

# I'm Blair.

## Let's make books together.



Hi there! I'm Blair Thornburgh, a professional editor, published author, writing coach, and all-around book nerd and grammar geek.

I started The Author Studio so I could do more of what I love (and what I'm best at): helping authors make their books shine.

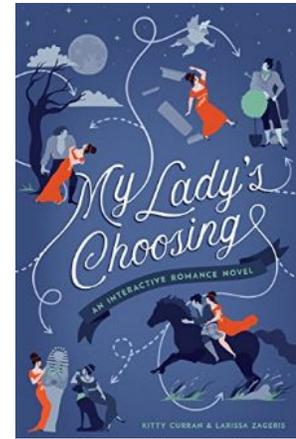
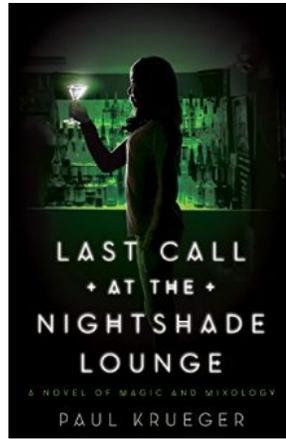
### My experience

I've spent over six years in the publishing industry, including five and a half as a Senior Editor at Quirk Books, where I've edited NYT, indie, and international bestsellers. I earned my MFA from Hamline University in 2017, and am the author of four published books myself, one non-fiction book with Quirk Books, two YA novels with Harper Teen, and one picture book with Atheneum/S&S. I've also worked with indie authors forging their own career path and literary agents boosting authors to new heights.

- Member, Editorial Freelancers Association
- Member, Romance Writers of America
- Member, Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators
- Honoree, Publishers Weekly Star Watch 2017
- B.A. in Medieval Studies, University of Chicago; MFA in Creative Writing, Hamline University
  - Winner, Frances and Kermit Rudolf Award for Non-Fiction
- Former intern, Folio Literary Management
- Former English language and grammar consultant, Sit on the SAT®

# My portfolio

Here's a brief sampling of the books I'm proudest of working on:



<p><b>Geekerella</b> By Ashley Poston</p>	<p><b>Last Call at the Nightshade Lounge</b> By Paul Krueger</p>	<p><b>The Fangirl's Guide to the Galaxy</b> By Sam Maggs</p>	<p><b>My Lady's Choosing</b> By Kitty Curran and Larissa Zageris</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Spring 2017 Kids Indie Next List Pick</li> <li>• Goodreads Choice Award finalist for Best YA Fiction</li> </ul> <p>“Geekerella has ‘must-read’ written all over it [...] simply delightful.” —USA Today's Happy Ever After</p> <p>“A celebration of fandom and happily ever afters, this feel-good reimagining hits all the right notes.” —Publishers Weekly</p> <p>“Fairytale and fandom collide in this sweet, heartfelt, entertaining rom-com.” —Bustle</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Amazon Best Book of the Month</li> <li>• Over 700 four- and five-star reviews on Goodreads</li> </ul> <p>“Krueger’s enjoyable light contemporary fantasy novel will satisfy fans of bars and bartenders...the winning main characters and the occasional histories of the drinks provide plenty of fun.” —Publishers Weekly</p> <p>“The main character makes this book great, as the voice and insight are believable and fun. This book will appeal to a wide range of sf fans.” —Booklist</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Globe and Mail</i> bestseller (Canada)</li> <li>• Nearly 2,000 four- and five-star reviews on Goodreads</li> </ul> <p>“If you or someone else in your life could do with an inclusive, funny, super smart, and sweet introduction to the world of female geeks, look no further.” —The Mary Sue</p> <p>“Short, thorough, wide-spread, funny, and varied—I wish I'd had this handbook when I first ventured into the fanzones!” —Tamora Pierce, author of <i>The Song of the Lioness</i> series</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Over 775 four- and five-star reviews on Goodreads</li> <li>• Indie bestseller</li> </ul> <p>“An enticing romp.” —Entertainment Weekly</p> <p>“A Byronic hero, a Highlander and a scandalous aristocratic lady as potential lovers? We’re sold.” —BookPage</p> <p>“...this Choose Your Own Adventure style romance is addictive [...] gleefully over the top.” —Smart Bitches, Trashy Books</p>

## My testimonials

I find working with my clients and helping them key into their stories to be a blast—and the books end up stronger, deeper, tighter, and compulsively readable. But don't take my word for it!

