

The *Editor's* Manifesto

I'M AN EDITOR.

The first rule: **do no harm**. The second is like it: do not alter the story to suit my tastes. • Per Richard Hugo: “Cross out rapidly and



violently, never with slow consideration if you can help it.” • A *red pen* is a useful tool. I wield one. •

I murder darlings. • There are good words and **right words**. My job is to help the writer find the right ones. • **My mission:** identify the larger theme and protect it all costs, even at

the cost of the writer. • *Editing* is an art of precision. It requires a deft touch. • I give the writing a little room to breathe, **a little**

distance between it and the writer. • **I'm not a miracle worker,**

JUST AN EDITOR.
