



AUTHOR INFORMATION

Ellora's Cave Publishing, Inc. of the USA

Ellora's Cave, Ltd. Of the UK

1056 Home Avenue

Akron, OH 44310-3502

www.EllorasCave.com

www.CerridwenPress.com

CEO/President: Patricia Marks (Jasmine-Jade Enterprises/Ellora's Cave)

Publisher: Raelene Gorlinsky

Editor-in-Chief: Kelli Collins

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

Forbes Magazine – June 2007

The Wall Street Journal – June 2007

Who's Afraid of Happy Endings? – Canadian documentary on BRAVO, March 2007

The Dominion Post (Australia) - August 2006

Detroit Free Press – Front page, August 2006

Charleston Daily Mail – July 2006

Publishers Weekly – July 2006

Cleveland Plain Dealer – June 2006

Baltimore Sun – June 2006

Columbus Dispatch – May 2006

The Washington Post – April 2006

The Montel Show – *Debt to Millionaire* – July 14, 2005

Publisher Spices Up Novels – cover story, *Daily Kent Stater* – February 25, 2005

Romance Novels Go Hardcore – Sunday Arts cover story, *The Cleveland Plain Dealer* Newspaper, October 2004

The Great Escape – cover story, *Weekly Planet* Newspaper, June 2004

Best Book Publisher – *Preditors & Editors Readers Poll* 2003

E-Publishing Gone Wild – cover story, *Romantic Times Book Club* Magazine, Feb 2004

Best of 2002 – article feature at *Knowbetter.com*

Best Book Publisher – *Preditors & Editors Readers Poll* 2002

Favorite Publisher – *Sime-Gen Reviewer's Choice Award*, 2001

Best Book Publisher – *Preditors & Editors Readers Poll* 2001

Publishing home to over 400 writers, several of whom are best selling, award-winning, nationally recognized authors.

One of the highest grossing e-book publishers in existence (if not the highest).

Worldwide customer base from every continent (excluding Antarctica) and dozens of countries.

Ellora's Cave ~ Romantica® and Exotika™

www.EllorasCave.com

Ellora's Cave is THE place for erotic romances. Our site receives over 60,000 hits daily and averages sales of over 70,000 e-books per month. Our readership continues to grow by the thousands. Ellora's Cave is ALWAYS open to new submissions of erotic romances. See the submissions page on our website for more information.

Ellora's Cave **Romantica®** (erotic romances) must be *both* erotic and romantic.

~ The sexual relationship must be integral to and an important element of the storyline and the character development. Sex scenes should contribute to furthering the plot or affecting the development of the romantic relationship or the growth of the characters.

~ The story must include abundant and explicit sex and sexual tension, starting early and continuing throughout. Sex scenes must be described in graphic detail and explicit wording, not delicate euphemisms or purple prose.

~ The story must meet the definition of a romance novel: the primary focus must be on the development of a romantic relationship, and there must be an emotionally satisfying committed ending for the main characters.

We also publish **Exotika™**, our line of quality erotica for women. These stories focus on a woman's sexual journey or adventures. Although they may contain a romance, they do not have that as the primary focus, the relationship does not need to be monogamous or end with commitment.

Story length is 10,000 to 125,000 words.

Cerridwen Press ~ Mainstream Fiction

www.CerridwenPress.com

Who better to name a publishing imprint after than Cerridwen, the Celtic Goddess of Wisdom? Cerridwen was the muse who brought inspiration to writers and others in the creative arts.

Cerridwen Press™ specializes in all the varieties of mainstream fiction, including science fiction, fantasy, paranormal, mystery/suspense, women's fiction, contemporary and historical romance, horror, and young adult. We do not publish non-fiction, poetry, children's literature, inspirational/religious stories, or category-style romances. (No secret baby, Big Misunderstanding, amnesiac in the storm, ex-SEAL-turned-sheriff, billionaire's secretary/mistress, or TSTL heroines.)

Book length is 30,000 to 125,000 words.

Cerridwen Cotillion, our line of Traditional Regency romances, launched in January 2007. Book length is 50,000 to 75,000 words.

At this time, we have an indefinite hold on new submissions to Cerridwen Press. Please check back with us in six months.

Ellora's Cave Publishing has an enthusiastic and experienced staff to support our authors in producing the best books on the market!

