

- Client:** Jake Walgenbach
- Project:** Copyediting for fantasy novel – *The Isles of Nythe: The Passage of the Tear*
- Objective:** Provide in-depth line edits and an editorial critique
- Key Components:**
1. Point out inconsistencies with punctuation, dialogue structure, and POV characters
 2. Provide suggestions to strengthen word flow and action sequences and tighten prose
 3. Point out areas where clarification is needed for plot and characterization

Edit/Critique Close-Up #1

The common room erupted with thunderous cheers. Stamping boots pounded the sturdy pine floorboards in approval and jars of sloshing brew were raised high, toasting the well-received words.

“Aho! To the Cywariks!” A voice boomed above all others— Elder Clearbrook had just made his way through the inn’s common door, trailing a group of Mosnits.

A rapid thumping immediately developed in Javon’s chest as he anxiously look in the Mosnit bloodfolk. There are Elders Kalmet and Rebetha – and their daughters, Jalie and Elliwyn, as well. Their cousins and grandfolks accompany them, too. But, I do not see... Javon’s

Comment [JLC180]: Consider switching to active voice – “All the townsfolk pounded their boots on the sturdy pine floorboards in approval and raised high jars of sloshing brew in honor of the Cywarik bloodfolk[or: clan].”

Comment [JLC181]: Make more active – “stepped through...”

Comment [JLC182]: Or “...stepped over the threshold, leading a group of Mosnits.”

Comment [JLC183]: Do you mean “leading”? (otherwise Clearbrook would enter after the Mosnits)

Comment [JLC184]: Word choice – “...watched the Mosnit bloodfolk walk[or: pile] into the inn.”

Edit/Critique Close-Up #2

world. Failing to do so will result in the Vaspian’s Vigor’s keepers destroying the Nythri’s precious stone.”

Isemander spread his arms wide indicating himself and the other four Anfybes.

“We are the keepers. The Covenant of Nythe has upheld peace among the Isles for five-hundred thousand Returns... and will uphold for five-hundred thousand more... the Following of the Anfybes promises that. Now, I have grown weary of talk.” He turned to the Champion of Waelyn. “Drahen, bring forth the Vaspian’s Vigor and be the first ruler to introduce his Drove.”

The air begged for applause at the conclusion of the Grand Anfybe’s speech, but only the

Comment [JLC693]: Hmm. What does this mean? Who are the keepers? The Vaspian’s Vigor can be destroyed? Or what is the precious stone?

What if we said:
“Failing to do so will lead us, the Following of the Anfybes and keeper of Vaspian’s Vigor,” he said as he turned to the seated Anfybes behind him and spread his arms wide. “To destroy this precious stone.”?

Comment [JLC694]: How does he indicate this? Spreading his arms wide implies he’s referring to everyone in the room.

Comment [JLC695]: Clarify here unless clarified above – “The Following of the Anfybes is the keeper...”

Featured Comment (Editorial Critique):

I was also concerned about Wyllynder's character. I found myself cheering for him during his fight scenes, but then Javon would express his concerns about Wyllynder's evil nature and it would throw me off. Perhaps more allusion is needed to portray how evil he really is. But where does his evil nature come from? What is really driving his thought process? We get that he is upset that Javon was picked as the harbinger, but is that really enough to make him betray his own bloodfolk? Doesn't he see how evil the Monarch is? Why would he even entertain the idea of joining forces with him?