

A seasoned book and media professional with extensive background in retail bookselling, prolific acquisitions, skillful line editing, digital and Web publishing, social networking, and productive teamwork with colleagues; a sales-conscious and well-respected media industry figure capable of improving an organization's editorial output, raising its sales, burnishing its reputation, and helping it stake out innovative ground.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

PHILIP TURNER BOOK PRODUCTIONS & THE GREAT GRAY BRIDGE 2009-Present *Independent Book Producer, Editor, and Blogger*

- Directing fully verticalized editorial services company, [Philip Turner Book Productions](#). Consulting on book development; agenting select list of authors; editing for authors, agents and publishers. Developing imperative books devoted to truth-tellers, whistleblowers, muckrakers, and revisionist historians—authors of such unique experience, expertise, access, and passion that only they could write the book in question.
- Consulting with [Expertfile](#), innovative Web platform connecting conference organizers, meeting planners, and media to authors, experts, and thought leaders who speak in public. Cultivating new marketplace for conferences, authors, and publishers. Sold Perseus Book Group and Movable Type Literary Management on Expertfile pilot programs. News of my work with Expertfile was covered in [Publishers Lunch](#) and [Shelf Awareness](#).
- Coordinating affiliate program of [American Booksellers Foundation for Free Expression](#) (ABFFE) in which vendors give back portion of their sales to bookstores to support ABFFE's freedom to read campaigns, including Banned Book Week and other anti-censorship initiatives.
- Curating and writing political, literary, culture, and media blog [The Great Gray Bridge](#), with readership averaging 1000 unique visitors per day. Attended BEA and NXNE conferences as accredited press, reporting on them for blog. Skilled navigator in social networks, with particularly active presences on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), and [LinkedIn](#).
- Contributed personal essay "[Remembering Mr. Stress, Live at the Euclid Tavern](#)" to *Rust Belt Chic: The Cleveland Anthology*, recalling venerable bluesman I followed in my hometown. Book and essay were covered in [Shelf Awareness](#).
- Published "[William Styron: A Promise Kept](#)" in BN Review, personal essay on my work with the American novelist, with more than 400 Facebook shares.

STERLING PUBLISHING, BARNES & NOBLE 2007 – 2009 *Vice President, Editorial Director, Union Square Press*

- Installed my vision of a purpose-driven imprint devoted to books by and about truth-tellers, whistleblowers, muckrakers, revisionist historians, quickly launching house's first imprint of topical nonfiction.
- Made Union Square Press a player by setting rapid acquisitions pace with books like *Covert: My Years Infiltrating the Mob* by NBA referee Bob Delaney (more than 35,000 sales, reviewed in *NY Times Book Review* and *Life in the Balance* by Dr. Thomas Graboys, a *Boston Globe* bestseller).

AVALON PUBLISHING GROUP 2000 – 2006 *V-P, Editor-in-Chief, Philip Turner Books, Carroll & Graf, and Thunder's Mouth Press*

- Directed submissions to and orchestrated acquisitions by five editors for two imprints publishing more than 250 titles annually, while maintaining own lead title acquisitions pace and inaugurating own imprint.
- Eponymous imprint's first titles were *On the Brink* by Tyler Drumheller, former CIA Chief in Europe ("60 Minutes" segment) and *Lover of Unreason*, first biography of Assia Wevill, Sylvia Plath's rival and Ted Hughes's doomed lover, reviewed in the *New Yorker*.

Editor-in-Chief, Carroll & Graf Publishers

- Shaped lists of junior staff, while maintaining my own top-selling acquisitions by authors of such singular experience and unique vision only they could write the book in question.

- Published NY Times and Washington Post bestsellers Ambassador Joseph Wilson's *The Politics of Truth*, a *NY Times* bestseller; Susan McDougal's *The Woman Who Wouldn't Talk*; Lt. General Roméo Dallaire's *Shake Hands with the Devil*, a *Post* Best Book of 2005.
- Attracted major attention *Boss Tweed* reviewed by Pete Hamill on cover of the *NY Times Book Review* and *Ahmad's War*, *Ahmad's Peace* reviewed by Dexter Filkins in the *Times* (both were *NY Times* Notable Books).
- Created Carroll & Graf Library of Magic, series devoted to subject area under-served in trade publishing; cultivated most extensive program of Canadian authors on any U.S. list (Mowat, Atwood, Berton, etc.).
- Key contributor to independent house's growing reputation as industry player, with bestsellers, major reviews, and media coverage.

