

Novel **R**enovations

Susan Meissner's Editorial Service

renovate: To restore in good condition; make new or as if new again; repair. To reinvigorate; refresh; revive.



If you're a novelist or aspiring novelist and you have a manuscript in need of a structural remodel, I offer a flexible and affordable editorial service that encompasses both content critique and content editing.

With **Novel Renovations**, I evaluate your novel in its entirety or by chapters, line by line, for structural soundness and quality. Are there plot holes or ambiguities? Is there stilted dialogue, or arc dips and pacing issues? Are the characters fully fleshed out and believable? Is the prose relevant, relatable, and engaging? Are character motivations clear and compelling? Is there both external and internal conflict? Is the concept fresh, original and marketable? I make my comments, edits and suggestions in-text, which means your electronic copy is returned to you with the notes in the margins, ready for you to start making your improvements.



What are my qualifications?

- I have authored eleven novels, including *The Shape of Mercy*, named by Publishers Weekly as one of the best novels for 2008 and winner of the Christian Book of the Year for Fiction by the ECPA.
- I am the fiction panelist on The Writers View 2
- I have taught conference fiction workshops at American Christian Fiction Writers, Midwest Writers Workshop, the Colorado Christian Writers Conference and the Quad Cities Christian Writers Conference.

Fee Schedule

I can assist you on a page-to-page basis or with a full novel critique, whichever suits your needs and budget:

Full novel, up to 95,000 words	\$950
Page-by-Page	\$300 for up to 25,000 words
	\$200 for up to 10,000 words
	\$125 for up to 5,000 words

The full novel edit includes

- 2 half hour phone consultations
- A re-read of four re-written chapters

Are we right for each other?

To make sure you and I are a good fit we start the process with a **floorplan walkthrough** – which means you send me \$25, your first chapter (or 2,000 words) and a one-paragraph summary of your story's plot and takeaway, and I send back a page-by-page critique within one week. You take a look at my comments, suggestions and feedback, and if we move on from there, your \$25 walkthrough fee will be applied to whichever service plan you choose.

My requirements:

- Payment must be in advance through PayPal. Feel free to get to know me first with the \$100 page-by-page service, even if you might possibly have me edit your full novel.
- Attachments must be in a MS Word-compatible document, clean and free of previous track changes
- Unless we agree to another arrangement, I require one month (30 days) from receipt of your manuscript to complete the full manuscript service. This is for your benefit as well as mine. If you are in rush, we can discuss an exception to this requirement.
- I use Track Changes for my comments, edits and suggestions, so that we can stay on the same page, so to speak. I don't accept hard copy submissions, only electronic. It's better for both of us that way.

What you can expect:

- I will be thorough and honest
- I will respect your talent as well as your intellectual and material property
- I will not share or discuss your work with anyone.
- I will respond in a timely fashion
- I will give you my best effort

What you can't expect:

- A contract from a publisher. I sure hope it happens, but my editorial services are no guarantee you will become published because of them.
- An endorsement from me. I only endorse a handful of projects a year.

Questions or ready to start?

Just shoot me an email and we'll look at our calendars:

susan[at]susanlmeissner[dot]com

Answers are free!

"Susan's critique of my book *The Mailbox* (David C Cook, June 2010), made my book so much stronger. She noticed so many things I hadn't thought of and helped me shape it into something I wasn't afraid to submit to publishers. Her valuable input was instrumental in my publishing journey." – *Marybeth Whalen, novelist.*