

## Ooligan Press Editorial Department

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July 20, 2020

Jennifer Hanlon Wilde  
*Finding the Vein*  
Medium Copyedit Editorial Note

Dear Jen:

It has been such a pleasure to work on this copyedit for *Finding the Vein*! You made some really thoughtful changes in the last round that helped smooth out the remaining wrinkles and tie everything together, and overall the manuscript is in great shape. I called this a “medium” copyedit because I didn’t want my team of editors to be too hesitant to dive in and make changes if they needed to, but the manuscript was so clean that this edit ended up being fairly light. Since most of the heavy lifting has already been done, this editorial note will be significantly shorter than the previous one.

The purpose of this final copyedit is to polish language and sentence structure, to resolve any remaining inconsistencies, and to fix any grammatical or syntactical errors that weren’t caught in previous rounds. This is our last chance to make revisions. Though there will be an opportunity to resolve small, indisputable errors during the print proofread, after you review this last round of copyediting the text will be considered mostly final, with very little room for changes. As always, my team of editors worked hard to give this manuscript the care and attention it deserves, and I’ve personally reviewed all of their suggestions to ensure consistency.

Once again, I’ve included an updated word list from the individualized style sheet we created for this project. And as a refresher, here is a brief overview of how we’ve made our editorial decisions:

- We deferred to *Merriam-Webster’s Collegiate Dictionary* for most spelling and hyphenation choices.
- All style choices were based on the seventeenth edition of *The Chicago Manual of Style (CMOS)* and feedback from the editing team.

### Formatting

One thing you will notice about the updated manuscript is that it includes some new front and back matter: there is now a copyright page and an Ooligan Press credits page. These materials are mainly just placeholders at this point, and you don’t need to worry about editing them—neither have been completely filled in yet. The press credits page at the end of the manuscript will be used to recognize all the Ooligan staff members who worked on the book, but their names won’t be added until the proofreading stage.

One item related to formatting that still needs to be ironed out is whether you’d like to standardize the chapter headings. As of now, not all of the chapter headings have both a date and a time stamp. Some have one or the other while other chapter headings have both. In some instances, like successive chapters which occur on the same date but at later times, I understand

why you would have omitted the date. However, many of our editors suggested that standardizing the chapter headings (i.e., chapter number, date, time) would create the smoothest and most consistent reading experience. Whether you choose to standardize a heading across all chapters or not, I've queried a few of the chapter headings which don't currently have a time stamp but could definitely benefit from one for you to review.

## **Character and Narrative**

You did a fantastic job of revising characters and clearing up narrative inconsistencies in the last round. Thanks to your hard work, we only have a few character-related concerns left to address. Bailey, the project manager for your book, worked on the copyedit and had several really great comments and suggestions which I have left in queries on the manuscript with the heading "From Bailey." I will also detail a few of those points here.

First, we need to clarify which of Paul's thighs the EpiPens were injected into. On page 10 of the manuscript, Paul injects his EpiPen into his right thigh, but on page 93 he has puncture wounds on his "left quadriceps." This should be a relatively easy fix, remedied by simply choosing which leg you wish for him to receive the injections in and adjusting the wording accordingly.

Next, Katie's last name has two different spellings in the current version of the manuscript: Mattson (pages 52, 162) and Martinson (page 125). I've queried all three instances of her name for you to review.

As for a few concerns related to character behavior and narrative, some of our editors expressed that they were unclear on what Hal's motivation was for removing the wire on his way from the lodge to the infirmary when he realized Genevieve was the actual killer. It's also never explicitly stated in this version of the manuscript that Hal removes the wire; we only find out this has happened on page 227 when Mikie tells her dad about how the case unfolded. You might consider discussing Hal's choice to remove the wire as well as adding a description of him physically removing it in the scene.

Additionally, Genevieve never actually confesses to tampering with the EpiPens or with Paul's clarinet; Hal simply surmises these things and she doesn't deny them, and neither the EpiPens nor the clarinet are ever recovered. This seems like an intentional choice on your part to leave the ending more ambiguous, but we've received pretty consistent feedback that readers desired an ending in which the mystery around what happened to Paul was definitely solved.

## **Language and Sentence Structure**

Since we've reached the polishing stage, many of the edits in this round were minor changes involving comma usage, clarity, and overall sentence flow. In some places, clauses were moved or omitted in order to tighten up sentences and increase their clarity and impact. I only did so when I felt it would really improve the reading experience, and I often included an explanatory comment along with the change.