Executive Editor, Carroll & Graf Publishers

- Brought entrepreneurial flair to list of quality commercial fiction and narrative nonfiction acquired from top agents and self-initiated titles—with major subsidiary rights income for growing independent house.
- Titles included: *Hiding the Elephant*, a history of stage illusions that magician Teller praised in the *NY Times Book Review* (four hardcover printings, Book Sense pick); *The Last Battle*, on the end of the Vietnam War, won the Colby Award and licensed to Plume trade paperbacks for six-figures.

RANDOM HOUSE

1997 – 2000

Executive Editor, Times Books and Crown Publishing

- Published high-caliber and solid-selling titles in history, sports, true crime, gift and illustrated books, and cooking; liased with the *New York Times* for this licensed imprint;
- Cultivated relationships with *American Heritage*, *Consumer Reports*, C-SPAN, American Institute of Architects; and such authors as Edwin Black (I acquired his blockbuster *IBM and the Holocaust*), William Styron, William Safire, Ruth Gruber, Michael Beschloss, Craig Claiborne, and Pierre Franey.

KODANSHA AMERICA

1992 – 1997

Editor-in-Chief, Kodansha America

- Attracted such authors as Senator George Mitchell, landmark diarist Edward Robb Ellis (*A Diary of the Century*), historians Pierre Berton (*Niagara*, reviewed on the cover of the *NY Times Book Review*) and Peter Hopkirk (*The Great Game*);
- Managed seven person staff; hired two senior editors who performed exceptionally well for house after my own departure

Editor-in-Chief, Kodansha Globe and Senior Editor, Kodansha America

- Launched new trade paperback series covering history, cultural studies, psychology, and nature, giving start-up an instant front and backlist by acquiring reprints such as Barack Obama's *Dreams from My Father*, in its first paperback edition, while reviving important books by such authors as Margaret Mead, Konrad Lorenz, and Admiral Richard Byrd;
- Published more than eighty titles in two years, many still selling more than two decades after publication.

FORMATIVE EXPERIENCES

- As Editor for Walker and Co., Collier Books, Macmillan; and Prentice Hall Press, sixty percent of my titles entered second, third and subsequent printings, with strong backlist sales; subject areas covered included practical handbooks, popular reference, Judaica, word books, careers, sports, humor, mysteries, science fiction.
- As co-founder, lead buyer, and merchandise manager for Undercover Books, an independent bookstore chain in Cleveland, Ohio, I met with readers and browsers every working day for seven years.
- Ordered and merchandized books that fueled Undercover Books' annual sales of more than \$1,000,000.
- Indie bookstore chain became a favored outlet for houses eager to break out books nationally.
- Handled all accounts payables; managed and hired staff of ten; innovations in book ordering made stores subject of many articles in industry press.
- Served as personal bookseller to thousands of customers; introduced dozens of new authors to thousands of readers.

EDUCATION AND AFFILIATIONS

- BA in Philosophy of Education and History of Religion, Franconia College, Franconia, NH.

- Moderator of discussions, Book Table, publishing industry monthly lunch club.
- Member, Expertfile platform that connects experts, authors, and public speakers with meeting planners and media, [profile page](#).
- Charter subscriber to Publishers Lunch, with dozens of deals posted since its inception and consistently high rank in its Web statistics: [member profile page](#).
- Guest teacher in CUNY Graduate School of Journalism, nonfiction book-writing course, taught with Professor Glenn Lewis, Jan. 2008-2013.
- Attended Book Camps NYC, 2010-2013, led several discussion groups: [1](#), [2](#) and [3](#).
- Member PEN American Center, [profile page](#); Associate Member, National Book Critics Circle
- For journalism and profiles see: <http://bit.ly/uTppPP>, <http://bit.ly/rBjjLa>, <http://bit.ly/tOI7wr>
- Member CBC Radio 3 listener community, [profile page](#).
- Active in social media on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [tumblr](#), [Pinterest](#), and [LinkedIn](#).