HY BENDER

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SUMMARY   World-class writer/editor who has written or co-written 16 acclaimed books under my own name—including five *Dummies* books and a *Complete Idiot's Guide*— that have sold hundreds of thousands of copies; for clients who were first-time authors, ghostwritten two books that became *New York Times* bestsellers (one mega-seller reached #16 on Amazon.com); written articles for such diverse national publications as *The New York Times*, *Spy*, *American Film*, *Advertising Age*; and *Mad Magazine*; created scores of business documents, user guides, and help systems for such renowned organizations as Morgan Stanley, Reuters, New York Mercantile Exchange (NYMEX), American Insurance Group (AIG), Northern Telecom, Juno Online Services, and the U.S. Air Force; for a podcast about millennials, interviewed such powerhouse corporations as Microsoft, AT&T, 3M, Dow Jones/*The Wall Street Journal*, Deloitte, Pricewaterhousecoopers, Siemens, Eli Lilly, The Mayo Clinic, Salk Institute, Genentech, State Farm, Allstate, WordPress.com, Tumblr, and dozens more; and as a producer, scouted and developed comedy TV and film projects.

I'm an expert at quickly learning a subject via phone interviews, online and paper research, and careful study of all other relevant information, and then crafting friendly, entertaining, and meticulously accurate prose that communicates clearly and compellingly to mass audiences.

BOOKS

2006-Present   Help writers—ranging from total beginners to *New York Times* bestselling authors and Hollywood screenwriters—turn their ideas into dynamic book proposals and/or screenplays, and/or TV shows. For example, I helped one recent client— a first-time author and non-celebrity—get a $1 million advance for his book...and without the involvement of any agent. (This is almost unheard of.) The book went on to become a *New York Times* bestseller and reached #16 on Amazon.com.

2016-Present   Editing short story anthology *Ghosts On Drugs*, a cross-genre book I dreamed up and am producing with Will Paoletto. For details, please visit http://GhostsOnDrugs.com.

2013   Edited Steve Olsher's superb book *What Is Your WHAT?,* which was published by Wiley. Steve kindly wrote in his Acknowledgements, "My heartfelt thanks goes to Hy Bender, the world's best editor, for continuing to teach me the difference between writing and being a writer."

2012   Contributed to graphic horror novel **The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse**, which was illustrated by Simon Bisley and published by Heavy Metal.

2011   Co-wrote **The Complete Idiot's Guide to Thyroid Disease**, which leveraged advances in both mainstream and alternative medicine to provide cutting-edge advice on what symptoms to look for, and how to test, diagnose, and treat hypothyroidism, hyperthyroidism, thyroid cancer, and other thyroid diseases. Also included the latest medical knowledge on how to shed fat, eat smart, and maintain a healthy lifestyle.

2008-2009   Ghostwrote a book about organic products, and how to purchase them conveniently and inexpensively regardless of location. (I normally can't list "ghost projects" here, but in this case the clients generously gave their permission.)

2004   Contributed to Prentice-Hall book on troubleshooting **Windows** and **Microsoft Office**.

2003   Wrote **College Survival Guide**, a campus guidebook for new students on how to deal with such adult challenges as alcohol, drugs, depression, and sex.

2000   Contributed to **The Mad Companion**, a humor book published by *Mad* magazine.

1998-1999   Wrote **The Sandman Companion** for DC Comics, a bestselling literary guide/ biography about fantasy author superstar Neil Gaiman's epic on mythology and dreams (which has sold millions of copies). Creating this book involved interviewing over two dozen people who worked on *Sandman* and then editing 100+ hours of taped conversations.

1996-1998   Wrote or cowrote five books in the **bestselling** *Dummies* series:

- **Dummies 101: The Internet for Windows 98**

- **Dummies 101: The Internet for Windows 95** (with M. L. Young)

- **Dummies 101: Netscape Communicator 4**

- **Dummies 101: Netscape Navigator** (with M. L. Young)

- **The Internet for Dummies—Starter Kit Edition** (with three other authors)

The *Dummies 101* books are 250-page step-by-step tutorials that take novices by the hand and carefully teach them how to use Internet features such as email and the World Wide Web. Each of these books includes a software-crammed CD that I designed and is supplemented by Web sites that I co-designed. Online superstore Amazon.com said of my Communicator book, "This is possibly the **single best book** to hand someone who is a relative beginner on the Web."

1995   Wrote **Getting Started With Windows 95** for WEKA, a hands-on introduction to Windows that became the **second most successful book** in the publisher's history.

1993-1994   Wrote **Essential Software for Writers**, a 500-page book that L. R. Shannon in **The New York Times** called "**exhaustive**" and "**lots of fun**," and Jerry Pournelle in **Byte Magazine** designated as "**the book of the month.**" Peter McWilliams wrote in his syndicated *Personal Computers* column, "The fact he has reviewed so much in the course of a year astounds me. **This book is the best of its kind**." Creating the book involved carefully evaluating over 200 top writing-related programs, including idea generators, grammar checkers, style replicators, electronic dictionaries and thesauruses, poetry processors, and online reference sources.

1990-1992   Wrote two editions of **PC Tools: The Complete Reference**, a 900-page tome published by Osborne/McGraw-Hill. *Computer Currents* magazine included this book on its annual list of the **top dozen computer books of the year**, calling it *"the best"* and *"a valuable reference."*

1989   Wrote **Excel Quick Reference**, a 160-page book published by Macmillan/Que that I created in 10 days. It went on to sell over 60,000 copies.