Editorial Department

Publisher: Raelene Gorlinsky (Raelene@ellorascave.com)

Editor-in-Chief: Kelli Collins (KelliK@ellorascave.com)

Ellora's Cave has a score of skilled and experienced editors working closely with our authors. These editors represent a combined total of two centuries of editing experience, not only in fiction, but also academic and technical fields, newspapers and magazines. Our editors have degrees in English, English Literature, Technical Communications, Business Administration, Professional Writing, and Journalism. They have diverse career experience in management, journalism, teaching, engineering, marketing, and public relations.

Our editors frequently judge professional writing contests, participate in industry conventions and speak at writing groups and conferences.

See our editorial blog at <http://redlinesanddeadlines.blogspot.com/> for advice and assistance for authors and aspiring authors.

Art Department

Chief Creative Officer: Darrell King (DarrellK@jasmine-jade.com)

Art Department Manager: Syneca Featherstone (Syneca@jasmine-jade.com)

Our art department produces more than 600 digital and print covers each year. We work with experienced illustrators/designers and photographers, including several award-winning artists, to create cutting edge cover art.

Cover art is created based on information provided by the author, incorporated with our experience in what type of cover best promotes and sells a book.

Advertising, Sales & Promotions

Chief Operations Officer & Media Relations: Susan Edwards (SusanE@jasmine-jade.com)

Vice President, Sales & Promotions: Jeania Uplinger (Jeania@jasmine-jade.com)

Ellora's Cave advertises heavily in magazines aimed at our target market, including RT BookReview, Bust, Complete Woman, Soap Opera Digest, REAL, Realms of Fantasy, and the New York Times Book Review. We are constantly evaluating the most effective promotional avenues.

EC has been featured in RT BookReview magazine and the Tampa Weekly Planet. We have had requests from numerous media sources for information and interviews. Our eye-catching tour bus is becoming a familiar site at promotional events!

Our participation in publishing industry conferences publicizes both EC and our authors. We support our authors in their own promotional efforts, including advertising and printed promotional material.

Submission Guidelines

Send an email to Submissions@ellorasave.com with an attached doc or rtf file.

~ brief professional cover email (genre and length of story; one or two paragraph blurb; previous publication credits; NO personal information or anything unrelated to the story)

~ detailed synopsis (2 to 4 pages describing setting and main characters, conflict, full plot and resolution)

~ the first three chapters and the final chapter of your manuscript (If it is a short story of 10-15,000 words, send the full manuscript)

Note: We are a publisher of electronic books (although most of our titles are also eventually issued in print). We do almost all our work electronically; **we do not accept paper submissions**. Communication is via e-mail. Editors and authors exchange electronic files of the manuscript at all stages. No paper submissions, no paper edits, no paper galleys.

Please be sure your submission has been thoroughly self-edited (and we highly recommend having frank critique partners look at it!), and has been proofread by someone other than yourself. It must be free of typos and grammatical errors. We suggest using one-inch margins and a variable-space, easy to read font (such as Times Roman, Arial, Book Antiqua), but we do not reject stories based on formatting.

Previously published authors: We will only consider your out-of-print books if you hold exclusive rights.

No manuscript will be considered that is in any way demeaning to an individual or group of people.

Although the line between erotica and pornography is oftentimes a fuzzy one, here are the big no-nos that we don't feel fuzzy about in the slightest:

- NO pedophilia.
- NO incest.
- NO rape as titillation. Rape may be used as part of the plot action, especially supporting character development, but MAY NOT be presented in a positive light or with the intent to stimulate erotic excitement or pleasure. The hero may not be a rapist.
- NO bodily functions as sexual activity (e.g., "golden showers").
- NO necrophilia.
- NO guns, knives or other weapons stuffed in various parts of the female anatomy. It's sad that this even has to be stated, but there it is.
- NO bestiality. This rule refers to common animals indigenous to Earth; this does *not* apply to shapeshifting protagonists and sentient "otherworldly" humanoid animals in sci-fi or fantasy.

Submission Tips from ECPI Editors

- Professional cover email. "This is the first impression. If the cover letter is riddled with errors or sounds very immature, I assume the story is the same way."
- Clear synopsis. "I want to know before spending the time reading the submission whether the story meets our guidelines, is appropriate for our market."
- Correct grammar and word usage, no typos.
- Is this something I would buy to read for myself?
- Believable and likeable characters.
- An emotional connection between characters, and the sensuality worked into the development of the romantic relationship.
- Good blend of dialogue and action.
- Intriguing and believable plot, no major holes, no "and a miracle occurred" resolutions.
- Originality: not the same plot elements and character types I can find in a hundred books.
- Clear POV, no head hopping.

