About Loft Manuscript Critique

The Loft’s renowned teaching artists can now work with you one-on-one to deepen your skills, get a manuscript ready for publication, and finally complete that long-term project. The Loft's Manuscript Critique and Coaching services offer rigorous and personalized services for writers of fiction, creative nonfiction, poetry, and children's and young adult literature.

Select from a lineup that includes renowned writers and former editors and agents that helped authors develop books to be their best. Please browse the individual pages to learn more about the services each editor is offering.

You will submit your work and receive feedback by email. Any additional meeting or conversation with the teaching artist will be scheduled after your receive your feedback. The nature of these meetings depends on your own and the editor's location.

If you are applying for a grant, you're welcome to include Loft Manuscript Critique as a potential venue.

Who Can I Work With?

The best way to select an editor is to review their specific page, but here is a summary of what each editor offers with general pricing. If you would like to contact an editor with specific questions before purchasing, email manuscripts@loft.org and we will forward your questions to them. Remember to name the editor you are interested in talking to in your email.

We cannot share contact information for anyone without permission, but are happy to forward any notes or questions to editors along with your contact information so they can reach out to you.

Policies and Payments
Our reviewers come endorsed by one of the leading literary organizations in the country, but each sets their own timeline and offerings. Please look through individual review pages for details on their offerings.

Purchase Details
Once you purchase a service through our website with one of the reviewers, you will receive a receipt by email with further instructions.

- If you signed up for a manuscript critique, you can immediately send the manuscript to manuscripts@loft.org. It is helpful to also send a note about the work telling the reviewer a little bit about the work and your goals for the manuscript.
- If you signed up for coaching (such as the college essay coaching) simply wait for the coach to contact you and schedule an appointment.

The email will be sent to the email listed in your shopping cart, so ensure that it is correct. If you do not receive this email after making the purchase, check your spam folder and folders to make sure it did not get filtered. If you still don't see it, contact manuscripts@loft.org.

Purchase Agreement

- All editorial services entail respect for your intellectual property and confidentiality for both your work and the feedback you receive.
- Your purchase guarantees the services listed such as an editorial letter and a follow-up by phone or email; anything else (such as reading further drafts) is at the discretion of the reviewer.
- We do the best we can to estimate a fair turnaround time, but can only guarantee a specific return date if you contact us in advance to check on editor availability. Email manuscripts@loft.org with a description of the manuscript, the length, and a few pages.
- If the reviewer cannot meet the promised turnaround time (plus a reasonable grace period), we will let you know, along with a projected date when you can receive your feedback. You have the option of accepting the new turnaround time (with no discount or rebate), canceling the product and receiving a refund, or transferring to a different reviewer (which may involve additional payment or a partial refund).
• We recommend standard manuscript formatting for all prose projects, including picture books: letter-sized paper, one inch margins, 12 pt. Roman font (e.g., Times New Roman), double-spaced, paragraphs indented .5”.
• The length of the reviewer’s reply is an estimate and may be slightly shorter or slightly longer depending on the needs of the manuscript and the issues to address.
• Reviews of manuscripts are subjective by nature. There are no refunds for feedback that you disagree with. Refunds will only be considered if the feedback does not meet reasonable standards of quality and professionalism.
• It is highly recommended you share a brief note about your goals for the critique with your manuscript so the reviewer can best help you. You are welcome and encouraged to contact us (manuscripts@loft.org) with a note about your goals before you sign up, to confirm the editor feels those goals are realistic.