WEBSITES, PODCASTS, MAGAZINES, AND NEWSPAPERS

2007-Present   Run the following websites:
- **BookProposal.net**: My book proposal and manuscript development service.
- **HyOnYourScript.com**: My screenplay analysis and doctoring service.
- **BestNewYorkComedy.com**: Coverage of NYC live comedy.
- **HyReviews.com**: Coverage of NYC live comedy, NYC theatre, and more.
- **CIGThyroid.com**: The official site of my 16th book, **The Complete Idiot's Guide to Thyroid Disease**.

2015-2016	Co-hosted podcast *The Millennial Career Playbook* (TMCPB.com), for which I interviewed such powerhouse corporations as **Microsoft**, **AT&T**, **3M**, **Dow Jones/***The Wall Street Journal*, **Deloitte**, **Pricewaterhousecoopers**, **Siemens**, **Eli Lilly**, **The Mayo Clinic**, **Salk Institute**, **Genentech**, **State Farm**, **Allstate**, **WordPress.com**, **Tumblr**, and dozens more about best practices for attracting and retaining millennial employees.
1989-Present	Sold media-related articles to such national magazines as *Mad Magazine*, *Spy*, *American Film*, *Advertising Age*, *Bottom Line/Personal*, *FOLIO: The Magazine for Magazine Management*. Also sold articles to such technical publications as *PC Magazine*, *PC World*, *PC Week*, and *Yahoo! Internet Life*.
2005	Wrote theatre reviews for *The New York Times* Arts & Leisure section.
2001-2002	For **Techbargains.com**, a Web site garnering 5 million page-views per month, wrote reviews of top-of-the-line software. Programs critiqued included Microsoft Office, Dreamweaver, and Adobe Photoshop.

USER GUIDES, ONLINE HELP SYSTEMS, AND BUSINESS WRITING

2006	For the **U.S. Congress**, worked on Web-based information retrieval/analysis tool.
2005	For **Reuters**, created online help system (via **RoboHelp**) for *Reuters Knowledge*, a powerful Web-based financial research & analysis tool used by tens of thousands of high-level investment managers, investment bankers, and corporate officers.
2004	For **Gallery Systems**, created Web-based online help system (via **RoboHelp**) for eMuseum, a tool for publishing museum collections on the Web. GS' 500+ clients include **The Metropolitan Museum of Art**, **MOMA**, and **The Smithsonian**.
2003	For **New York Mercantile Exchange**, created Web-based online help system (via **RoboHelp**) and 125-page printed guide (via **Microsoft Word**) to help traders around the world use NYMEX's new Web-based financial software.
2003	For **WorkRelationShips, Inc.**, wrote best practices proposals for corporate managers.
2002-2003	For **U.S. Air Force Research Laboratory**, wrote 250-page **user guide** and complex **RoboHelp online guide** documenting AI system that helps create software ranging from military simulations to state-of-the-art games.
1999-2001	For **Morgan Stanley**, created 150-page user guides, and sophisticated **RoboHelp HTML online help** systems with **search engines**, detailed **indexes**, and **hundreds of crisscrossing hyperlinks**, for the following financial divisions:

- **Program Management Office:** Provided extensive advice and Web-based forms to help project managers perform their jobs effectively, consolidate their project information online, and streamline their reporting to senior management.
- **Private Wealth Management:** Detailed the work process of PWM salespeople, managers, and controllers; and provided step-by-step instructions on how to analyze and report on PWM's daily multimillion dollar trading activities.
- **Derivative Products & Foreign Exchange Groups:** Provided step-by-step instructions on how to evaluate customer account applications via intranet sites.

1999	For **Blink.com**, worked with marketing staff and Web artists to make this new site appealing and accessible. The site quickly went on to receive accolades from *PC Magazine* and *Forbes*, and to garner **$11 million in second-round financing**.
1999	For **Vitech Systems**, wrote 150-page guide to private equity administration program used by **Goldman Sachs**, **DLJ**, **Thomas Lee**, and other major financial institutions.
1999	For **Juno Online Services**, used **RoboHelp** to rewrite and expand the online help system of Juno version 3.0, an email program and World Wide Web dialer used by this Internet giant's **6.5 million customers**.
1998-1999	For **Microvideo Learning Systems**, wrote video scripts and workbooks for eight two-hour video training tapes on **Microsoft Windows** and popular spreadsheet, database, and word processing software. These videotapes were purchased at a cost of $500 to$1,000 each by such top organizations as **IBM**, **AT&T**, **American Express**, **Pepsico**, **Texaco**, **Mobil Oil**, **Dow Chemical**, **R. J. Reynolds**, **Sprint**, **NYNEX**, **Chase Manhattan**, the **FBI**, the **U.S. Air Force**, the **U.S. Navy**, and the **United Nations**.

MISCELLANEOUS

2016-2017	As Director of Television and Film Development for MSP, scouted and negotiated contracts for comedy projects worthy of development, scouted and hired comedy talent, and produced comedy pilots.
2004-2011	Ran respected biweekly screenwriting workshop **NYScreenwriters.org**, which helped writers improve their screenplays via cold readings and incisive critiques, and also allowed actors and directors to network with our writers (which led to some fruitful collaborations).
1994-2002	Ran **monthly reading group for writers** that analyzed the works of great twentieth century novelists such as William Faulkner, James Joyce, Gabriel García Márquez., Isaac Bashevis Singer, and Vladimir Nabokov.
1990-1994	Ran **biweekly fiction workshop** that helped novelists and short story writers hone their manuscripts, which resulted in several book sales.

EDUCATION

B.A. in Journalism, with minor in Computer Science, from **New York University**.

A NOTE ABOUT LOCATION

I can perform stellar work for you no matter where you operate. Although I live in New York, my clients' locations have ranged from California to London to Australia; and between phone interviews and email exchanges, we've never experienced a single communications problem. My savvy clients understand that it's preferable to work with an exceptionally skilled and efficient writer than someone who simply happens to live nearby.