



Collaboration

A publishing path for collective storytelling

About Boavista Editions

Boavista Editions is a boutique literary press based in Porto, Portugal, and an imprint of Boavista Inovare, Lda. Beyond traditional publishing, we foster collaborative literary projects—books created by multiple authors exploring a shared concept or character from different perspectives.

Our Collaboration Program brings together writers who are open to creative dialogue and collective authorship, building works that merge distinct voices into unified narratives.

Now accepting submissions for our debut collaborative anthology, *She Was...*

A collective portrait told through several voices, *She Was...* explores how one woman's identity changes through the stories others tell about her.

Deadline: January 31, 2026

Concept

Every contributor begins with the same unseen figure: a woman known only as “She.” Her name, nationality, and age are undefined. What unites the project is not her biography but the ways she is seen, remembered, misremembered, or reinvented by others.

Writers are invited to imagine a woman who could exist anywhere between the United States and Europe's edges—shaped by exile, affection, ambition, quiet rebellion, or despair. She may appear in a single moment or across a lifetime. What matters is the observing voice and the truth, or distortion, it reveals.

Each piece must begin with a sentence describing her:

She was unbearably arrogant.
She was not who they thought she was.
She was the first to leave.

That opening line is your invitation. From it, create an original work that adds one facet to the larger mosaic. Contradiction is welcome; repetition is not.

Form and Freedom

Submissions must be original, previously unpublished prose written specifically for this project. Please do not adapt or reshape existing stories to fit the theme.

All literary forms are welcome, including:

- ✓ Short stories or flash fiction
- ✓ Prose poems or lyrical fragments
- ✓ Letters to or from “She”
- ✓ Diary entries, interior monologues, or conversations
- ✓ Hybrid or experimental pieces

She Was is a literary project, and we aim to keep its tone consistent across forms. To stay true to that mission, we do not consider submissions that are:

- ✓ Children’s, young adult, or illustrated picture books (except where imagery serves a literary purpose)
- ✓ Horror, fantasy, or science-fiction narratives
- ✓ Works containing explicit sexual content, gratuitous violence, or hate speech

We welcome emotional intensity and complexity—but not sensationalism.

Pieces may vary in length and style, but each should illuminate a new dimension of “She.”

The editorial goal is a collection of six to seven interwoven texts (total $\approx$ 90,000 words).

Individual contributions should therefore not exceed 15,000 words.

Editorial Process

Selected authors will work in dialogue with one another and with Boavista’s editorial team to shape a unified, multi-voiced narrative. Collaboration, mutual respect, and creative openness are essential.

Because the final anthology will feature six to seven writers, we may begin with a broader group during the development stage. Through discussion and editorial refinement, we will identify the combination of voices that best serve the whole. Some texts may be revised, merged, or held for future projects if overlapping themes emerge.

Our goal is to create a book in which each contribution deepens the collective portrait rather than competes with it.

Selection and feedback: February–March 2026
Collaborative development / editing: Spring–Summer 2026

Publication goal: Fall 2026

The finished anthology will be published in print and digital editions as Boavista Editions’ collaboration title.

She Was... Submission Guidelines

We accept submissions by email only.

Please do not send attachments (Word, PDF, etc.); paste all material into the body of the email.

Send to: submissions@boavistaeditions.com

Use the subject line:

Collaboration Submission – [Your Name] – “She Was...”

Include in your email:

- ✓ Cover letter
 - ✓ Brief synopsis or concept statement (150–300 words explaining your piece and its connection to “She”)
 - ✓ Full text or excerpt (up to 15,000 words max)
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Make sure your cover letter includes:

- ✓ Author name and full contact information
 - ✓ City and country of residence
 - ✓ Proposed title (if any)
 - ✓ Form (e.g., short story, prose poem, letter, monologue, hybrid)
 - ✓ Approximate word count
 - ✓ Short author bio (100–150 words)
 - ✓ Previous collaborative experience (if any — workshops, editing groups, co-authored projects)
Experience is welcome but not required; openness to collaboration is essential.
 - ✓ Rights statement:
“I confirm that I hold all rights to my submitted text and that it is not under contract elsewhere.”
 - ✓ Optional note on why you’re drawn to the project or how your piece adds a new dimension to “She.”
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After You Submit

You’ll receive an acknowledgment within 48 hours.

Submissions are reviewed collectively; selected authors will be contacted for discussion or development.

Please do not send follow-ups during the review period unless you need to withdraw your work.

No reading fees are charged. Submitted works will not be returned.

Privacy & Good Faith

All submissions are confidential and read only by Boavista’s editorial team. We value mutual respect and creative trust throughout the process.