

Poetry Rubric, Editing Checklist: Cross-check to tighten and fix poems

	3	2	1	score
Compression: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> cut extra adv, adj, articles, prepositional phrases, redundant ideas? any unintentional tangent that misdirects? 	Doesn't obstruct meaning	Distractingly saggy, baggy or too telegraphic Skim test: don't lose anything or lose all the thread.	Don't want to skim. Reader gets summaries, or doesn't get to point with decent pace	
Lines: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> length suits content? enjambments support? line enacts meaning? 	Consistently maintained use of craft	Lines don't obstruct but don't maximize poem's thrust	Line breaks have no consistent logic.	
Meter: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> supports content and pacing? rhythm lull or frenetic? 	Subtle poetic technique	Slavish adherence, overly controlled	Absent	
Sounds: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> assonance, consonance ties to connect? support/underscore content? ear and tongue feel? 	Consistent ear to sound aspect, works off tongue	Points where sound aid, fits target mood	Awkward, clumsy	
Look: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> matches target form? presentation on page complements meaning? parses ideas w enough room 	Form or shape complements nature of poem	Some bland or awkwardness but does not obstruct understanding	Structurally impedes.	
Best words: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> abstract nouns? concrete? showing so reader draws conclusions? 	Clear, sharply defined, and moving	Some vague ideas or telling reader what pov had concluded	Predictable words and too many of them, preachy	
Memorable, Fresh: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> vivid images? best pov? freshly comparisons? deep? could be written by anyone? 	Compelling, distinct, bears re-reading to get more layers	Passes zombie test, enjoyable once	Boring, cliché	
Persuasive, useful: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> observant? grounded? contrived, fluff, sentiment, pretense? necessary story? 	Rings true, causes tingles or insight	Feels credible, interesting or exciting, worth reading	Irritates, too sweet, too harsh, too done	
Totals →				