Card 10: The Fence

Reach for it when the work is drifting toward a line that must not be crossed: an invented fact, borrowed words, a promise nobody can keep, a person written about carelessly.

Say it like this

• "Before we start: no figure appears unless it comes from the data I gave you. If a number isn't known, say so."

• "You may draft the promise, but you may not send it or set the date. Mark anything that sounds like a commitment."

Not this: "Don't make stuff up," shouted after the fact.

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