



SUBMISSIONS

At **Olive Press Publishing**, we believe great books can come from anywhere.

We welcome **new and established authors, agented and unagented submissions, and hybrid authors** looking for a publishing home for their next story. You do not need thousands of followers or an established publishing career to submit to us. We are interested in authors who are passionate about their work, understand the importance of building a readership, and want to grow their writing career.

We are a boutique independent publisher dedicated to publishing compelling fiction. **We aren't looking for every book. We're looking for the right books for Olive Press.**

WE ARE A PUBLISHER - NOT A VANITY PRESS.

Olive Press Publishing is **not a vanity press or paid-to-publish service.**

Authors do not purchase a publishing package from us in order to have their books published. We select manuscripts we believe are a strong fit for our list and invest in bringing them to readers.

Upon **final acceptance**, Olive Press handles the publishing and production process, including:

- ISBN assignment
- Metadata
- Professional cover design
- Interior formatting
- Ebook publication
- Paperback publication
- Preorder campaigns

- ARC and reader outreach
- Marketing support
- Publication through Amazon KDP
- Kindle Unlimited availability
- Paperback distribution through IngramSpark

We also announce preorder campaigns with **select independent bookstores** when opportunities arise and they fit the title.

WHAT WE PUBLISH

Olive Press publishes **fiction across all genres**. We are particularly interested in commercially compelling stories with strong characters, distinctive voices, emotional depth, and excellent storytelling.

Our list may include:

- Romance
- Contemporary Romance
- Dark Romance
- Historical Romance
- Romantic Fantasy
- Fantasy
- Young Adult
- New Adult
- Contemporary Fiction
- Historical Fiction
- Women's Fiction
- Paranormal Fiction
- Mystery
- Thriller
- Suspense
- Horror
- And other commercially viable fiction

Our acquisitions priorities may change over time as we respond to **reader interests, market research, genre trends, and emerging tropes.** Certain genres, themes, or tropes may therefore receive **priority** during specific submission periods.

WHAT WE'RE LOOKING FOR

We want books that make us want to keep reading.

We look for:

Strong Writing

Your manuscript should demonstrate a clear understanding of storytelling, structure, characterization, dialogue, pacing, and prose.

Memorable Characters

We want characters readers can become invested in - whether they love them, hate them, relate to them, or simply cannot stop thinking about them.

Compelling Plots

Give us a reason to turn the page. We love stories with strong hooks, meaningful conflict, satisfying arcs, and plots that keep moving.

Great Dialogue

Dialogue should feel natural, purposeful, and true to your characters.

A Distinctive Voice

We want authors who sound like themselves. We aren't looking for writing that feels manufactured or interchangeable.

Emotional Impact

Make us laugh. Make us cry. Make us furious. Make us fall in love. Most importantly, make us feel something that only you can offer/write.

Commercial Potential

We are a business, and publishing is a business. We consider the current market, reader demand, genre trends, tropes, positioning, and the potential audience for each project.

PLEASE DON'T SUBMIT YOUR FIRST DRAFT!

Before submitting, your manuscript should have gone through some form of critique or editing.

That may include feedback from:

- Alpha readers
- Beta readers
- Critique partners
- Writing groups
- Writing mentors
- Professional editors
- Literary agents
- Personal assistants
- Other trusted publishing professionals
- Fellow writers

You do **not** need to have hired an expensive professional editor before submitting to us. What matters is that you've taken the time to make your manuscript the best version of itself. **Please do not submit a manuscript simply because you've finished typing "The End."** We want to see the manuscript after you've revised it.

ROMANCE SUBMISSIONS PLEASE READ!

Important: Olive Press does not acquire romance novels written in third person.

Romance submissions must be written in **first person**. Please make sure your manuscript meets this requirement before submitting.

NOVELS & NOVELLAS

We are currently accepting both **novels and novellas**.

NOVELS

40,000–120,000 words (We prefer no more than 100,000 words however)

NOVELLAS

Under 40,000 words

Your word count should be appropriate for your genre and the type of book you are submitting.

