Editorial Response Sheet

Use this when editorial feedback arrives — to read it as data about a reading experience, not as instructions for revision. The revision decisions are yours.

1 — FIRST READING: THE EXPERIENCE

Read the feedback once for what the editor experienced — not what they suggest. Note where they were confused, unconvinced, or lost.

Where was the editor confused?

Where did they lose the thread or disengage?

Where were they unconvinced by the argument?

2 — SECOND READING: THE DIAGNOSIS

Read the feedback again for what the editor thinks caused each experience. Then assess whether you agree.

What does the editor think the problem is?

Do you agree with the diagnosis — or is the experience accurate but the cause misidentified?

The editor is always right about their experience. They may be wrong about the cause.

3 — FLAGGED EDITS

Before implementing anything, flag edits you disagree with. Investigate each before accepting or rejecting.

Edit 1:

What it changes:

Why I disagree:

Is this edit revealing something I cannot see — or would it damage the piece?

Edit 2:

What it changes:

Why I disagree:

Is this edit revealing something I cannot see — or would it damage the piece?

Edit 3:

What it changes:

Why I disagree:

Is this edit revealing something I cannot see — or would it damage the piece?

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4 — REVISION DECISIONS

For each reading experience identified in Section 1 — what revision would address it without damaging what the piece is trying to do?

Experience to address:

Revision that addresses it:

Experience to address:

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Revision that addresses it:

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