

# Sheryl Berk

## Pop Culture, Memoirs and Lifestyle Writer, Book Collaborator, Ghostwriter

**A seasoned writer of 20+ years with eight *New York Times* Bestsellers to my credit,**

I have extensive knowledge and experience in the publishing industry. My early training as an entertainment editor and journalist has given me a unique understanding of the industry, and an excellent rapport with managers, agents and publicists. Celebrities trust me to write their books.

**My editorial expertise** includes helming the launch of the first celebrity lifestyle weekly, *Life & Style*, as its founding editor in chief. I have also edited and generated original content for HBO.com, as well as written dozens of cover interviews and features for *InStyle*, *McCall's*, *Martha Stewart Weddings*, and *A&E Biography*.

**My strength as a collaborator** lies in my ability to “channel” my client’s voice and bring it to the printed page. I enjoy helping each individual through the process, and making the experience exciting, cathartic, rewarding and above all, smooth and easy. Whether it’s penning an emotional memoir, or packaging a lifestyle guide chock-full of tips and how-tos, my clients are always happy with the result:

“[Thank you] for working around my crazy schedule and putting it all together. I couldn’t have done it without you...literally!” **–*Dancing with the Stars*’ Derek Hough**

“Thank you for helping me to put my thoughts together so clearly, while never telling me what to say.”  
**–*Dance Moms* star Maddie Ziegler**

“You captured my voice in print perfectly!” **–*Jersey Shore*’s Jenni “JWOWW” Farley**

“A great writing partner...” **–Talkshow host Wendy Williams**

“My book would not be what it is without you. Thank you for helping me find my voice, and for your patience, enthusiasm and encouragement...” ***Glee* star Jenna Ushkowitz**

### 2016-17 RELEASES

#### **Everything is Possible** (*New York Times* bestseller)

*Finding the Faith and Courage to Follow Your Dreams*

- By Jen Bricker, gymnast, performer and motivational speaker (Baker Publishing, Sept. 2016)
- “Readers looking for inspiration, encouragement, and endless good cheer will enjoy Bricker's autobiography...” –Publishers Weekly

#### **The Maddie Diaries: A Memoir** (*New York Times* bestseller)

- By Maddie Ziegler, teen dance prodigy, breakout star of *Dance Moms* and judge on *So You Think You Can Dance: The Next Generation* (Gallery Books, March 2017)

#### **Jack & Jack: You Don’t Know Jacks**

- By Jack Johnson & Jack Gilinsky, Vine and YouTube Megastars and hip-hop sensations (Harper Collins, Sept. 2016)

#### **Matthew Espinosa: More than ME**

- By Matthew Espinosa, Vine, Twitter and YouTube sensation, recent star of the film *Be Somebody* (Harper Collins, Spring, 2017)

## MEMOIRS

### **Taking The Lead** (*New York Times* bestseller)

*Lessons from a Life in Motion*

- By Derek Hough, five-time champion of *Dancing with the Stars* (William Morrow, August 2015)
- “All those mirror ball trophies did not come without sacrifice...the book is so revealing.” –George Stephanopoulos, *Good Morning America*

### **Soul Surfer** (#1 *New York Times* bestseller)

*A True Story of Faith, Family, and Fighting to Get Back on the Board*

- Co-authored with Bethany Hamilton, world champion surfer who lost her arm in a shark attack at age 13 (Pocket Books, 2004; re-released and updated 2011)
- “An upbeat and candid chronicle of her life. Hamilton's optimism, determination and resilience (she climbed back on her surfboard within a month of the attack) are undeniably impressive and uplifting...”  
---*Publishers Weekly*
- Adapted into a major motion picture starring AnnaSophia Robb, Dennis Quaid, Helen Hunt and Carrie Underwood (Sony Pictures 2011)

### **Confessions of a Prairie Bitch** (*New York Times* bestseller)

*How I Survived Nellie Oleson and Learned to Love Being Hated*

- By Alison Arngrim, star of *Little House on the Prairie* (It Books, 2011)
- “‘Confessions of a Prairie Bitch’ says it all: Neither Arngrim nor Nellie could ever be called boring...”  
--*Entertainment Weekly*

### **My Journey With Farrah** (*New York Times* bestseller)

*A Story of Life, Love and Friendship*

- By Alana Stewart (William Morrow, 2009)
- “A memoir that returned Fawcett’s legacy to the limelight...intimate, no-holds barred...”  
–*Examiner.com*

