



## When it's okay to turn down work

Sometimes, we need turn down a job even if we would like the money. Believe me, this isn't something I enjoy doing (who does?) but it's better to say no at the beginning than end up in a sticky situation at the end.

Thankfully, this doesn't happen often, but here are a few reasons why I'll decline an editing project.

- the story isn't ready
- it's not a genre I'm used to
- it's not a genre I like
- I don't connect with the writer
- the deadline is unrealistic
- the writer's expectations are unrealistic
- we can't agree on the fee

This week, an author sent me a sample to look at and straightaway, I could tell their story simply wasn't ready. There were bigger issues a line edit wouldn't help with. I explained as gently as possible, that it was in their best interests to get some beta readers or a manuscript evaluation, before getting their language issues fixed. Needless to say, this was a little disappointing for them because they wanted to publish fairly soon.

It's never easy hearing someone say your writing has problems but I think it's better to hear it before you publish. No one wants to get a poor review on Amazon or Goodreads because not only is it painful, but it's also out there for everyone to see. And we all know how mean some

reviewers can be.

My pocket may not be bursting with money, but I never want to be “that person” who makes someone miserable by not delivering what they promised.

I hope you have a great week and drop me a line if you ever need “eyes on your novel.”

Kerry

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