



Crystal Clear

DISCOVER THE WORLD OF PUBLISHING

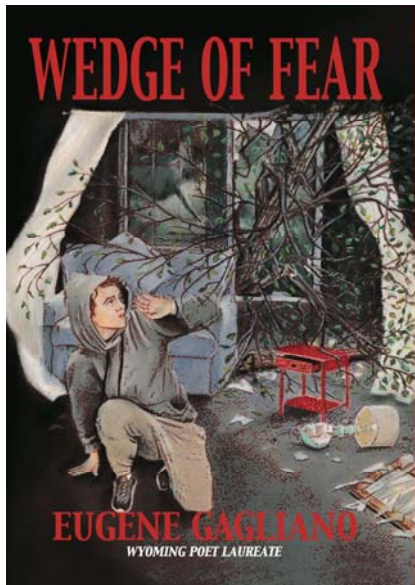
WHAT'S IN YOUR AUTHOR PLATFORM?

“An author platform is the ability to sell books because of your reputation and who follows you. It’s also your contacts and connections, your influence, and expertise. It’s who you are and who people perceive you to be.” —Mary Walewski

—continued page 2

“Some writers enjoy writing, I am told. Not me. I enjoy having written.” — George RR Martin

Publisher’s Choice



Overshadowed by the death of his brother, Tony encounters the western way of life when his parents move from the East Coast to Wyoming. Starting at a new school as a sixth grader isn’t easy when your controlling mother is fearful of everything. Tony likes his new teacher, Mr. Brunswick, but the class bully does her best to make his life difficult. Jed, the son of a rancher, befriends Tony and helps him adjust to the new environment. Life becomes more complicated when the winds of change and unpredictable events lead his parents to question Tony’s ability to take care of himself and be responsible. But the storm that rages inside him is nothing compared to the coming tempest...



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Upcoming events

- WY Writers Inc., June 1-3, Dubois, WY
- West Texas Writers’ Academy, June 4-8. Canyon, TX
- Agents & Editors Conference, June 29 - July 1, Austin, TX
- Rocky Mountain Fiction Writers, Sept. 6-9, Denver, CO

Grow Your Platform

- Who are you? How do you perceive yourself and how do others perceive you?
- People buy on your reputation. What's your expertise and ability to execute to your ideas?
- Why not you? What are your credentials? Background? Areas of expertise? What other experience do you have to be the expert of what you're writing about?
- What's your message? And what makes you different? What do you stand for?
- Who do you know? Who's in your network who can spread the word?

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Marketing.com



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GUEST COLUMN



Bonnie
McKnight

The Editing Process, Pt. 2: Content Editing

In this continuing series on the editing process, we will consider content editing.

The broadest level of editing is called content or developmental editing. The editor helps you develop your content as a whole. As the terms are more or less interchangeable, I'll just refer to it as content editing.

Every piece of writing should undergo some form of content editing, whether fiction or non-fiction. The editor will look at your manuscript from a big picture point of view and provide suggestions for overall improvement. This could be improvement to style, voice, plot, flow, dialogue, description, character development, syntax, sentence structure, or anything else the editor feels can make your work better and more accessible to your readers. Often this stage will include fixes to grammar and spelling as well, but the main focus is on the larger picture.

When do you need content editing?

Typically, content editing evaluates a full draft of your manuscript. Content editing can be done on a first draft, but often it is better on a revised draft. I highly encourage writers to perform their own self-editing process on their first draft before submitting anything to an editor (and certainly before trying a publisher).

That being said, if you find yourself in need of editorial advice when you're only 50% done with your manuscript, or even in the brainstorming stage, all is not lost. An editor or writing coach can give you the same type of content advice on unfinished works or even just story ideas, but typically this is called a manuscript evaluation or even just writing coaching. Many editors will offer this service on an hourly basis.

Continued on page 3...

HASHTAGS FOR WRITERS

- ◆ #AMWRITING
- ◆ #AMREVISING
- ◆ #AMEDITING
- ◆ #AMREADING
- ◆ #WRITETIP
- ◆ #PUBTIP
- ◆ #QUERYTIP
- ◆ #PROMOTIP
- ◆ #INDIEPUB
- ◆ #WRITINGPROMPT
- ◆ #MSWL
(MANUSCRIPT WISHLIST)
- ◆ #ASKAGENT
- ◆ #PUBLISHING
- ◆ #TENQUERIES
- ◆ #FICTIONFRIDAY
- ◆ #SCIFICHAT
- ◆ #KIDLITCHAT
- ◆ #YALITCHAT
- ◆ #NANOWRIMO



Featured Author

Eugene Gagliano

Wyoming Poet Laureate

Born and raised in Niagara Falls, New York, Gene, like his main character Tony, understands the culture shock when moving from the East to Wyoming. Gene knew he had to live out West after traveling there with a summer camp upon graduating from college. He and his wife Carol have four children, six grandchildren, two cats, and a dog named Annie. Gene enjoys reading and writing, hiking in the Big Horn Mountains, singing tenor in the community choir, painting acrylic landscapes, and spending hours in both his flower and vegetable gardens. Known by many as *the teacher who dances on his desk*, Gene has a great sense of humor and a sweet tooth. To learn more, go to www.gargene.com.

GUEST COLUMN (continued)

The Process

After your editor has finished the content edit, they will send the draft back for you to implement these suggestions.

As I mentioned in the previous article, no editor ever expects an author to accept every single one of their suggestions. Often, we hope that you as the author will see our suggestions and improve upon them even further. Our job is not to rewrite the manuscript for you; it is to help you rewrite the manuscript.

However, do not be too quick to discount your experienced editor's advice. Often an idea that makes perfect sense in your head can come across as confusing to a reader because they do not have all the background knowledge you do. Editors help bridge the gap between your knowledge and the reader's. Listen to them.

Sometimes, a draft will need to go through multiple rounds of content editing, but once all the big issues have been dealt with, the draft is ready for copyediting—which we will explore next time.

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CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

Crystal Publishing is now calling for 2019 publications. The schedule is rapidly filling. If you are interested in publishing, send us your idea, sample chapters, or pitch soon. Authors retain 100% of copyright.

We are looking for submissions of young adult and adult fiction. At this time, we are no longer accepting children and middle grade manuscripts since those are already scheduled.

We are always looking for unusual and creative material. Contact us and make your dream reality. Please send submissions to

crystalpublishingsubmissions@gmail.com

Submission guidelines and forms at

crystalpublishingllc.biz

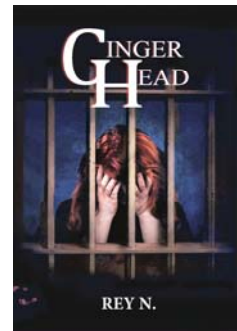
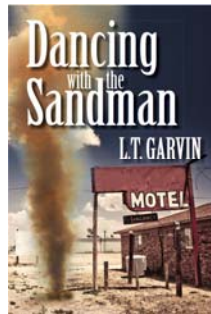
The universe is made of stories, not of atoms. —Muriel Rukeseyer



Patricia K. Landy
Publisher

National Association of
Professional Women

Woman of the Year



New middle grade book from
Eugene Gagliano,
Wedge of Fear

“A triumph of friendship, courage and love over hardship and bullies. Gagliano is a wonderful author who writes mystery with his heart.” — Shelly Ritthaler, winning author of the International Reading Association

Books available on amazon.com and lulu.com