"I received **11 requests** and **an offer of rep** last week! Thanks for your edits and being a part of the querying process. I appreciate it so much."

—Brian Z., YA magical realism

"Blair's knowledge and her in-depth analysis of my manuscripts at The Author Studio **exceeded all expectations** for a truly professional edit of my works. I highly would recommend her to anyone as **the best editor I have encountered**. I will never change again!"

—Tom Haase, author of the [Coastal Adventure](#) series

"I just had to let you know that the book is doing **fantastic on Amazon**. It's #1 in two categories and #6 in a third on Free Kindle [...] **I couldn't have done it without you!**"

—Louisa B., historical fiction

"**I already feel like a better writer** just looking at some of your notes. I have to be honest, I never really wanted to spend money on my writing...but something about **you and your enthusiasm for my story** really, REALLY made me want to say yes."

—James G., middle grade fantasy

"Thank you for your feedback. Your notes and comments **help with the flow greatly**."

—Janice M., contemporary romance

"Your comments are very helpful because they are specific and you give me suggestions. [...] Thank you again, **this is amazing feedback!**"

—Jennifer M., YA dystopian

"Blair, you are the BEST!!!! Thank you so much for your kind words and amazing assessment!!!! **I can't wait to start revising**—you rock!!!"

—Kat M., YA contemporary

"Blair was great to work with. She provided **precise edits** and recommendations as well as brief comments which made me smile throughout the book. I would love to work with her on another project in the future."

—Ashley M., YA contemporary

“Blair was **exactly the type of editorial professional I was looking for** to help me in the next step of my book. She was **timely and deeply thoughtful** in the insightful suggestions she offered. She gave me specific examples of how to grow my main character and suggested resources that would further help me with enhancing my story. Thanks Blair, for the constructive feedback and the positive collaboration!”

—Renée W., *YA contemporary*

“Blair was great! She was friendly, and open when messaging back and forth. Her feedback was **insightful and kind**. While she was pointing out issues with my manuscript I didn't feel like she was putting it down. I felt she genuinely wanted my novel to succeed, and just wanted to give me the **tools to make that happen**.”

—Lou W., *YA fantasy*

“When I spied Blair Thornburgh's profile, I had a solid hunch she'd be **the perfect development editor** for my novel draft—and I wasn't disappointed! She pored over every inch of my novel, organizing her thoughts, observations and ideas into **well-organized notations and an incisive editorial letter**. Her critiques were surprising but also on point, while her praise was genuine and heartfelt.”

—Coleman G., *urban fantasy*

“I'm very happy with Blair's work. I'm working on my first book, which is going to be the first in a series. It's very important to me that I start it off well. I began having an issue with confidence, to the point where it was getting in the way of my writing. Blair recommended an editorial assessment based on what I have so far. It was the **exact sort of feedback I needed**.”

—Adriana J., *YA fantasy*

## My interests

Of course, I don't spend *all* my time editing. I also love cooking, yoga, strong black coffee, long walks through my small Pennsylvania town, dogs and puppies of all types, lipstick that doesn't flake, and a strong and spicy Bloody Mary.

Enough about me. Want to get in touch?

Email me: [hello@theauthorstudio.co](mailto:hello@theauthorstudio.co)

View my [profile](#) on the EFA website

Read [The Author Studio blog](#)

Take care and write well!

Blair