

Marinda J. Valenti, MS

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Trade Publishing Production Editor, Copyeditor, and Proofreader

Accomplished production editorial expert with thirteen years of experience in the field. Traffics high-profile trade titles across formats through the production editorial process, from manuscript to bound book. Copyedits, proofreads, cold reads, and slugs a wide range of print and digital projects, including literary fiction, commercial fiction and nonfiction, young adult and middle grade novels, picture books, manga/manhwa, and graphic novels. Adept at handling design-heavy pages, complex plots, and stylistic voices. Values clarity, consistency, and a good style sheet.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Freelance Copyeditor, Proofreader, Cold Reader, and Slugger

Trade Publishing | Fiction, Nonfiction, Graphic Novels, Manga • Remote • 2013–present

- Ensure grammatical precision, narrative/tonal consistency, and adherence to *The Chicago Manual of Style* and house-specific guidelines.
- Perform final slugs and cold reads with a keen eye for typographical, layout, and formatting errors.
- Trusted by managing editorial and production teams to uphold rigorous quality standards, manage tight deadlines, and handle complex projects with discretion and accuracy.
- Skilled in markup on PDFs and hard copy and fluent in Word's Track Changes and industry specific workflows.
- *Current clients include Penguin Random House, Simon & Schuster, Macmillan, HarperCollins, Hachette, Yen Press, Square Enix, Catapult, and more.*

Senior Production Editor

Penguin Random House • Remote • 2021–present

- Lead production editorial for 100+ frontlist titles annually across five imprints, ensuring accuracy, brand alignment, and voice consistency.
- Own content quality and ensure alignment with imprint standards, tone, and stylistic goals across formats and audiences.
- Manage cross-functional collaboration with editorial, design, managing editorial, and production teams to deliver quality content under tight deadlines, including super-rush and quick-to-market titles.
- Recruit, onboard, and manage freelance copyeditors, proofreaders, and indexers; deliver feedback that improves quality.
- Drive continuous improvement of production editorial workflows by implementing process-optimization initiatives and standardizing departmental guidelines and resource documents.

EDUCATION

Certificate in Project Management

University of Washington • Graduated 2024

- Applied Agile and traditional project management methodologies to publishing and editorial projects, including scheduling, risk management, and stakeholder communication.

Master of Science in Publishing: Digital and Print Media

New York University • Graduated 2016

- Focus on digital content strategy, audience engagement, and editorial analytics.
- Recipient of the Deborah Wiley Scholarship.

Bachelor of Arts in English with minors in Gender Studies and Film

California State University-Fullerton • Graduated 2013

- Graduated summa cum laude.
- Recipient of the Student Activist of the Year Award.

CORE SKILLS & TOOLS

- **Editorial Quality Assurance:** Copyediting, proofreading, fact-checking, *Chicago* style, voice & tone management
- **Leadership & Training:** Team mentorship, workflow oversight, cross-department collaboration, performance reviews
- **Project Management:** Agile/waterfall, workflow optimization, resource allocation, risk mitigation, scheduling
- **Tools:** Smartsheet, Monday.com, Adobe Acrobat Pro, MS Office, internal data management systems, Box
- **Genre & Subject Specialties:** Horror, thriller, contemporary, literary, '90s & '00s pop culture, music, social justice, feminism

OUTSIDE OF WORK

- **Book Clubs:** Consistent participant of monthly indie-bookstore-led horror-, literary-, and general-fiction book clubs
- **Roller Derby:** Volunteers to help out with setting up and organizing bouts and events for local roller derby league
- **Community Orchestra:** Violinist in local community orchestra with sixteen years of experience playing classical, fiddle, and jazz music
- **Distance Running:** Completed the New York City Marathon in 2017 and continues to run 5K, 10K, and eight-miler races
- **Grocery Co-op Newsletter:** Compiles, edits, and distributes local grocery co-op's
- **Animal Lover:** Socializes cats at the local humane society and parents two Siamese cats and one Chihuahua