WHAT WE DO NOT ACCEPT

To protect the kind of publishing environment we want to create for our authors and readers, Olive Press does not accept manuscripts containing or centered around the following:

- Pedophilia
- Bestiality
- Incest
- Rape used as sexual titillation
- Necrophilia
- Extreme "pitch-black" content
- Plagiarism
- AI-written manuscripts
- Unauthorized copyrighted material
- Song lyrics or substantial copyrighted text
- Manuscripts submitted by anyone under 18

We also do not accept:

- A book that is already part of a series that was started or published elsewhere
- Manuscripts for which the author does not control the necessary publishing rights
- Previously published works without relevant sales information
- Previously published works whose rights are unavailable to Olive Press

Please be transparent about your manuscript's publication history.

If your work has been previously published or independently released, tell us. We would rather have complete information when evaluating your submission.

AI-GENERATED CONTENT

Olive Press does **not** accept manuscripts written using generative artificial intelligence. We want to publish the author's own voice, creativity, imagination, and storytelling.

Do not submit AI-generated manuscripts!!

YOUR SUBMISSION PACKAGE

A complete submission to Olive Press consists of **three documents**:

1. YOUR FIRST THREE CHAPTERS

2. YOUR QUERY LETTER

3. YOUR SYNOPSIS

Incomplete submissions may **not** be considered.

YOUR AUTHOR PLATFORM

You do **not** need thousands of followers to submit to Olive Press. We are interested in authors who are **willing** to actively participate in building their readership and developing their writing career.

A meaningful social media presence can mean:

- Regularly engaging with readers
- Talking about your books
- Participating in the writing community
- Building genuine connections
- Promoting your work
- Creating content

- Maintaining an author newsletter or website
- Showing a willingness to learn about book marketing

A social media presence is about engagement, not simply follower count. We may give priority to authors who demonstrate a willingness to **actively** market their books and grow their careers alongside Olive Press.

UNDERSTAND PUBLISHING CONTRACTS

Before submitting, authors should have a basic understanding of what entering into a publishing contract means. You do not need to be a publishing attorney. However, you should understand that a publishing contract is a **legally binding agreement** that may address matters such as rights, royalties, publication obligations, contract length, termination, and other responsibilities.

Olive Press will answer reasonable questions about the contracts we offer. However, **we do not have the ability to provide one-on-one publishing contract education or walk every prospective author through the fundamentals of a publishing agreement.**

If you are unfamiliar with publishing contracts, we strongly encourage you to seek independent professional advice before signing.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Where are Olive Press books published?

Our titles are published digitally through **Amazon KDP and Kindle Unlimited**, with paperback editions also published through **IngramSpark**.

Will my book be promoted to independent bookstores?

Olive Press announces preorder campaigns with **select independent bookstores** when opportunities are available and appropriate for the title. Bookstore participation is not guaranteed for every release.

Will my book be stocked in independent and major bookstores?

There is no guarantee. We pitch to major and independent bookstores, and they decide whether they want to stock the book. We do the back-end work, but the bookstore has the final say.

Will I receive feedback if my manuscript is rejected?

Due to the volume of submissions we receive, we generally cannot provide individualized editorial feedback on manuscripts we decline.

Do you file copyright?

No. If authors wish to file a copyright, they are welcome to do so, but the press does not file a copyright at this time.

Do you print all your books?

No. The press only prints novel-length stories. The work should be over 40,000 words to be considered for print.

A FINAL NOTE BEFORE YOU SUBMIT

Please remember that every submission represents an author's time, creativity, and hard work. We respect that. We also ask our authors to respect the time and work that goes into acquisitions. **Read the guidelines. Follow the instructions. Submit your strongest work.** We are not looking for perfection. We are looking for authors who care about their craft, understand that publishing is a collaborative process, and are ready to take the next step in their careers. If that sounds like you, we would love to meet your manuscript.