

# The Wild Rose Press

P. O. Box 708  
Adams Basin, NY 14410-0708

## Submission Guidelines

### General Guidelines

We publish only stories where romance is a strong element and in ALL lengths. This includes short stories. *Please do not submit any type of nonfiction.*

- Your manuscript may be told in first or third person.
- The author must hold all the rights to the work submitted. Stories that contain scenes or plotlines that bear a striking resemblance to previously published work are not acceptable.

Please note the elements that we do not accept within any of our lines...

- No depraved or illegal acts
- No bestiality
- No degradation of women (rape)
- No sadism or masochism
- No bondage (Except within appropriate lines-see specific guidelines below.)
- No pedophilia (no sex involving underage characters)
- No homosexuality (our romances celebrate heterosexual monogamous relationships)
- Although we do accept stories containing explicit sex, it must occur between consenting adults.

**Most important: Love must be an essential element in all of our titles.**

*Do not send complete or partial manuscripts unless requested.* We ask instead that you submit a query letter and up to a 5 page double-spaced synopsis. The query letter should contain a word count and pertinent facts about yourself as a writer, including your familiarity with the romance genre. Please indicate what line you think your project is appropriate for, if it is completed, what you think makes it special, and previous publishing experience (if any).

## **If submitting by Post:**

- Please include a self-addressed envelope and return international postage coupons if needed, if you would like your manuscript returned to you.
- If you do not want it returned, please include a #10 SASE envelope for our reply.
- Do not send manuscripts via UPS, Fed Ex or other delivery service. Any such delivery requiring a signature will not be accepted.
- Please secure your manuscript with a heavy binder clip or a rubber band. Not a paperclip. We may request a manuscript on disk or cd, but do not include this with your original submission. Cover page should include author's information - name, address, phone, web site address (if any) and email.
- We will take every precaution with your manuscript once we receive it, but we are not responsible for the U.S. Postal Service. You are advised to retain a copy of your manuscript in the event it becomes lost in the mail.

Mail to:  
THE WILD ROSE PRESS  
PO BOX 708  
ADAMS BASIN NY 14410-0706

**Please Note: We prefer Email submissions. (see directions below)**

**Submit your Email query** to [queryus@thewildrosepress.com](mailto:queryus@thewildrosepress.com)

Again, please Note: **We prefer Email submissions.**

- Please include in the subject line of your email these words **TWRP MS Submission** followed by the title of your manuscript. Any email received without these words in the subject line of the email will NOT be opened and will be deleted.
- Within the email include at the top of the page, the line in which you feel your manuscript is best suited and the number of words in your manuscript. For example. "Yellow Rose, 24,000 words".
- In the body of the query email include the synopsis only. **DO NOT send any email attachments, they will not be opened.**

If you are already a Wild Rose Author and would like to submit a query to your editor, you may do so directly, but please follow the guidelines as stated.

### **Once your Email has been received:**

You will receive back an email stating that your query has been received and forwarded to the appropriate department. If you do not receive this "received" email within a week to ten days, please resubmit.

**Once you have been invited to submit a partial or full manuscript**, follow these instructions for formatting:

- Manuscripts should be typed double spaced in Times New Roman, Arial, or Courier New font.
- Margins should be one inch all around and the author's name and manuscript title should be a visible header on every page.
- Most importantly, all submissions **MUST BE IN RICH TEXT FORMAT ONLY**. Please don't send them as MS Word or WordPerfect documents.
- All material will be evaluated within 90 days in lieu of unforeseen circumstances. You will receive an email confirmation of receipt when we open your envelope. You will be notified again by email once we begin reviewing your manuscript.
- Please do not send any manuscript that is currently under review with another publisher or another Wild Rose Editor.
- We enter into discussions about payment only when a contract is offered. This information is confidential.
- We will do our best to answer your questions and inquiries in a timely manner, but please be advised that we receive a large volume of emails and can't get to every one every day. We will answer you as quickly as we can.
- We do not answer phone call inquiries; only email.
- If you have submitted a manuscript to us, please allow us 90 days before contacting us regarding the status.

See the **Line Guides** below for more information on what each line is looking for.