You'll notice that I removed the hyphens we had previously inserted to stand in for em dashes in Isaac's emails. While our intention was to use a form of punctuation which seemed more realistic for Isaac to use in emails to his therapist and parents, the hyphens ended up confusing our editors and effectively took them out of the scene. To remedy this, I removed the hyphens

and used other forms of punctuation (periods, commas, and semicolons) in their place depending on what each sentence called for. I feel like this change is a more natural one, since it seems unlikely that Isaac would use hyphens *or* em dashes, and I think it creates a less visually-jarring experience for the reader.

## Revision Process

As a quick refresher for how complete your revisions, make sure to turn Track Changes on before making any changes to the manuscript. You'll find the option to toggle Track Changes on and off under the "Review" tab of your Microsoft Word page.

When reviewing the corresponding manuscript document ("Finding the Vein Full MS - Medium CE Compiled.docx") with Track Changes turned on, you'll want to either "Accept" or "Reject" each edit you see. Similarly, for each of the queries in the manuscript, you can right-click on the comment and either "Reply" if you want to respond to the comment, or "Delete" if you have addressed the edit indicated in the query and don't need to tell me anything.

After you finish accepting/rejecting the edits and making any of your own, please send the file back.

As always, don't hesitate to reach out to me with any questions or concerns. I'm looking forward to seeing your revisions and to forging ahead with your wonderful book!

Take care,

Erica Wright  
Copy Chief  
Ooligan Press

**Word and Style Consistency List**

<p><b>A–C</b>          Adventist Medical Center          afterward (but afterwards is okay in dialogue)          all right (not alright)          bass line (not bassline)          Bible study (not Bible Study)          binge-watch (not binge watch)          blond (never blonde)          boathouse (not boat house)          Capture the Flag (not capture the flag)          cell phone (not cellphone)          counselor in training (CIT)</p>	<p><b>D–F</b>          DA (not D.A.)          damn it          Diet Coke (not diet Coke)          dilly-dally          double take (not double-take)          downtime (not down time)          elbow tag (not Elbow Tag)          Emanuel Medical Center          epinephrine, epi (in reference to the chemical, not the device)          EpiPen (not epi-pen or epi pen)          EpiPen Jr          Everybody's It (not everybody's it)          face-to-face (hyphenated)          fauxhawk (not faux-hawk)          finger stick (open as a noun; not fingerstick)          firepit (not fire pit)          First aid (not first-aid)          fish sticks (not fishsticks)          flip-flops          Freddy's (nickname for Fred Meyer stores as listed on the Fred Meyer website; not Freddie's)          French toast (not french toast)          full-court press (not full court press)</p>
<p><b>G–I</b>          God (capitalized, as in "Thank God")          gonna (slang for use in dialogue only)          google, Google (lowercased as a verb, capitalized as a noun)          gray (not grey, except in Earl Grey)          half brother (not half-brother)          Interstate 84          IO needle (not I.O. needle)</p>	<p><b>J–L</b>          lagginess          lights-out</p>
<p><b>M–O</b>          MacBook          mils (short for milliliters; used in dialogue)          Nikes          NovoLog (not novolog)          Nursey (capitalized)          Off! Deep Woods spray          okay (not OK)          OxyContin (not oxycontin or Oxycontin)</p>	<p><b>P–S</b>          peds (as in pediatrics, use the abbreviation for conversations)          percent (spelled out with a numeral in front, like 100 percent)          Pillow Pets (capitalized)          pisco sours (lowercased)          polka-dot (as an adjective before a noun, as in "polka-dot umbrella")          pre-med (hyphenated)          razzle-dazzle          Reese's Cup, peanut butter cup (only capitalized with Reese's)          role-playing (not role playing)          rock 'n' roll          Sharks and Minnows (not sharks and minnows)</p>

	<p>the States (capitalized when referring to the United States)          Skater Boy (Joon's nickname)          statie, staties (slang reference to state law enforcement)          'Sup (short for "what's up?")          superhacker (not super hacker or super-hacker)          Sometime (not some time)</p>
<p><b>T–V</b>          TARDIS (not tardis)          terra-cotta (not terracotta)          thingy (for dialogue only)          'til (short for until)          toward (not towards)          T-shirt (not T shirt)          under-twelves (not under twelves)          U.S.</p>	<p><b>W–Z</b>          Wi-Fi          Ziploc</p>