

Whisper House Press's Human-Centric AI Policy & Publisher's Covenant

I. Our Human-Centric Commitment

At Whisper House Press, we believe storytelling is a uniquely human act. What connects us together as people is our ability to empathize, and storytelling is first and foremost an act of reaching out—an act of empathy. While Artificial Intelligence (AI) can offer administrative efficiency, we assert it has no place in the creative process of producing a new book. We are committed to protecting the intellectual property of our authors through our interactions with AI tools and the integrity of the empathetic connection that underpins (and defines!) great horror literature.

II. Our Promises to Authors (The Covenant)

We view the publisher-author relationship as a shared project. To protect your work, we make the following binding promises:

1. **No AI Training:** We will never intentionally use your work, or permit any third party to use it, to train or develop AI models, machine learning systems, or Large Language Models (LLMs).
2. **No Unauthorized Transfers:** We will not sell or transfer your work to any party that we reasonably expect intends to use it for AI development.
3. **Human-Only Creative Production:** We do not use AI for any creative stage of production. We hire human artists for our covers and human authors for our stories.
4. **No Automated Evaluation:** We will *never* use AI to summarize, screen, or evaluate your submissions. Every word you send us is read by a human editor.

III. Transparency Regarding Administrative Use

Whisper House Press is not a 100% AI-free company. We consult AI for non-creative, "back-end" tasks to improve our business efficiency:

- **Website & SEO:** We use AI to analyze site traffic, suggest SEO tags, and improve user experience (UX).

- **Business Logic:** We consult AI for coding advice, contract analysis, and marketing strategy. We ask it for advice about what files to build to maximize transparency, and we use it to recommend tags and wording on social media posts. We are the experts “in the loop” on these things, though, and rarely if ever will the public see something that was AI generated.
- **The "Open Internet" Reality:** Because our *Featured Stories* series is published on the open internet, it is subject to automated scraping by third-party AI systems beyond our control. We take good-faith efforts (such as site-wide notices and hosting-level requests) to discourage this, but every web-series author has the option to have their story removed from the site at any time.
- **Explicit labeling:** We will label any public document that’s been AI-assisted clearly (as we do in this document).

IV. Our Expectations for Authors

To protect the press’s reputation and ensure a level playing field, **we require authors to:**

1. **Verify the Process:** Provide "Editor" access to a Google Doc version history, Microsoft Cloud history, or proof of longhand drafts and outlines to show the natural evolution of the story. We will keep these on hand if your work is ever challenged.
 - a. AI detection tools are notoriously awful, and we are operating under the assumption that at some point, someone will accuse one of our authors who definitely hasn’t used AI of doing so. We will be ready (or as ready as we can be) to refute those claims.
2. **Anti-AI Warranty:** Sign a legal warranty affirming the work was not generated by or assisted by generative AI.
3. **No AI-Generated Art:** Authors must ensure any promotional materials they create using our branded assets do not involve generative AI tools. AI might do some back-end stuff of our promotional architecture, but if we are using artwork, we want it to be human-generated.

The original draft of this agreement was drafted and published [without AI assistance] on www.whisperhousepress.com in 2025.