

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES FOR CEDAR GROVE PUBLISHING

Cedar Grove is a publisher of adult, children's, YA fiction and nonfiction, especially books that celebrate BIPOC/LGBTQIA+'s diversity and inclusion. This spirit of diversity also extends to people and places that do not often get "seen" in books, movies, and TV. We are very interested in reading your work. To make sure we are able to, and that you are the right fit for us, we ask that you review the guidelines below before submitting.

We do not publish poetry, textbooks, educational materials, or erotica.

We are closed to children's book submissions until 2025.

We are willing to review unsolicited and non-agented manuscripts, and accept submissions twice a year. Our open submission periods are **March 1- April 1** and **September 1 – October 1**. Please submit during these times only. **If you submit outside of these times, your manuscript will not be read.**

Please submit manuscripts and artwork queries submit by email only to:
submissions@cedargrovebooks.com.

This is the only way Cedar Grove can accept manuscripts and queries. Unsolicited manuscripts sent to our postal address will be discarded.

Please be patient when submitting a synopsis or query. Each will be reviewed in turn. Expect a two- to four-month delay before receiving a response. Do not send repeated submissions or queries on the status or your original submission. We understand that, in order to maximize their chances of acceptance, you may send the same submission to many publishers (i.e., "simultaneous submission"). This is reasonable, but would appreciate you letting us know somewhere in your query or cover letter. This will not lessen your chances of acceptance.

GENERAL GUIDELINES

In your submission, please include

1. A brief summary. This should be what's called an elevator pitch: if you had a few minutes to sell someone on your idea, what would you say?
2. A longer summary. Here's where you give the outline of the book.
3. Thoughts on where you think your book fits in the market. What age range are you writing for? What books are similar to it? How does it differ from other books of its type?
4. A writing sample. For adult or YA fiction and nonfiction, approximately three chapters. Usually, this is the first three, but try to include representative chapters. We'll always want to see the first chapter, but if your book has several very different settings, consider including chapters that show how you write those settings. (If you do this, be sure to label where chapters appear in the book.)

For children's books, include as much of the book as you think is necessary. If the book is a picture book, this may be the whole manuscript.

5. A brief author biography.
6. If it is illustrated, please attach a sample of the artwork. Two pieces will be sufficient. If accepted, this is not a guarantee that we will elect to keep that illustrator.

A NOTE ON SERIES BOOKS:

If you believe your book (either fiction or nonfiction) has series potential, feel free to mention it. However, pitch us on the book, not the series. We need to know that the book will stand on its own. This doesn't apply to a story that's one unified narrative, but could be published in multiple volumes (e.g., *The Lord of the Rings*). If you have the entire story planned out already, and suspect it will need to be broken up into several books, pitch the story like it's one book. If your pitch is accepted, we will discuss the best way to publish your story.

FICTION GUIDELINES

We are interested in genre fiction, especially sci-fi/fantasy, action-adventure, horror, mystery/thrillers. We will consider romance, but not erotica. We will also consider general or "realistic" fiction. Most of all, we are interested in fiction that is well-written, with a strong authorial voice and sense of place.

NONFICTION GUIDELINES

We publish books on the subjects of food, art, spirituality, mind/body/spirit, and motivation. Be sure to include as part of your proposal information on why the reader should consider you an authority. This doesn't have to mean formal credentials -- if your life story makes your argument for you, tell some of that. (A good example here is self-help: you don't have to be an academic who studies success, or the head of a Fortune 500 company, but if you've used the methods in your book to dramatically turn your life around, we need to know that.)

GRAPHIC NOVEL GUIDELINES

Follow the same subject matter guidelines as above. Please include character designs and at least three representative pages. If the final work will consist of colored line art, please include color and B&W pages. Please include one page that is lettered, if applicable.

ILLUSTRATORS

Please provide samples (if you work in a number of styles, we appreciate seeing samples of each style) in an Internet ready format, such as JPEG or PDF. We will keep your query and samples on file for a year and will contact you if we have a project suitable for your talents.

We will need to know the following:

Date created, medium used, prices at which you'll work, the length of time in which you can accomplish a project.