identifies what needs to change and why. It is ideal for authors who are comfortable applying feedback independently.

Guided developmental editing supports you through how and where to apply those changes. It is more collaborative and requires more time, which is reflected in the investment.

Both services are valuable. The right choice depends on how much support you want during revision.

Will you rewrite my manuscript or fix everything for me?

No.

I am not a ghostwriter. My work is instructional by design.

I identify patterns, model strong revisions, and guide you through applying feedback yourself. This approach produces stronger manuscripts and stronger writers.



Can I skip services or book out of order?

Sometimes—but not always.

Certain services require clarity first to be effective. If a manuscript still has unresolved structural issues, I may recommend a manuscript evaluation before moving forward.

My goal is not to upsell you—it's to protect your investment and your work.

Do you guarantee error-free proofreading?

No editor or proofreader can ethically guarantee a completely error-free manuscript.

Proofreading brings your work into an accepted professional range and reduces distractions for readers, but perfection is not a realistic or industry-standard promise.

Do you offer refunds?

Because editorial services require time, analysis, and preparation, all services are non-refundable once work has begun.

If you have questions about fit before booking, I encourage starting with a complimentary sample edit or reaching out directly.

What if I still have questions?

That's completely okay.

You're welcome to email questions at any point before booking. I aim to respond within three business days and am happy to help you determine the most appropriate next step.

Next Steps

Most clients begin by requesting a complimentary sample edit.

From there, you'll receive a clear recommendation and can move forward at your own pace—without pressure.

Clarity comes first.

Flavor follows.

A woman with dark, wavy hair, wearing a tan blazer, white top, and tan pants, stands next to a large smartphone. The phone screen displays a business card for Megan Joseph, Editor & Writing Coach at Joseph Editorial Services®. The card includes a bio, services list, and contact information.

Megan Joseph
Editor & Writing Coach
Joseph Editorial Services®

Helping Authors Strengthen Their
Stories, Structure, and Voice

Clear Stories. Confident Authors.
Books That Last.

Bio: Editorial Strategy in Motion
"Helping authors move from draft to
publish-ready with clarity and confidence."

Services:

- Manuscript Evaluations
- Developmental Editing
- Line & Copy Editing
- Author Coaching
- Publisher Support

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