

An Author and An Editor

by Olga Zhabotynska

Last year was a wonderful year, where I worked as both a writer and an editor. This greatly enriched my life.

Editor Olga: I work at Bogomyslie Publishing House as an editor of programs for Christian summer camps.

Author Olga: I work with children at Sunday school in my church. At the beginning of the year my husband inspired me to write *Here is an Idea!*, a book for ministers who work with children and organize contests, holidays and competitions. I put serious assignments from the Bible, creative contests and merry competitions together in one small book. I wanted any church minister to take this book and be able to create a program for many children with different abilities. My Sunday school experience helped me a lot in my work.

Editor: I understood that the timing of the book's release was very important for its sales. Ideally, it would be published in time for the annual exhibition "For Children's Ministers," held in Kiev every November.

Author: After I understood the terms, I realized that I didn't have enough time to do the job. The term was too short to meet the demands. I saw only one way out—to be more disciplined and to ask God to help. He doesn't help lazy people! I worked hard and finished my book two weeks ahead of time.

Editor: I attended the International Christian Publishing Institute in Colorado Springs. There I learned a lot and was energized by the talks with people who came to the seminar from many different countries. It is great to feel that you are a part of God's kingdom, bringing Good News to the nations in different parts of our planet. It gives you such inspiration!

I wanted all the knowledge I got at the seminar to be used effectively in my work as an editor. God answered this prayer. When I came back from the seminar, I changed the order of the *Here's an Idea!* contests and assignments and did some other things. As a result, the manuscript became more rational. It is much easier to use.

Author: Understanding an editor's work helped me a lot while I was working on the manuscript. It made it easier for me to find the right words and arguments. It helped me to evade typical mistakes, to correctly build the structure of the book, and to keep the parameters specified for the book to succeed in the market.

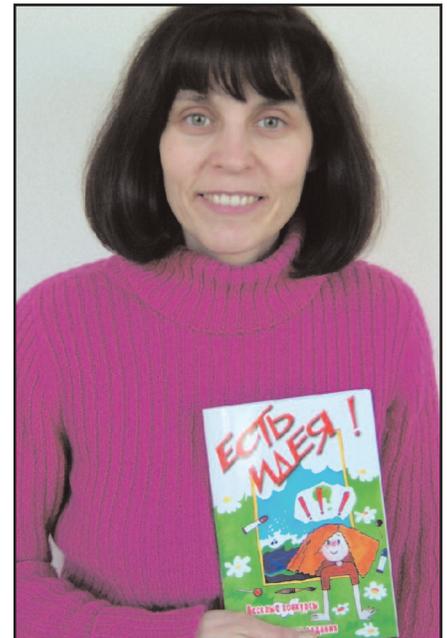
Editor: The book is selling very well. Bogomyslie receives many thanks from ministers that work with children. It is a success.

Author: *It is God's answer to my prayers. If it is His will, I'd love to have my book published in other countries and to be useful to many nations for the glory of God's kingdom. I have hope, and "hope does not disappoint" (Romans 5:5).*

Editor: Having written a book of my own, as an editor I better understand how difficult it is to write a book, to find the right words to express your thoughts. You have to overcome your laziness. You must be able to put aside your worries. You have to take all your editor's critical remarks into consideration, and keep the terms of your agreement.

Now I have to edit two new programs for summer camp. Two authors are writing them. I will look for the right words to critique the authors and to inspire them in their work. I know that the knowledge and experience I gained as a writer will help me.

Last year blessed me. I thank God because He takes care of my spiritual growth and gives me strength and wisdom in my work, whether I am an author or an editor—or both! ▽



Author and editor Zhabotynska proudly displays her best-selling book.

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