

# Sterling Hooker

Freelance Editor | Writer

## Professional Experience

### Freelance Editor and Writer (January 2024–Present)

#### **Vine Leaves Press (April 2024–Present)**

- Developmentally edit acquired books to improve content and enhance author's voice and vision.
- Assist in annual acquisitions, evaluating queries and full-length manuscripts for publication.

#### **Neuwirth and Associates (July 2025)**

- Performed technical copy edit on *Project Tiger* (Diversion Books), updating text to be in compliance with *Chicago Manual of Style* eighteenth edition.
- Create detailed style sheet, tracking facts, dates, name spellings, and inconsistencies across manuscripts, researching facts via reputable news sources or association's website to confirm accuracy.

#### **She Writes Press (August 2024–Present)**

- Copyedit and proofread memoirs, literary fiction, and short story collections utilizing MS Word track changes and comment features to provide edits, clarify changes, and query on larger, more holistic edits.
- Deliver manuscripts on time along with a detailed style sheet that tracks facts, dates, and author conventions.

#### **Indigo River Publishing (May 2025–Current)**

- Executed surgical edit for memoir *Somebody Has to Be the First*, cutting 30k+ words to aid in pacing, reader retention, and uncovering the author's true story.
- Coached marketing professional through light developmental editing and heavy line editing for her marketing guidebook *Get Empowered, Market Smarter*, identifying places to hone imagery, add examples, and adjust prose.

Copyeditor and proofreader for Post Hill Press (March 2025–Current)

Line Editor and Proofreader for Jenkins Group (August 2024)

Freelance Book Reviewer for *Foreword Reviews* (March 2024–Present, as time allows)

Editor (various roles) for independent authors (February 2024–Current)

### Editor, Brown Books Publishing Group (January 2022–January 2024)

- Copyedit and proofread in accordance with *Chicago Manual of Style* seventeenth edition.
- Provide editorial support for PR-related materials, such as press releases, press kits, and email endorsement.
- Ghostwrite promotional back cover copy.
- Assist project manager in finding freelance editors, collecting author deliverables, and editorial production items.

## Education

### **The University of North Texas (Fall 2017–Spring 2021), Honors Degree**

- Achieved dual bachelors degrees in English (emphasis in creative writing) and International Studies.
- Completed a fifty-page optional thesis on Mahasweta Devi's short story collect *Breast Stories*, examining themes of feminism, oppression, and cultural understanding of Indian women in the twentieth century.
- Led UNT's short film club writer's workshop for two years, one as committee head and another as committee member, cultivating a workshop atmosphere and creating presentations to help screenwriters improve their craft.
- Served as staff writer, then assistant fiction editor, for the *North Texas Review* 2019 and 2020 editions.

## Publications

“Mesh,” *Meetinghouse* (forthcoming June 2026) | “Testing the Waters,” *Progenitor Art and Literary Journal* (May 2026) | “Labyrinth,” *Creation Magazine* (January 2026) | “They Shall Be Drowned,” *The Write Launch* (July 2025) | “The Bee Swarms,” *Honeyguide Magazine* (November 2024) | “Blood in the Water,” *Havok Ezine* (May 10, 2024) | “The Coldest Decembers,” *North Texas Review* (May 2018)

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## Sample List of Edited Titles

### Developmental Editing

#### Vine Leaves Press

- *SOAP Notes: Irreverent Confessions of a Veterinary Technician*
- *Ostraca: Remebering Sophie, Remembering Me*
- *Mean Higher High Water*
- *Garnet*
- *Illegitimate: A Memoir*
- *Sawadika American Girl*
- *Genesis*
- *Welcome to Perfectville*
- *A Sign of the Times*

#### Indigo River Publishing

- *Somebody Has to Be the First* (performed surgical edit)

#### Independent Authors

- *Protect or Serve* (middle-grade novel)

#### Brown Books Publishing Group

- *Miscommunicamp!*
- *Your Seven Words to a Happier You: Unlock the Story Sabotaging Your Relationships*
- *Women Gone Wild: The Feminine Guide to Fearless Living, Wealth Edition and Intuition Edition*

### Line Editing

#### Jenkins Group

- *The Sudler Family Chronicles*

#### Indigo River Publishing

- *Get Empowered, Market Smarter*

#### Independent Authors

- *The Bookfell*

#### Brown Books Publishing Group

- *CARE to Win: The 4 Leadership Habits to Build High-Performing Teams*
- *My Silver Lining: Healing Through Art*
- *Cutting a Path: The Power of Purpose, Discipline, and Determination*
- *The Gap Between: Loving and Supporting Someone with Alzheimer's* (created paraphrased technical copy)
- *Why You Should Give a Damn About Economics*
- *Let's Play Jegi, Let's Play Gonggi, and Let's Play Ddakji*
- *Dinky Donkey Doo: Battling Cancer with the Help of a Wise Donkey*

### Copyediting and Proofreading

#### Neuwirth and Associates

- *Project Tiger* (contracted by Diversion Books)

#### She Writes Press

- *The Mother of All Decisions*
- *Orphans of the Living*
- *Always Hungry*
- *My Pretty Baby*
- *A Judge's Tale*
- *For All the Curious Girls*
- *One Beautiful Year of Normal*
- *Winter of My Spring*
- *Vivian's Decision: A Novel*
- *A Gritty Little Tourist Town*
- *Swatting for Flies*
- *Taking Care*
- *Murder at University Park*
- *Where I Am From*

#### Independent Authors

- *The Dragon File* by Mark "SNapper" Mattison
- *The Bear Trap* by Mark "SNapper" Mattison
- *Casually Homicidal* by Olivia J. Bennett (in progress)

#### Post Hill Press

- *Building Your Board of Directors for Life*
- *The S@#t I've Heard at Yoga*
- *The Last Lawman*
- *Playing House: Ten Steps to a Sexy, Secure Relationship*
- *You Are in Charge: Taking Control of Your Career*
- *Miami Masala: A Preity Harrow Mystery* (in progress)

#### Brown Books Publishing Group

- *The King's Daughter*
- *Faith Over Fear: How to Adopt a Success Mindset*
- *Let's Clear Things Up: The Truth about Sinus Surgery*
- *Fleur du Lac: Stories from Behind the Walls*
- *The Taste of Ambiance*
- *The Grand Veeshali*
- *Renegade Immortality*
- *Flightless Falcon*
- *The Dixie Apocalypse*
- *My Cat Hates Me and My Cat Really Hates Me*
- *Come Day in Night*
- *The Eighty-Year-Old Sorority Girls*
- *You Forgot to Mention: Tips for Parents by Parents*