

Story Circle Editorial Service

...by, for, and about women

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Announcing SCN-Editorial Service: 16 Editors with the Eye, Heart and Understanding to Help Each Writer Take Her Work to Its Pinnacle

Austin, TX, May 21, 2009—Strong proposals, award-winning novels and inspiring memoirs need more than a good idea and the fortitude to see it through to completion. Story structure, spelling, word choice, grammar are all critical elements, which is why Story Circle Network is pleased to announce its new service for women writers. Story Circle Network-Editorial Service (SCN-ES) is open to all women with words in need of a tune-up, an overhaul, a polish or even just “one more set of eyes.” The SCN-ES editors can help ensure a writer’s thoughts convey the power, emotion and meaning she intends.

Go to: <http://www.storycircleeditorialservice.org/>

The connection between a writer and an editor is organic. It’s almost primal in the sense that a good editor *feels* the writer’s work. She appreciates the writer’s style, voice, tone and can look at the work holistically. It’s a creative partnership. And when it works, ideas come to life and words sing. It’s almost magical. This is the objective for SCN-ES.

“We’re excited to offer our own editorial service,” says SCN founder Susan Wittig Albert. “We felt it was time, given that more and more of our Story Circle members are publishing their work or actively moving in that direction. We want these women (as well as nonmembers) to have access to top-flight editorial assistance. It does make a difference...I know from working with my own trusted editor.”

How SCN-ES Works

While most editorial services are basically the same, SCN-ES takes the relationship between writer and editor very seriously. “We want our writers and editors to bond,” says Matilda Butler, co-coordinator for the program. While most editorial services are either a one-person shop or a contractor that farms work out to someone in its editing pool, SCN-ES is different. A writer working with SCN-ES can:

- *Find the service she needs*—we offer copyediting, conceptual editing (developmental or content editing), comprehensive editing (combines both copy and conceptual editing), and proofreading,
- *Get to know the editors*—we provide profiles, quotes, preferred genres and insight into each editor’s editorial technique,
- *Select the editors she would most like to work with*—we ask that a writer select three editors in order of preference; we then compare this list with her project due date and the editors’ prior commitments to find the best fit,
- *Request the editor of her choice*—when time is not a factor and a writer is willing to wait for a particular editor, we will honor that request,

- *Learn in the process*—our editors are selected, in part, because they want to help writers hone their craft and improve the mechanics of writing; they are patient teachers. Through interviews and blog posts, our editors will continue to share tips and techniques with writers,
- *Know the cost of the project in advance*—our charges are in keeping with industry standards, and because our rates are based on page count rather than hours it’s easy to calculate the cost, and finally
- *Feel reassured with the results*—we stand behind the work of our editors.

Meet the Editors

The 16 women on the SCN-ES charter editorial team were carefully selected for both their editing and writing experience. “I prefer editors that are good writers,” says program co-coordinator Kendra Bonnett. “Personally I want an editor who understands I am a writer and respects my words. All of our editors are sensitive to preserving a writer’s style, and not replacing it with their own.”

Selection was a challenge. As Butler explains: “Not only did we receive resumes from many more qualified women than we could accommodate at first, but we wanted women that were writers as well as editors.” After careful consideration and vetting, please meet the editors:

Susan Burneson: “...I will ensure that your message is expressed in a clear and powerful way.”

Mary Jo Doig: “...I deeply enjoy spending time with other women’s words.”

Molly Dwyer: “...as a writing tutor, writing instructor, and as a successful

- writer, I bring a wide range of skills to the editing table.”
- Lynn Gosnell: “I think of being an editor as being a handmaiden to the writer...”
- Lisa J. Jackson: “I really enjoy being a pair of fresh eyes...to help writers see where something is left dangling, incomplete, missing...”
- Kathleen Kelly: “My strengths as an editor include a love for story; respect for the writer's process...”
- Paulette Kinnes: “I am able to help you with the organization and the clarity of ...your material as well as the accuracy of the words...”
- Mary Anne Maier: “My goal is to truly hear and then help you use your unique voice to convey your ideas.”
- Linda Joy Myers: “Shaping a work into its final form is an opportunity to sing the high notes, to tune your vision and bring...[it] into its final form.”
- Dionne Obeso: “I love language, and I apply that love of words and their application to each manuscript I review...”
- Kim Pearson: “I like finding the creative, exciting, and beautiful ideas or stories that are trapped in word thickets. I like setting them free...”
- Roseanne Rini: “I bring to my reading of any manuscript a knowledge of what are considered the ‘classics’ of American and British literature...”
- Jane Ross: “The essence of my work is creating connection between authors and readers...”
- Mary K. Swanson: “I love editing stories with an element of magic or science fiction, and stories that reflect personal experience...”
- Kristin Thiel: “I...[love] the written word, its playfulness and intricacies, and

working with writers to snap each one into just the right spot.”

Dr. Shelley Thrasher: “I most enjoy helping the women whose work I edit build on their strengths and eliminate their weaknesses as writers.”

Story Circle Network understands how much time, love, energy, and nurturing goes into the creative process. That’s why every writer’s work deserves the best preparation for publication or presentation possible. Whether the work is a poem, resume, book proposal, memoir, short story or the next great American novel, it deserves to shine. SCN-ES can help. Sign up here: <http://www.storycircleeditorialservice.org/>

About Story Circle Network

Story Circle Network is dedicated to helping women share the stories of their lives and to raising public awareness of the importance of women's personal histories. It carries out this mission through publications, a website, classes, workshops, writing and reading circles, and woman-focused programs. SCN activities empower women to tell their stories, discover their identities through their stories, and choose to be the authors of their own lives. Dr. Susan Wittig Albert founded SCN in early 1997. It is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation incorporated in Texas and guided by a board of directors.

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