### Explanation of Individual Lines:

<a href="#"><u>Crimson Rose</u></a>	<i>Mystery &amp; Suspense</i>
<a href="#"><u>Faery Rose</u></a>	<i>Light Paranormal (elves, fairies, good witches, etc. Also Science Fiction Romance.</i>
<a href="#"><u>Scarlet Rose</u></a>	<i>Erotic Romance</i>
<a href="#"><u>English Tea Rose</u></a>	<i>Non-American Historical</i>
<a href="#"><u>American Rose</u></a>	<i>American Historical</i>
<a href="#"><u>Cactus Rose</u></a>	<i>Western Historical</i>
<a href="#"><u>Yellow Rose</u></a>	<i>Cowboy Contemporary (cowboys, ranches, etc.)</i>
<a href="#"><u>Last Rose of Summer</u></a>	<i>Contemporary; the more experienced heroine heroine, ie: widowed, divorced, older, many life experiences</i>
<a href="#"><u>Sweetheart Rose</u></a>	<i>Sweet Contemporary</i>
<a href="#"><u>Vintage Rose</u></a>	<i>Classic Romance from Days Gone By - Depression era stories, WWI and WWII stories, fifties, sixties, seventies, etc.</i>
<a href="#"><u>Black Rose</u></a>	<i>Dark Paranormal (werewolves, shapeshifters, vampires, etc.)</i>
<a href="#"><u>Champagne Rose</u></a>	<i>Contemporary (sensual, includes fully depicted love scenes)</i>
<a href="#"><u>White Rose</u></a>	<i>Inspirational</i>
<a href="#"><u>Climbing Rose</u></a>	<i>Young Adult</i>

### Manuscript Lengths

<b>Rosette</b>	Between 7,500 and 20,000 words
<b>Miniature Rose</b>	Between 20,001 and 40,000 words
<b>Rosebud</b>	Between 40,001 and 65,000 words
<b>Bouquet (anthology)</b>	Between 65,001 and 100,000 words
<b>Rose</b>	Between 65,001 and 100,000 words

To determine word count, use the following formula...  
250 words per 8.5x11 page, double spaced, Courier New font size 12.  
Final formatting for publication will NOT reflect this formula.  
Wild Rose publications will average 350-400 words per page.



This is the line where magic happens, the place for ghosts, elves, wizards, and "other world" type of stories. It also includes time-travel, whether your hero or heroine travels back to the far reaches of history, to faraway galaxies into the future, or to our own present time. The tone of these stories may vary as wildly as the moods of the whimsical, The Ghost and Mrs. Muir, the frightening, What Lies Beneath, or the heartbreakingly romantic, Ghost. These same types of atmospheres apply to your story of elves, wizards, time-travels, or worlds straight out of your imagination. The setting for your story may vary as widely as the settings of, The Lord of the Rings, Timeline, Elektra or Serenity. Regardless of the type of book, the romance between your central characters must be the beating heart that drives the plot. These books will take the readers to a place where anything is possible, but they must evoke the realism that strong world building and solid characterization provides. Whether the other worldly being is the hero, heroine or villain, making them come alive on the page is what we want to see. Stories may be told in first or third person, and sexual encounters can be explicit or not, depending on what the author feels is appropriate to the story.



Replete with passion, our erotic romances are highly sensual stories that range from sexy, light-hearted romps to dark erotic journeys of forbidden pleasure. We encourage you to paint vivid images, explore your characters' desires, take them down uninhibited paths that push the envelope. Seduce our readers and make us squirm in our seats.

We're looking for stories that feature a strong sexual premise and invest in an emotional relationship. We aren't looking for sex just for the sake of putting two naked bodies on a page. Give your characters a reason to act on their desires. Give them goals and conflict that will drive them together and then tear them apart. But remember, our readers expect a happy ending, for Scarlet Rose that's not always a happily ever after but merely the promise of one.


Make it hot, but make it a romance. Above all, make sure the reader is as satisfied at the end of the book as the hero and heroine.


Your heroine can be soft and feminine, even virginal, but she must know her own mind and stand firm with/against the hero until her ultimate surrender.

Alpha or Beta, your hero should be masculine, devilishly handsome and decidedly focused on capturing the heroine--mind, body and soul. The deeper the eroticism, the more Alpha your hero should be.

All characters must be eighteen years of age, regardless of the time period. Please read our guidelines for what we will not allow within any of the lines.

Due to the explicit nature of this line, some books may be unsuitable for certain audiences. Our erotic romances are labeled according to content.

 May contain graphic love scenes between the hero and heroine only, possibly including sex toys, light consensual bondage, and/or moderately explicit language.

 May contain subject matter that is offensive to some readers, including extreme explicit language, anal sex, bondage, dominance/submission, fetishism, ménage, and/or experimentation with same sex (only during multiple partner situations involving both the hero and heroine who must attain a monogamous relationship by the end of the book).