Frequently Asked Questions

If I submit my manuscript to EC, what are the chances it will be published?

This fluctuates, so it's a difficult question to answer. Overall, we currently have an acceptance rate of roughly 4% for unsolicited submissions, which is very high for the industry.

Do I need an agent to submit a manuscript to EC?

No. Although some of our authors have agents, it is not necessary to have one in order to submit a manuscript to us for consideration.

How do I submit to Ellora's Cave or Cerridwen Press?

Electronic submissions only; no paper. Authors must be competent in MSWord, comfortable with email and online discussion loops. Read and follow the instructions contained in this document.

How long does it take to find out whether my manuscript has been accepted or rejected?

It depends on many factors, the most important one being how busy we are at the time we receive it. Submissions typically receive an initial response within six weeks. For those submissions selected for additional consideration, final decision could be several months.

What are Ellora's Cave's contract terms?

Full contract supplied for review upon acceptance of story.

Royalties: 37.5% for digital releases; 7.5 % for print books.

Length of grant of publishing rights: Life of copyright

Includes digital, print, audio, translation, and secondary/subsidiary rights.

Royalty payments contractually guaranteed quarterly, but in actuality we have always paid monthly.

How much money can I expect to make at EC?

That varies greatly from author to author. Royalty payments depend largely upon how many titles you have placed with us, how popular those titles become with readers, and how well you market your stories. It is important to remember that it takes an extreme amount of popularity with readers and quite a few available titles to make enough money at writing to live off the income, but we most certainly do have authors who make a VERY cushy living here.

I don't live in the United States. Can I still write for Ellora's Cave, Inc.?

We have authors located in Canada, Europe, Africa, the Middle East, Japan, Australia, and New Zealand. If your bank will accept checks in U.S. dollars drawn on an American bank, then yes, you can. We pay only by mailed paper check, no electronic payments. Bank fees are author's responsibility.

How To Be a Savvy—and Successful—Submitter

Raelene Gorklinsky, Publisher, Ellora's Cave Publishing Inc.

Before Submitting

1. Become a pro at your profession.
 - Learn your trade: join writer organizations, attend conferences, go to book signings.
 - Learn the industry: magazines like Publishers Weekly and RWR; publisher websites.
 - Know your “customers”: readers. Reviews, discussion lists, bulletin boards, RT BOOKReview.
 - Read. Read a lot. You can absorb writing techniques by seeing how other authors do it. This will also help you be aware of what sort of books are being published—and who’s publishing them.
2. Be sure your “product” is ready for sale.
 - Use critique partners and proofers. (Family members, close friends, or rabid fans do not count!)
 - Writer’s groups can be a great way to get feedback and find critique partners; they often sponsor conferences where you will have the opportunity to talk to editors, agents, and published writers.
 - Contests: A way to get feedback on your work. Especially consider those that use editors as judges. Nice for authors to mention wins in cover letter.
 - Story needs a great “grabbing” start to get and keep the editor’s attention. You only have a couple of pages to convince the editor to keep reading your submission.

Where to Submit: Learn the publishers and agents, what they are looking for. Be familiar with the books they publish or represent. Check out their websites. Ask questions. Send only to appropriate places!

Submission Guidelines: Read them, follow them. Use common sense.

Cover Letter/Email: Customize each submission letter. Make it fast to read; a quick summary of your story. Always be polite, don’t be too aggressive, sound confident but not overconfident.

Be Patient: Response times are often longer than stated. At least you know it wasn’t rejected at first glance.

When You Get a Response

Your story could be accepted or rejected, or the editor may ask you to revise it and resubmit it.

Reject: Don’t argue, it is pointless. A thank you note (brief, professional) is not necessary but is a nice touch; you may want to submit something else there in future. Face reality. Publishers are businesses, they have to turn a profit. They determine what is selling in their market and offer readers what, in that publisher’s judgment, they will buy. Your story may be very good, but just not something that is popular with readers at the moment or appropriate for that publisher’s market.

