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(54) **Title**: AUTOMATED PUBLISHING SYSTEMS AND METHODS

(57) **Abstract**: Provided is an automated publishing system that can include a database indexed to store contribution data that includes portions of works of authorship, a user authentication system configured to authenticate a member to the system, and a virtual work area having a graphic user interface accessible by the member. The interface can include content searching and content collating features such that a member can generate a custom work by selecting a plurality of different portions of works of authorship which are combined to generate the custom publication. The interface in addition contains an option for a member to add content at the end of each chapter, when such member is authorized by the publisher. The custom publication can be sent to the publisher for approval and is made available only after the publisher grants approval.