

Michael LaRocca  
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### **OVERVIEW**

I began editing in 1991. I spent over 8 years editing technical manuals, white papers, spec sheets, sales literature and business letters for an R&D/Engineering firm in the US. Then I moved to Asia, where I've spent over 8 years editing novels and white papers from all over the world, written by both native and non-native English speakers, and I've edited more than 300 published novels. I spent 4½ of those years teaching Advanced English Writing at several Chinese universities. Seven of my books (fiction and non-fiction) have been published in the USA.

### **RESIDENCE HISTORY**

I was born in Fayetteville, North Carolina, USA in 1963. I moved to Tampa, Florida, in 1977. I returned to North Carolina in 1990 and bought a home. In December 1999, I sold my home and moved to Hong Kong. In February 2002 I moved to Zhejiang Province, China. In July 2006 I moved to Chiang Mai, Thailand.

### **EMPLOYMENT HISTORY**

I began editing and proofreading for Scribendi (<http://www.scribendi.com>) in September 2008. My supervisor is Chandra Clarke, ICQ#13964951, [chandrac@scribendi.com](mailto:chandrac@scribendi.com).

I began editing for Twilight Times Books (<http://www.twilighttimesbooks.com/>) in May 2007. My supervisor is Lida Quillen, [publisher@twilighttimes.com](mailto:publisher@twilighttimes.com).

I began lecturing at Chiang Mai University in February 2007 on "How To Write A Scientific Paper." I've edited a number of white papers as a result, most of which have been published in international peer review journals. We're in the process of expanding my role to include papers not yet written and research grant applications. My supervisor is Dr. Bannakij Lojanapiwat, [blojanap@mail.med.cmu.ac.th](mailto:blojanap@mail.med.cmu.ac.th).

In July 2006, I opened an editing business called Calico Consulting. My regular customers are Capture Planning (<http://www.captureplanning.com>), Dating Success Technology (<http://www.datingsuccesstechnology.com>), Chalkface Project (<http://www.chalkface.com/>). I also do a great deal of editing through Elance.com ([http://www.elance.com/c/fp/main/viewprofile.pl?view\\_person=larocca](http://www.elance.com/c/fp/main/viewprofile.pl?view_person=larocca)).

I was Senior Editor for VOCATIONAL ENGLISH TODAY, Zhejiang University Press, in June 2006. This book is used in universities throughout China to teach spoken English, and it has been designated a Key Learning Resource by the CCCP Ministry of Education. My supervisor was Professor Huang Haijun (Harry), [harryhuanghj@yahoo.com.cn](mailto:harryhuanghj@yahoo.com.cn).

I was an IELTS invigilator in Hangzhou from January 2006 through June 2006.

I taught at the Zhejiang Institute of Science & Technology, Shaoxing University, Shuren University, and Zhejiang University of Technology from February 2002 through June 2006. Subjects included Advanced English Writing, Advanced Audio-Visual, VAO/Family Album USA, CET Band 4 Preparation, and Spoken English.

I began editing and proofreading fiction for Books Unbound in November 2001.

(<http://www.booksunbound.com>) My supervisor is Leigh Walker, [lmwalker@eclipse.net](mailto:lmwalker@eclipse.net).

I worked for Merrill Legal Solutions (<http://www.wordwave.com>) as a legal transcriptionist from January 2002 through August 2008. They hired me based on an English grammar test, an IQ test, a typing speed of 120 words per minute, and my ability to understand spoken English with a "Hong Kong accent." In September 2003 I was promoted to Quality Control. My job included listening to audio from court hearings and correcting mistakes in the transcription, as well as correcting spelling and grammar (UK English and punctuation). Working with the Singapore branch of the company exposed me to a much wider variety of accents.

I worked as a fiction editor for Hard Shell Word Factory (<http://www.hardshell.com>), a US publisher, from November 2001 to August 2003. I edited approximately 50 published books. My supervisor was Michele Bardsley, [thebardsleys@lvcm.com](mailto:thebardsleys@lvcm.com)

I worked as an editor and Author Development Specialist for CrossroadsPub from December 2000 through November 2001, and edited approximately 50 published novels. My supervisor was Samandi Adams, [samandi@earthlink.net](mailto:samandi@earthlink.net).

I worked at Eastern Instruments in Wilmington, NC from August 1991 through December 1999. As Technical Writer, I took engineering data from several sources and created cohesive literature that could be easily understood by the layman. I was Administrative Assistant to the President, the Purchasing Manager, the Accounts Receivable Manager, and the Inside Sales department. My supervisors were Millie Brandt, President, [mbrandt@easterninstruments.com](mailto:mbrandt@easterninstruments.com), and Tim Bodemann, V.P., Sales and Marketing, [bodemann@mindspring.com](mailto:bodemann@mindspring.com).

## **EDUCATION**

Web CEO (<http://www.webceo.com/>) – July 2007

Competent Internet Marketer "Internet Marketing Basics" certificate of completion

ICAL (<http://www.teacher-training.net/>) – July 2002-Aug 2003 - Final Grade 93%  
TESL/TEFL Certification – Teaching English as a Second/Foreign Language

Rockhurst College Continuing Education Center – Completed October 1999

Certificate of Continuing Education

The Essentials of Effective Web Site Development and Design

United Electronics Institute, Tampa Florida USA – Graduated September 1983

My grade was 3.7 out of a possible 4.0 – Top 1% of class

Associate of Science Degree in Electronics Technology

Re-attended April 1988 through July 1988

Chamberlain High School – Graduated June 1981

My grade was 3.9 out of a possible 4.0 – Top 3% of class

Top 2% in Scholastic Aptitude Test

Top 0.25% in Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test

Advanced Placement / College Preparatory Course

9401 North Blvd – Tampa FL 33612 USA – 813-932-6141

National Honor Society – Beta Club – Mu Alpha Theta – Model United Nations