Revise and Resubmit: Yes, it’s a rejection, but the door is still open. The editor took a lot of time to analyze your story and explain what needs to be changed—so s/he must see a good bit of potential in it. Really think about the advice. If you don’t agree, or it doesn’t match what you feel for your story, you don’t need to take it; try submitting elsewhere. But if you keep getting similar advice...

Accept: Joy and celebration! Ask lots of questions early. Find out the process, the timeline; develop realistic expectations. This is your chance to be a “newbie”, your editor will be more tolerant now than later. Be professional and realistic in contract negotiations. Be responsible for understanding all the ramifications of your contract.

Get Published

Meet your deadlines. Be reasonable and cooperative about revisions. Remember that your editor has a lot of other books and authors to handle. Be friendly with your editor, but keep it professional. Find out how to handle future story submissions. You want to be multi-published!

Tina's Guide to Writing Romantica®

© Tina Engler, 2002

1. During “forced seductions”, redeeming the hero is crucial—nobody wants to read about a rapist. Make sure that the heroine clearly wants the situation to occur by the time there is penetration.
2. Strong heroines are a must. Women are much more interested in watching an independent female give a hero a run for his money and then submit than in reading about a weak creature who is a pathetic empty vessel waiting to be filled.
3. This is a take-off on point 2: “brave resistance” = money for author; “petulant heroine” = negative reviews. There is a fine line between brave resistance, giving the alpha male a run for his money, etc., and having the heroine be cruel, vicious, petulant, and unwilling to give the hero a break. Said heroines are trying to the nerves, induce gritting of the teeth, etc.
4. Monogamy = good, faithlessness = bad. This rule is for protagonists only. The beauty of erotic romance is your secondary characters can get away with anything, so if a particularly kinky idea occurs to you, have the secondary characters indulge in it. But for protagonist...be careful! The hero and heroine cannot have sexual penetration with anyone else once they have met. If you allow that to happen, you will receive angry emails from women all over the world.

That said, you CAN get away with sexual touching in sci-fi so long as it's done properly. In the *Trek Mi Q'an* series, for instance, there is something called a “Consummation Feast” where the heroine is brought to orgasm by the hands and mouths of 5 or more warriors before she's given to her mate for penetration. In the *Oath* series, there is the “linking” ritual which requires a male close to the hero to rub all over the heroine's naked body while she's orgasming. (You gotta love sci-fi!) *If the otherworld you built for your fantasy/futuristic setting includes multi-partner relationships, that is not “cheating”.*

5. Don't always write perfect heroines. I can't stress this enough. The occasional “babe” is okay, but they should be more of the exception to the rule than the rule itself. Write chubby heroines, passingly pretty heroines, average heroines, etc. , but not too many drop-dead gorgeous heroines. Remember that your readers include every race, every culture, every body type. Never refer to body fat in a bad way, for instance. Call it “pleasingly fleshly” or something of that nature.
6. Heroes are always tall, masculinely handsome (never pretty), muscular, and well-endowed. It doesn't matter who his heroine is...the hero is always yummy. Best selling heroes are also slightly obsessive—women readers love territorial males who stake claims right off the bat and focus their energies on one woman.
7. Vamps, futuristic/sci-fi, and MaleDom bondage sell the best.
8. **Always have a plot.**

Manuscript Submissions

submissions@ellorascave.com

Ellora's Cave

Romantica®: (Erotic Romances)

Taboo (BDSM)
Moderne (Contemporary)
Xanadu (Fantasy)
Aeon (Futuristic/SciFi)
Spectrum (Gay)
Legend (Historical)
Fusion (Interracial/Multicultural)
Sophisticate (Older Woman–Younger Man)
Twilight (Paranormal, Vampire, Shapeshifter)
Breathless (Romantic Suspense)
Voyager (Time Travel)
Lawless (Western–Contemporary and Historical)

Exotika: Erotica

Cerridwen Press

At this time, we have an indefinite hold on new submissions to Cerridwen Press. Please check back with us in six months.

