

Joan d'Arc Editing Services

Do you need a professional cleaning before you post your journalistic exposé to the Internet or send it to a publisher? Could you use some feedback before you turn in your assignment to your boss or instructor?

Everyone needs the assistance of a good editor or proofreader. Everyone needs a second pair of eyes.

I am a trained, experienced editor and proofreader and I can help you fix your writing style or inform you of problem writing. I can help you pull your own style out of the chaos of imprecise word choice.

Training and Experience

I am the co-founder and co-editor of *PARANOIA: The Conspiracy and Paranormal Reader* (since 1992), the founder and editor of *HunterGatheress Journal*, and the former editor of *Newspeak* magazine. I have published articles in numerous compilations, including *Wake Up Down There*, *The Universal Seduction*, and the French Fortean journal, *La Gazette Forteenne* as well as the British magazine, *Namaste*. Some of my writings can be found at paranoiamagazine.com and biped.info.

I am the author of two very popular books published by The Book Tree: *Phenomenal World* and *Space Travelers and the Genesis of the Human Form*.

I was trained in the Professional Editing program at George Washington University in Washington DC (1998-2000) and worked as a freelance editor and proofreader in DC during the same time frame. I have a Bachelors Degree in Anthropology.

Please note that I have also worked as a legal secretary for 16 years and I can do any kind of business or legal writing, proofing, editing, or comparing documents.

My specialty is non-fiction journalistic reports (third person report on an event or events) or first-person relay of events (relaying your own story about an event or events). I do fiction writing as well. I don't have experience editing novels, but if it's a conspiracy type of novel and needs basic cleanup and feedback I can certainly do that.

What I will do for you

Today's Web environment has promulgated sloppy writing. Everyone's a writer but hardly anyone is any good at it. Nobody knows the meaning of concise—but I do because in news and magazine print you must adhere to specific word counts.

I will describe to you your specific writing problems, providing examples of how to clean up your writing and create an effective *style*. Effective writing conveys a meaningful narrative that is understandable and easy to read. The easier it is to read, the longer people will hang on.

What is style?

Style is the basics, right down to the punctuation you choose. Style is you. Style is how you communicate in writing. Style is your choice of words. Style is the way you choose to construct a sentence; how you start it; where you end it.

Style is a magical thing. Style comes across subliminally. Your style creates impact—but be aware that the impact can be negative as well as positive.

Is your style sloppy? Is your voice inconsistent? Are your analogies silly? Do your sentences run on? Is your sentence construction incorrect and, therefore, confusing?

Are you dangling your modifiers all over the place? Is your writing passive and your subject missing? Are you guilty of circumlocution: taking the long route around your point?

Sometimes we become so attached to the words we create that we are incapable of extricating them from their positions in a bad sentence. But if someone else does it for you, the effect is awesome and you can't help but say, Wow!

I have had many people say to me, Wow! I would love it if you chose me as that person. Here are your options:

Level 1. Disorder and how to clean it yourself.

I will send you a report of what I feel are the major areas of concern in your writing style, along with specific rewrites of disordered sentences and paragraphs. You will then need to spend some time cleaning it up yourself, using these examples.

The DIY method requires that you spend time understanding your style, and perhaps even deconstructing your entire writing habit. If it is your will to be a writer, this is what you have to do anyway, so you might as well jump in now.

You will get a short report only. If you need more than this, you might consider moving on to Level 2. Or you could contract with me on a Level 2 on a different writing project. It's your call.

Level 2. Complete rewrite.

If you want me to take the entire thing and put it through my grinder, I will edit a copy of the original and compare my version to yours. I will send you back my version and the redlined version. You can use either the redline (accepting some or all changes) or use the clean version if you like the whole effect.

If the points you are making are unclear, I will make the necessary assumptions, but will contact you via email to establish the correct meaning. If I cannot clarify your meaning, I will do the best I can in a timely manner by inserting bold brackets in the text what I think you mean. If your intent is to send this piece out to a publisher, you perhaps should go this route. I will work with you on it.

As you can tell by the above statement, I have experience with all levels and styles of writing. I am confident that I can help anyone. I do not pass on these projects to anyone else. I do them myself.

I will contact you via email with a date by which I can have your full article completed.

Please contact me for editing rates on specific jobs.

How is Joan d'Arc Editing Services different from other online editing services?

Everyone needs an editor. Let me show you HOW you can be your own editor!

1. Quick turnaround editing and proofreading;
2. I prefer nonfiction magazine or web journal articles and reports under 5000 words, but please contact me anyway about your project. I'd love to talk about your project.
3. Emphasis on teaching you HOW to edit your own work.
4. A report on what your writing problems are and how to fix them yourself.

No other editing service does this. They have you addicted to their services. My goal is to make you a self-sufficient editor of your own work.

I do not edit lengthy manuscripts or novels. I specialize in quick turnaround, short nonfiction. I do not insert my own style unless you're looking for a ghostwriter. I will show you how to pull your own style out of the chaos of imprecise word choice.

Please see Who Is Joan d'Arc for my background and experience:
<http://www.huntergatheress.com/who.html>

Please contact me at huntergatheress@gmail.com for references and more information.

Checks payable to HunterGatheress or pay via paypal to huntergatheress@gmail.com.

Thanks very much.

Joan d'Arc