## English Tea Rose

*Conquering heroes, high seas adventure, and scandalous gossip. The love stories that will take you back in time*

From the windswept moors of Scotland, to the emerald Isle, to the elegant ballrooms of Regency England, the men and women of this time are larger than life and willing to risk it all for the love of a lifetime. Send us your Medieval knights and Vikings, marauding pirates, and ladies and gentlemen of the Ton. These romances set before 1900 should have strong conflict, emotion, and historical accuracy. Many readers of this line, specifically those that enjoy novels set in the Regency era, are familiar with the time period and the social mores of the day.



## AMERICAN ROSE

*The spirit that built a nation...the passion that held it together...the love stories you will never forget*

The French and Indian war; Colonial America; the Revolutionary War; the war of 1812; the War Between the States; the Reconstruction era; the dawn of the new century. These are the struggles at the heart of the American Rose story. The central romantic relationship is the key driving force, set against an historically accurate backdrop. These stories are for those who long for the courageous heroes and heroines who fought for their freedom and settled the new world; for gentle southern belles with spines of steel and the gallant gentlemen who sweep them away. This line is wide open for writers with a love of American history.



## Cactus Rose

*Where the west is wild and passion burns hotter than the sun at high noon*

This line is for people who love stage coaches, bank robbers, saloon gals, and heroes and heroines that are larger than life. These tall tales can be set anywhere west of the Mississippi in the 1800's. They should be filled with colorful characters and plenty of romance. Historical accuracy is important but shouldn't overshadow the romance in the story. Give us adventure, seduction, and a rollicking good time!

*Romantic reads for the young and the young at heart*

## Climbing Rose

These guidelines are in addition to the general guidelines for The Wild Rose Press; please be sure to read and adhere to both.

Our Climbing Roses line is our Young Adult line. These stories portray young women of today, ages 14-18. While we still expect the stories to maintain the highest quality of reading material, they may not adhere to the strictest sense of the romance submission. This means that the stories might be a paranormal without any romance in it at all or one that is only vaguely implied. Think Harry Potter, Eragon, The Golden Compass, All American Girl and many of the current Nancy Drew books. Climbing Rose books may convey all types of messages and could encompass a variety of settings from mystery to inspirational, paranormal to historical.

The Wild Rose Press will not accept any manuscript that gives a negative or "mean girl" type of feeling. We will also not accept any paranormal that becomes too dark or negative.

In the Climbing Rose stories characters that are involved romantically should be on a PG13 type of scale. Meaning, nothing more than a kiss should occur between the hero and heroine.

The Climbing Roses line uses a teen focus group to review all queries. While the Senior Editor still has the final decision, the opinions of this panel of young women is crucial to the success of this line. The compilation of their opinions will guide the acceptance of the manuscripts and be given as feedback to the authors.



## Yellow Rose

Got your heart set  
on a cowboy?



These stories take place on ranches and in small towns from Texas to Alaska. The one element that must be present is cowboys. These are fast paced and heartwarming . They are full of support characters like family and friends who round out the book. These heroes are strong and not about to be tamed. The heroines they fall for match them in every way. They are headstrong and confident women who aren't afraid to tangle with a cowboy.

Make your reader think she's in the Lone Star State or have her planning her next vacation for the mountains of Colorado. But whether your ranch is in Texas, Wyoming, Colorado or Alaska make sure its full of those yummy cowboys we all love. The level of sensuality should fit the story.



## Last Rose of Summer

Who said love is only for the young?

“Some roses wither and die without the proper nourishment of sun, food and water. Then there are those roses that defy convention. They bloom and flourish despite flood or drought. These are the heroines and women for our line. They are lush, vibrant, and when the cold comes, they cling tenaciously to the vine until they are the Last Rose of Summer. This line celebrates unusual, strong, smart heroines. She may be a seventy-year old divorcee about to step back into the dating scene and find Mr. Right. Or perhaps, she's the twenty-five year old daughter who's spent her life caring for her bed-ridden mother. No matter what her age or circumstance, these books are about love, whether it's the first bloom, or a second chance. While these stories may have subplots about the heroine's relationship with her family, friends or community, the main thrust of the book is about her and the hero. Give us characters worth cheering for and love that makes us sigh with contentment. Through the first or third person point of view, show us how they conquer their inner and external conflict and make a life together. Love scenes can be as explicit as they need to be or as tame as the story warrants. These stories will be warm, entertaining, and always inspiring. They must end on an upbeat and encouraging note.”



## Sweetheart Rose

Sigh, cry, and everything in  
between in these tender tales of  
the first blush of love.