Fiction:

Contemporary Fiction
Paranormal & Fantasy
Futuristic/Sci-Fi
Historical Fiction
Horror
Humor
Mystery/Suspense
Women's Fiction
Young Adult

Romances: Comedy, Contemporary, Fantasy, Futuristic/Sci-Fi,
Historical, Paranormal, Suspense

Cotillion: Traditional Regency Romances

How to Submit

All submissions for Ellora's Cave must be sent via email to Submissions@ellorascave.com. Send as a doc or rtf file:

- ~ brief professional cover email (genre and length of story; one or two paragraph blurb; previous publication credits; no personal information or anything unrelated to the story)
- ~ detailed synopsis (2 to 4 pages describing setting and main characters, conflict, full plot and resolution)
- ~ the first three chapters and the final chapter of your manuscript (If it is a short story of 10-15,000 words, send the full manuscript)

Include the following on the first page of the document *and* in the cover email:

Title
Author pen and real names & email address
Genre
Word count of full manuscript
Blurb (200 words max)

Note: We are an e-publisher and all our work is done electronically; we do not accept paper submissions or correspondence.

Please be sure your submission has been thoroughly self-edited (and we highly recommend having frank critique partners look at it!), and has been proofread by several skilled and experienced persons other than yourself. It must be basically free of typos and grammatical errors. We do not specify a required format and your manuscript will not be rejected due to formatting. We suggest using one-inch margins and a common, variable, serif font (such as Times Roman, Arial, Book Antiqua).

Notice for previously published authors: We will only consider your out-of-print books if you hold exclusive rights.

Please do not email to inquire about status of your submission. You will receive an initial response within eight weeks.

Ellora's Cave Theme Series

Several times a year we do a month of special themed erotic romanceshort stories. Guidelines:

- ~ Word count: 10K to 30K
- ~ Any genre
- ~ The story must significantly include the theme

For 2010, our still-open themes are about the arts:

May: "Poetic Passion": poetry/drama (no TV or movies) – submission deadline October 31, 2009

August: "Alluring Arts": classical creative arts (painting, drawing, sculpting, etc.) – submission deadline January 31, 2010

November: "Musical Magic": music/song – submission deadline April 30, 2010

When submitting, put "*theme* Submission: *title*" in the email message subject line. Attach a synopsis and the **full story** (since it is a short story).

Ellora's Cave EXOTIKA

Quality erotica stories for women. Guidelines:

- ~ 10K to 120K word count; any genre
- ~ Must be very hot and erotic
- ~ The focus is on the sexual relationship and activities, the "sexual journey" or adventure.
- ~ May certainly have romantic elements, but isn't a "romance"—that is, the story does not focus on the development of a romantic relationship, hero and heroine don't have to be sexually faithful to each other, not a committed-couple ending.
- ~ Sexual content follows the same rules as EC. We may be willing to stretch a bit further—but hey, we already go almost to the limit with EC erotic romances. Same taboo list: no pedophilia, incest, necrophilia, bodily functions, rape as titillation. Our market segment and our primarily female audience want quality erotica, not violence or extreme kink. Definitely no porn.
- ~ Must be well-written and with a well-developed plot and characterization!

When submitting, put "Exotika Submission: *title*" in the email message subject line.

What's Hot in the Market?

We are always open to submissions in *all* the genres we publish. But there is generally some genre that's hot in the market right now, for which we are especially interested in seeing submissions. At this time, we would love to see more: **Erotic Urban Fantasy**, **Interracial** and **Regency-set** erotic romances.

Re-Issues

ECPI has had admirable success with reissuing previously published titles from established, best-selling authors. (The author must have regained exclusive rights in order to re-sell to us.) New and old fans of authors appreciate this wonderful opportunity to buy backlist books that were out of print, available again as e-books and high-quality trade paperbacks.

Hunters for Hire Continuity Series

These are Futuristic/SciFi stories but must be primarily erotic romances. The background genre is SciFi, but each story must focus on the development of a romantic relationship enhanced with explicit sex, and concluding with an emotionally satisfying committed relationship.

The stories revolve around an organization known as Bounty Hunters, Inc., and take place in the year 2408. This group of men and women unite for a common goal, to rid the galaxy of the threats posed by the worst of the worst criminals. They are willing to do whatever it takes to capture their bounties and bring them in to collect their rewards. No job is too big or too small so long as the price is right.

Each story must be able to stand on its own while still being part of the series and using the predefined setting and background.

For more information and a copy of the series "bible", email coordinating author Heather Holland at Hunters@Heather-Holland.com . All submissions for the series must be sent to Submissions@Ellorascave.com; include "Hunters for Hire" in the Subject line along with your story title. (Please do not misdirect submissions to Heather.)