

# OLIVIA J. BENNETT

FREELANCE EDITOR, WRITER, AND EDUCATOR

## CONTACT

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📍 Bloomington, IL

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## EDUCATION

**Bachelor of Arts — 2024**  
English Education  
Illinois State University  
GPA: 3.9/4.0

## CERTIFICATIONS

**Professional Educator License**

- 9-12 English-Language Arts
- State of Illinois
- Issued 2024 | Expires 2029

**Writing Tutor — Level 1**

- ITTPC—College Reading & Learning Association
- Issued 2023

## SKILLS

**Technical**

- Chicago Manual of Style, 18<sup>th</sup> Edition
- Associated Press Style
- Track changes (MS Word)
- Outlook email and Office
- Google Suites
- Lesson planning and enactment (CCSS)

**Professional**

- Organization
- Clear verbal and written communication
- Works well collaboratively and independently
- Time management
- Leadership and project management

## PROFILE

As an award-winning author and classically-trained educator, I have a unique blend of writing and teaching skills to guide writers and their stories toward realistic goals. I am seeking to grow as a freelance editor by working with small presses and indie authors, particularly in developmental and copyediting. Excellent at self-starting and working independently, my experience and education make me a perfect fit for roles in writing and publishing.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**Book Editor and Book Coach** AUGUST 2024-PRESENT

*Freelance, Client-Based Work*

- Critically edit fiction and nonfiction manuscripts in accordance with client's outlined goals: developmental, line, or copy editing
- Ensure consistency within manuscripts concerning style
- Plan sessions based around client's goals, including writing exercises, discussion topics, further reading, and follow-up assignments to ensure client growth

**Acquisitions Intern - Submission Reader** SUMMER 2024

*SnowRidge Press*

- Critically read manuscripts submitted to the publishing house with current market conventions and the publishing house's imprints in mind
- Wrote up detailed reports to justify the decision of "accept" "reject" or "revise and resubmit" to the author and publishing house
- Gave constructive feedback based on literary craft elements such as voice, tone, character development, and plot

## NOTABLE PUBLICATIONS & AWARDS

• "Ben 'The Owl' West," *Outrageous Fortune* Vol.14 (2024)

• "Dads," *Euphemism* 19.1 (Editor's Choice, 2023)

**National Gold Medal, Scholastic Art & Writing (2018)**

- "Clutching Roses"—horror flash fiction

**Midwest Regional Gold Key, Scholastic Art & Writing (2018)**

- *A Cactus In the Valley*—realistic fiction, novel writing

# SAMPLE LIST

## OF EDITED TITLES

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## REVIEWS

"Olivia has a keen eye and a thorough understanding of narrative, making her invaluable as a proofreader and editor. She's a pleasure to work with and will have your story treading in the right direction! Highly recommend!"

—John North, author of  
*Gorgon: The Crimson Witch*

"Olivia was a joy to work with because of her amazingly positive attitude and her thoroughness when evaluating manuscripts. Her timeliness and flexibility were also necessary and valued."

—Savanna Roberts, Co-Founder  
& HOO at Snow Ridge Press

"Olivia was a great editor for my short story! She worked quickly, caught a lot of pesky grammar errors and gave me actionable feedback in order to take the my work to the next level. The pricing is also very reasonable!"

—Eleanor Wells, author of  
*Our Lifelong Dreams*

"Olivia's experience allowed me to tighten the pace, improve the tension, and cut unnecessary backstory. After our collaboration, I felt more confident about my novel. She was affordable, highly knowledgeable, very easy to communicate with, and the most lighthearted editor I've had the pleasure of working with."

—McCaid Paul, author of  
*Allegation* and *Dead River*

## OVERVIEW

Specializing in young adult and new adult genre fiction, I primarily edit indie titles that are genre-bending, fresh, and emotional. The texts that make up my editorial framework are *The Chicago Guide to Copyediting Fiction* by Amy J. Schneider, Jessica Brody's *Save the Cat! Writes a Novel*, Matthew Saleses's *Craft in the Real World*. As an award-winning author and classically trained educator, I bring to the table an inquiry-based, client-focused teaching style when giving feedback and making edits—because what has drawn me to this profession is uplifting and empowering writers to tell the best, most meaningful stories possible.

## FICTION — YA

***Gorgon: The Crimson Witch*** by John North published 2025

- line editing
- copyediting

***Gorgon: The Minotaur's Wrath*** by John North scheduled for release in 2026

- line editing
- copyediting

***Allegation*** by McCaid Paul in development

- line editing
- copyediting

## FICTION — ADULT & NEW ADULT

***Our Lifelong Dreams*** by Eleanor Wells published 2025

- developmental editing

***Fragments of Another Life*** by Eleanor Wells published 2025

- developmental editing

***I've Been Here Before*** by Eleanor Wells published 2022

- developmental editing

***Crossing the Shadow*** by Benjamin Hanna in development with SnowRidge Press

- acquisitions manuscript

***The Peddler*** by Elyssa S. Schwendy scheduled for 2026 with SnowRidge Press

- acquisitions manuscript

## NONFICTION

***Ease the Chaos*** by Renee Welk published 2024

- copyediting