



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 entrepreneurs and executives craft original books that establish them as thought leaders in their respective fields. In addition to working on book-length manuscripts, I also ghostwrite short-form content, including blogs, white papers, articles, and LinkedIn posts.

ASK-COMMUNICATIONS, Self-Employed (Remote)

Ghostwriter & Storytelling Consultant, February 2015 – Present

I work with creatives and innovators to build their brands through skillful storytelling. My clients have ranged from social media mavens to professional stylists and interior decorators. They use their books to generate leads, reach new audiences, secure speaking engagements, and more. My offering includes:

- **Nonfiction writing/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.
- **Fiction writing/ghostwriting:** Whatever the format, fiction storytelling demands a clear narrative structure, lively world building, and engaging voice. I've written novels for book publishers, scripts for gaming companies, and episodic stories for serial fiction apps.
- **Storytelling consulting:** Do you want to write your own words but find yourself getting stuck? I can help you take the ideas in your head and get them on the page. From narrative design conceptualization to start-to-finish book coaching, my storytelling consulting packages can be tailored to your needs.

[EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRIES & ASSOCIATIONS](#), Brussels, Belgium

Communications & Media Relations Manager, January 2013 – February 2015

- Created and managed all of EFPIA's online content, including blogs, videos, and websites.
- Drafted op-eds, white papers, and speeches for EFPIA senior staff, including the Director General.
- Managed the creation of the EFPIA annual review, including budget planning, managing deadlines, drafting content, and coordinating with designers and printers.
- Oversaw the organization's media relations, which entailed handling journalist queries, maintaining a network of media contacts, organizing press events, and overseeing interviews with senior EFPIA staff.
- Supported the development of EFPIA's social media presence and promoted message alignment. This entailed tasks like creating social media packages to accompany press releases and advocacy campaigns.

[BOOKING.COM](#), Berlin, Germany

Content Editor, September 2010 – January 2013

- Wrote and edited hotel listings for Booking.com
- Applied search engine optimization (SEO) best practices to online content (text and images)
- Wrote, edited, and managed a monthly internal email newsletter for the DACH and Eastern Europe offices

[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.

[BILD ZEITUNG](#), Berlin, Germany

Contract Translator, July 2008 – October 2008

As a contract translator for BILD English, the (now defunct) English-language website of the *BILD Zeitung*, I helped select and translate the day's top news stories from German to English.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- Content management systems (CMS Made Simple, CoreMedia, Typo3)
- Newsletter tools (MailerLite, Vertical Response, MailChimp)
- 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.