SpotOnEdit

SELF-HELP AUTHORS

SURVEY: ABOUT BOOK EDITING

Dear Author,

Thank you for taking the time to share your experience with me. Your responses will guide the informational content I'm creating for you.

I often see authors on social media expressing their frustrations with the self-publishing process —especially when it comes to editing. My goal is to listen and learn from both first-time and published self-help authors about their experiences during the editing stage.

Note: Some questions may feel similar, but asking them in different ways often sparks new ideas or anecdotes worth sharing.

Let's begin!

Getting to know you first...

Tell me about your life right now (e.g., your work, passions, what's important to you on a personal and professional level). *

Are you a published author? *

Yes

Comments in relation to your choice above.

If your answer was other than NO, why did you decide to become a published author or why are you considering it?

What do you write about? Do you write as an expert in a field or as an enthusiast of a certain topic? *

What are you most proud of as an author? *

Which option describes you? *

I am an author as part of a business that I have.

Based on what you've answered so far, your author duties, and any other pursuits you are following, what does your typical day look like? *

Thoughts...

I'm developing a new resource for authors interested in self-publishing, especially those writing nonfiction self-help books. The goal is to create content that clearly explains the editing process in a way that empowers authors.

At first, this may seem unnecessary. However, based on my experience working with authors, I've seen how valuable it is for them to have a basic understanding of editing. It:

- Strengthens collaboration between editor and author
- Encourages authors to take a more active role in the process
- Helps authors make informed decisions when hiring an editor—understanding what to look for and what they're paying for

WRITE
WITHOUT
FEAR.

EDIT
WITHOUT
MERCY.

Based on this...

How do you edit your book(s)? *

How much do you know about editing? *

How do you go about shopping for an editor? *

What service have you used or use to edit your manuscript(s)? Do you hire an individual editor or do you hire a publishing/marketing service that includes editing? *

Based on your experience, what has worked for you in the past or is working for you now in this area? *

What's not working or hasn't worked? What are 3 things you feel that could be improved? *

What are your main frustrations? *

What's the biggest pain for you around these frustrations? *

What do these frustrations cost you in terms of lost time, money, or aggravation? *

What would you like to change about how things are? *

How important is this for you to handle? *

Neutral

What else could get better in your life if this was a non-issue? *

Would you be willing to pay more if these issues were taken care of? *

Maybe

Have you ever paid for editing services before? If so, how much did you pay and what did the service include? *

What did you like the most about it? What did you like the least about it? *

What frustrates you about editing services in general? *

What's a dream solution for you in this area? *

How do you judge if an editing service is good/bad or right/wrong for you? *

Finally, beyond editing...

An important part of the editing process is understanding the book's genre, intended audience, and the lifestyle or context it reflects. Learning more about the author and their work allows for more thoughtful, effective editing.

These questions go a bit deeper than basic editing.

What social media platform(s) do you most frequently use as an author, expert, or enthusiast? *

What are your favorite websites, magazines, stores, and brands? *

What do you wish editors in the industry understood about you and your work? *

If money were no object and based on the context of this specific section, what kind of editing service would you buy? *

Anything else you'd like to add?

Schedule your free 30-minute Zoom consultation.

Choose a DATE that is good for you.

Mar 1, 2022

Type in the best TIME for you and your TIME ZONE.

Anytime between 11 - 1

Note: I'll follow up soon to confirm your requested time, or help find another that works for you.

Would you like me to mention you in articles I publish?

Choose one. *

If the answer was YES, paste your book or website link here:

Comments:

Thank you for the time you've taken to answer this survey. It is a step towards creating better services for authors and forming better collaborations in self-publishing.