

KAREN J. RENNER, PH.D.

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PROFILE

Editor and writer with a PhD in English and 16 years of university teaching. Specializes in idea-driven nonfiction and speculative fiction across every stage of the writing process, from structural planning through line-level polish. Brings together rigorous scholarly training, hands-on publishing experience, and a long record of guiding writers through complex, book-length projects.

EDITORIAL EXPERIENCE

Book Editing

Developmental Editor

- *The Five-Percent Method: A Professional Framework for Building Consistency in Futures Trading*, by J. Warren Cooper. Forthcoming from Greenlamp Publishing.
- *Scents of War*, by Jennifer Guyer. Self-published, 2022. ISBN# 979-8218094638.

Volume Editor

- Led editorial processes--soliciting submissions and peer reviews, providing and curating feedback, working with authors on content, style, and format, preparing manuscripts for production team, and proofing final copy--for 3 book-length projects.
 - *Emerging Trends in 21st-Century Horror. LIT: Literature Interpretation Theory*, 2023.
 - *The 'Evil Child' in Literature, Film and Popular Culture*. Routledge, 2013.
 - *Representations of the Apocalypse. LIT: Literature Interpretation Theory*, 2012.

Managing Editor, *The Cambridge Encyclopedia of the Language Sciences* (2006-2008)

- Managed submissions, peer review, copyediting, and indexing for a 1M-word reference work published by Cambridge University Press in 2009.

Copyeditor

- *The Art of Macro Photography*, by Bruce D. Taubert and Amy Brooks Horn. Horndesigns Photography, 2018.
- *Home: Autobiographies, etc.*, by William Heyen. Mammoth, 2005.
- *Making Nature Sacred: Literature, Religion, and the Environment in America from the Puritans to the Present*, by John Gatta. Oxford UP, 2004.

Journal and Magazine Editing

Senior Editor, *Journal of Children in Popular Culture* (2016-Present)

- Reviewed 4-6 articles per year, providing assessment, developmental feedback, and publication guidance.

Founder and Editor in Chief, *The Tunnels* (2017-2020)

- Launched and managed online literary/critical magazine. Oversaw editorial calendar, student staff of 20, and launch events. Solicited submissions, provided editorial guidance, and coordinated digital publication design and workflow.

Managing Editor, *LIT: Literature Interpretation Theory* (2006-2007)

- Oversaw editorial and issue planning for a Taylor & Francis academic journal with an annual usage of 28,000 views and downloads.

Manuscript Assessment and Review

Academic Peer Reviewer

- Outside reviewer of book-length manuscripts from MIT Press, University of Mississippi Press, University of Wales Press, Routledge, and McFarland.
- Outside reviewer of book proposals from University Press of Mississippi, Palgrave Macmillan, Routledge, and Wallflower.
- Outside reviewer of journal articles for *PMLA*, *Sexuality and Culture*, *Style*, *ESQ*, *Children's Literature Association Quarterly*, and *Concentric*.

Jury Member and Chair, Stoker Awards (2018-2023)

- Reviewed and evaluated hundreds of speculative fiction short story collections annually. Solicited manuscripts from publishers and authors, compiled jury feedback, and prepared preliminary ballot.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- Author of *Evil Children in the Popular Imagination* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2016) and 50+ additional works across academic journals, essay collections, and public platforms.

COACHING AND MENTORSHIP EXPERIENCE

- Chaired 2 MA theses and served on 8 MFA thesis committees, providing sustained developmental guidance on book-length academic and creative projects.
- Helped students develop work through to publication in academic journals (*Journal of Popular Film and Radio*, *Journal of Popular Culture*) and online magazines (*Eclectica Magazine*, *Dread Central*).
- Mentored 40+ students on independent projects.
- Designed and delivered 90+ writing-focused courses at undergraduate and graduate level, providing instruction to over 2,000 students.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Professor of English, Northern Arizona University (2010–2026)

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- “The Longform Feature,” with Brendan Spiegel, Co-Founder and Editorial Director of *Narratively*, 2024.
- Columbia Publishing Course, 2021.
- Gotham Writers Workshops: “Nonfiction Book Proposal,” “Science Fiction & Fantasy Writing,” “Feature Article Writing,” “Essay & Opinion Writing,” and “Publishing Short Nonfiction.”

EDUCATION

Ph.D., English, University of Connecticut, 2010

M.A., English, The College at Brockport (Brockport, NY), 1998

B.S., Mathematics and English, The College at Brockport (Brockport, NY), 1995