



Alison Stephanie Kilian
Ghostwriter & Storytelling Consultant
www.ask-communications.com
alison@ask-communications.com
Vienna, Austria
+43 (0) 680 1401187

EDUCATION

FREIE UNIVERSITÄT BERLIN, Berlin, Germany

MA, Comparative Literature

October 2010 – January 2013

- GPA: 1.3 (German scale, 1-5, 1 being best)

MCGILL UNIVERSITY, Montreal, Canada

BA with Great Distinction, English/Cultural Studies, African Studies

September 2004 – May 2007

- GPA: 3.67 (North American Scale, 1-4, 4 being best)

GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY, Washington, D.C.

Professional Writing Certificate, Journalism & PR

May – July 2006

- GPA: 3.8 (North American Scale, 1-4, 4 being best)

EXPERIENCE

FORBES BOOKS / ADVANTAGE MEDIA, Contract (Remote)

Ghostwriter, January 2022 – Present

As a contract ghostwriter for Forbes Books / Advantage Media, I help authors share their stories in a way that expands their reach and boosts their influence. In addition to working on full-length book manuscripts, I also ghostwrite short-form content, like blogs. My focus areas include:

- **Health/wellness**
- **Medical/pharmaceutical**
- **Business leadership**
- **Personal development**
- **Personal memoir**

ASK-COMMUNICATIONS, Self-Employed (Remote)

Ghostwriter & Storytelling Consultant, February 2015 – Present

My goal is to help you tell your story with minimal stress and maximum impact. If you have a story to tell but don't have the time, energy, or skills to tell it, I'm here to help. It's storytelling made simple. ASK-Communications offers the following services:

- **Ghostwriting:** My nonfiction ghostwriting will convey your voice and expand your reach. I've ghostwritten for everyone from pharmaceutical CEOs to nanophysics professors (seriously), crafting everything from thought-leader articles to full-length books.

- **Copywriting:** Copy is a science. I know the formula for success. Blogs, sales pages, social media, and more—I've worked across a variety of formats and for diverse industries, from internationally recognized retail brands to SEO content marketing agencies.
- **Storytelling:** Whatever the format, fiction storytelling demands a clear narrative structure, compelling world building, and an engaging voice. I've ghostwritten novels for book publishers, scripts for gaming companies, and episodic stories for serial fiction apps.

EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRIES & ASSOCIATIONS, Brussels, Belgium
Communications & Media Relations Manager, January 2013 – February 2015

This comprehensive role required regularly liaising with media figures as well as senior EFPIA staff, including the General Director. The position focused on the following three areas:

- **Content creation and management**
 - Created written materials, including press releases, blog posts, video scripts, talking points, reactive statements, and expert articles for external publication;
 - Planned EFPIA's Annual Review—oversaw budget, wrote content, and liaised with external designers on graphics and layout;
 - Managed the EFPIA blog, pharmaviews.eu—wrote blogs for EFPIA Directors and solicited contributions in line with the editorial calendar;
 - Researched, wrote, and distributed a weekly external newsletter to 3,000+ subscribers;
 - Uploaded and edited EFPIA website content using the content management system.
- **Media Relations**
 - Served as the point person for media queries and built relationships with journalists;
 - Scheduled, attended, and fact-checked interviews between journalists and EFPIA staff;
 - Conducted a daily press review of notable pharmaceutical and healthcare news, which was sent to 50+ internal employees and used to brief senior staff.
- **Social Media**
 - Supported the development of EFPIA's social media presence on Twitter and YouTube;
 - Created social media packages to accompany press releases and advocacy campaigns.

SPIEGEL INTERNATIONAL, Berlin, Germany

Contributing Writer, May 2011 – December 2012

As a contributing writer for Spiegel International, the English-language website of German news magazine *Der Spiegel*, I pitched, researched, and wrote original feature and news stories.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- Content management systems (CMS Made Simple, CoreMedia, Typo3)
- Newsletter tools (MailerLite, Vertical Response, MailChimp)
- Social media platforms (Twitter, YouTube, Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, Pinterest)
- Blogging tools (Wix, Wordpress)
- Tools for book cover design, manuscript formatting (Canva, Vellum)

LANGUAGES

- English: Mother tongue
- German: Raised in German household, completed DAF exam with top scores 5/5/4/5 (June 2009)
- French: Certificate of Proficiency meeting CEFR level B2 (May 2010)

References & work samples available upon request.