These stories will make a reader sigh, cry, and everything in between. The relationship between the hero and heroine is the centerpiece of the story. This is the type of romance that we consider an old-fashioned sweet romance. It might be set in a small town or a big city, but the characters are memorable and warm, leaving the reader with the feeling they wish they knew them in person. Take your readers back to that first blush of love when everything was amazing in life. That exciting feeling when you meet the one who just might be "it." Emotions are key to this line. Make your reader fall in love with your hero, root for your heroine. Stories can be amusing and light, or they can be deeply emotional, as long as it all winds up with a satisfactory and feel good ending. Sexual tension should exist between the couple, they can even make love without being married, but it needs to be implied not shown to the reader. Keep the bedroom door firmly closed. However, love scenes are not required.



*Remember When Nostalgia...  
Once In A Blue Moon Love*

Love stories from the twentieth century, filled with passion and romance. Allow your favorite generation from a bygone era to entrance us all over again. Regardless of the decade you choose, the romance is preeminent; time should virtually stand still when your hero and heroine meet, and their story must end happily ever after.



These books include vampire stories, werewolves, shape shifters, and alien creatures. They are a darker story but still must have romance at the central theme.



The Champagne Rose line is our contemporary romance line. The reader here will find stories filled with sexual tension and passionate chemistry. The setting can take place anywhere in the US or another country; small town, big cities or anything in between fits in here. The hero and heroine could be of the same race, or from different ethnic backgrounds. They might be single parents, they might be corporate executives or small town librarians. The list is endless.

The sexuality in these stories is what will set them apart from the Sweetheart Rose line. Champagne Rose couples explore their relationship both emotionally and physically. In each full-length novel, there must be one fully consummated love scene. In the case of short stories, if this isn't realistic for the plot of the story, then the physical encounters must be extremely hot and let the reader know how hard it is for that couple to keep their hands off each other. The characters should leave us remembering them long after we turn the last page. We should feel their feelings, share their joys and their heartaches. And, as with all romances, we should close the book completely satisfied by the happy-ever-after ending.



Mystery and Mayhem. Edge-of-the-seat contemporary romantic suspense tales of intrigue and desire. Think kidnappings, murder, blackmail, deceit, white collar crime and everything in between. No matter the thriller keep in mind that romance needs to be the driving force in the story and it all needs to be neatly tied up at the end of the book.



# White Rose

*Where faith is the  
cornerstone of love*

---

As in every romance, the focus of a White Rose story should be the conflict between the main characters. These stories encompass protagonists who may, or may not, be spiritual at the onset, but come to realize that faith is a cornerstone of love. Protagonists should possess layered, three-dimensional, personalities. They should be people who struggle with decisions on a regular basis, using their existent or burgeoning faith to augment their growth both, together, and as Christians. Remember, Christians are emboldened by their faith, not burdened by it. Protagonists' backgrounds do not have to be exemplary, but in the current story line, protagonists must have already come to terms with those issues which do not live up to Christian morality and virtue; their past immorality should not be overtly displayed on the page, but should be the catalyst for their internal conflict and growth.

White Rose books should convey life as it is lived, or can be lived, by people of faith. Because life can be humorous, mysterious, hazardous, and even a bit otherworldly, with angels popping in at times, White Rose books can encompass a variety of elements. The setting for White Rose books can be contemporary, historical or futuristic. They can be straight romances or include other factors such as mystery, suspense or supernatural elements, etc; however, an element of faith must be present in all White Rose stories-without becoming overbearing or preachy. (Please specify in your proposal if your story includes elements beyond simple romance. Also, please take note that supernatural themes are not the same as paranormal themes. Supernatural themes must be limited to Christian elements [e.g. Angels would be acceptable; a talking witch's familiar would not.])

White Roses should have an emotional rise and fall; however, the characters should not make love unless they are married, and then it should be behind closed doors. Feel free to delve into sensitive topics (e.g. infertility, terminal illness, infidelity), subjects that affect real people, but without profanity or nudity. There are no detailed love scenes in these accounts, but natural sexual tension is encouraged. We want to feel the emotion the hero and heroine feel for one another, not explicitly see the physical culmination of those feelings.

Protagonists should be Christian, or should be discovering Christianity. Elements of non-Christian faiths may be present in the story, but issues which deny the essence of mainline Christianity must not be conveyed as acceptable. (e.g. Denying the Trinity [One God in Three Persons] or denying the divinity of Christ, etc. would not work if conveyed as acceptable; however, showing someone struggling with these beliefs, and then coming to realize the truth of Christianity, might work.) Please specify in your query if your story includes elements of non-Christian religious beliefs, and briefly describe how they are handled within the story, and why they are essential to the plot.

Finally, to get a real sense of what White Rose editors like to see, we recommend reading some of the already-available titles in the White Rose Line.