### **Britney Spears: Heart to Heart** (*New York Times* bestseller)

- By Britney Spears and her mother Lynne Spears (Three Rivers Press, 2000)
- “The parent writes in the book of a shy child, a good kid, who'd miraculously come out of her shell whenever she got to dress up and perform...enlightening for fans...” –*Philadelphia Inquirer*

### **Wise Girl**

*What I've Learned About Love, Life and Loss*

- By Jamie-Lynn Sigler, star of *The Sopranos* (Gallery Books, 2002)
- “By simply acknowledging the enormous pressure on actresses to be skinny, Sigler does her part to undermine the unattainable body images Hollywood deems golden...” – *Entertainment Weekly*

## LIFESTYLE

### **Own it!**

*Be the boss of your life, at home and in the workplace*

By Tabatha Coffey, star of Bravo’s *Tabatha Takes Over* (It Books, 2014)

### **Choosing Glee**

*10 Rules to Finding Inspiration, Happiness and the Real You*

By Jenna Ushkowitz, star of *Glee* (St. Martin’s Griffin, 2013)

**Ask Wendy**

*Straight Up Advice for All the Drama in Your Life*

By Wendy Williams, NY Times Bestselling Author and host of *The Wendy Williams Show* (William Morrow, 2013)

**Oh, Baby!**

*Pregnancy tales and advice from one hot mama to another*

By Tia Mowry, star of BET's *The Game* and Style Network's *Tia & Tamara* (Avery Trade, 2013)

**The Rules According to JWOWW**

*Shore-tested secrets on landing a mint guy, staying fresh to death, and kicking the competition to the curb*

By Jenni "JWOWW" Farley, star of *Jersey Shore* and *JWOWW & Snooki* (William Morrow, 2011)

**The Cupcake Diaries (New York Times Bestseller)**

*Recipes and Memories from the Sisters of Georgetown Cupcake*

By Katherine Kallinis Berman and Sophie Kallinis LaMontagne, stars of TLC's *DC Cupcakes* (HarperOne, 2011)

**Sweet Celebrations**

*Our favorite cupcake recipes, memories and decorating secrets*

By Katherine Kallinis Berman and Sophie Kallinis LaMontagne, stars of TLC's *DC Cupcakes* (HarperOne, 2012)

**True Whit**

*Designing a Life of Style Beauty and Fun*

By Whitney Port, fashion designer and star of MTV's *The Hills* and *The City* (It Books, 2011)

**Dylan's Candy Bar: Unwrap Your Sweet Life**

By Dylan Lauren (Clarkson Potter, 2010)

**How to Be Sexy**

By Carmen Electra, Crown 2007

**HEALTH/FITNESS****The cLEAN Momma Workout**

*Get lean while you clean*

By Carolyn Barnes (William Morrow, 2012)

**The IntenSati Method**

*The seven principles to thinner peace*

By Patricia Moreno (Gallery Books, 2010; reprint 2014)

## **EDITORIAL EXPERIENCE**

- Executive Entertainment Editor, *A&E Biography*
- Entertainment Editor, *McCall's Magazine*; Executive Editor, *StarStyle*
- Editor, Welsh Publishing Group, Inc./Custom Publishing (created licensed magazines for Aaron Spelling Productions, Warner Bros., Walt Disney, Fox, Matt Groening and Jim Henson)
- Contributing Writer: *InStyle* and *InStyle Specials*, *OK! Magazine*, *Glamour*, *Fitness*, *Redbook*, *Health*, *Child*, *Parenting*, *Bride's*, *The New York Times*, *Martha Stewart*, *Travel & Leisure*, *NY Daily News*, *The Knot*, *ABC Episodes*, *InTheater/Theater Week*

## **CHILDREN'S BOOK AUTHOR/PLAYWRIGHT**

- *Peace, Love and Cupcakes; The Cupcake Club book series*, #1-12 (Sourcebooks, 2011-present). Bestselling series has sold 500,000+ copies and has been made into an off-Broadway musical at Vital Theatre (2014-2015 seasons) and is currently being mounted for the New York Musical Theater Festival's 2017 season at The Pearl Theater, NYC.
- *Dance Divas* #1-6 (Bloomsbury, 2012-present)
- *Fashion Academy* #1-6 (Sourcebooks, 2015)
- *Ask Emily*, #1-4 (*Bonnie/Little Bee*, 2018 launch)
- Disney Press/Mouseworks Publishing (1991-present); movie adaptations; picture books and novels based on animated characters/movies; *Between U and Me: How to Rock Your Tween Years with Style and Confidence* by Disney Channel star Zendaya (2014)

## **EDUCATION**

B.A., Syracuse University S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications, 1990