

Manuscript Assessment Service

Do you want a constructive critique on your novel or the work of history or historical fiction you are writing? Would you like some advice as to how you can improve your manuscript so that it is suitable for publication?

Then Jill Blee can help you

Jill Blee has a BA and an MA in history from Macquarie University, an MA in writing from the University of Western Sydney, and a PhD in History from the University of Ballarat. She has written three works of historical fiction *The Pines Hold Their Secrets*, *Brigid* and *The Liberator's Birthday*. All have been published by Indra Publishing. More recently she has completed writing *From the Murray to the Sea: A history of Catholic Education in the Ballarat Diocese* which was launched by the Cardinal Archbishop of Sydney Dr George Pell in May 2004 .

Jill's current projects include completing a children's story set on the First Fleet and a workbook for aspiring writers, teaching Writing at the Gordon Institute of TAFE and BRACE, and tutoring in the Bachelor of Arts program at Ballarat University.

What I need from you

Send three chapters - approximately 50 pages - of your manuscript. It must be word processed in an easy to read font with letters at 12 points. The lines should be double spaced with side margins no less than 3.5 cm, and printing should be on one side of the page only. The manuscript sample should be accompanied by a brief synopsis of no more than 250 words, a stamped self-addressed envelope of appropriate size and a cheque or money order for \$60. Additional chapters will be assessed on the basis of \$12 extra per chapter.

What you get from me

You will receive a detailed report which will address the following issues

- General content of the work
- Language and grammar
- Syntax
- Readability
- Historical accuracy if applicable
- Market potential

Your report will also contain suggestions on ways in which you can improve the quality and content of the history or historical fiction you are writing

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