



## **An editor and author's nightmare**

Last week I got an email from a regular client telling me someone had found a glaring error in one of her published stories. Believe me, this is something I never want to happen because I know how difficult it is to fix problems once the book has been printed or uploaded to Amazon.

Once my heart stopped pounding, I read the email again and looked at the page she'd sent me. This was from a children's picture book, so there was only a small amount of text. I checked it painstakingly and found nothing. Then I blew up the PDF to 300% and checked it again. Nothing.

Glaring errors are generally things that stand out because they're so wrong. I went through all the following but still couldn't find any issue.

- spellings
- names
- descriptions
- places
- punctuation
- paragraphs
- spacing

I was feeling very frustrated, but I also wanted my client to have confidence in my ability to find and fix issues. After checking for the tenth time, I asked some of my editing friends if they could see anything wrong. Nope—nothing.

Another email arrived. Thankfully, this one contained good news. The error was on another page. The author suggested they might have

added it after it had been proofread.

I don't know if you're aware of this, but a 95% correction rate is often given as the industry standard. This means there may be some things that slip through. But whatever the accepted rate is, that error was just as painful to me as it was to the author.

What I learned from this experience was that I'd prefer my client to send their changes to me so that I can check them before the book is uploaded or sent off to print. That way, we'll both have peace of mind.

Oh, and the the error was a very easy one to miss. Did you find it?

Enjoy your writing and have a great week.

Kerry

[My services](#)



### **Kerry Murphy Editor**

366 19/D Pham Huu Lau,, 700000, Ho Chi Minh City

This email was sent to {{contact.EMAIL}}  
You've received this email because you've subscribed to our newsletter.

[Unsubscribe](#)

