

## the meeting

as she drove to the meeting  
*which she did not think  
would turn out well*

she was thinking

*Go with love*

these are people  
I've worked with

*People I love*

and she was calm

she had already  
figured out

actually her gut  
had figured out  
and she had listened

*It's not about the money*

it was about her life  
and how she just  
could not

*do it any more*

lose her life  
that way

editing editing  
hour after hour  
not let anyone down

*make a special  
gem  
for each one  
no matter how long  
it took*

no matter  
how much it took

*out of her life*

she was exhausted  
and her husband  
who adored her  
wanted her

*to not do that  
to herself*

anymore

and when everything  
shut down  
and she had a little time  
to just

*be*

and some time  
to see

*she didn't want  
to do that to herself  
either*

she was done

*new life  
she said  
here I come*

when she got there  
her heart was open  
and she was calm

*Go with love*

and these people  
her friends  
who were trying  
to start the paper  
back up again  
needed her

but she was calm  
and she was ready

knew the truth

*her gut knew*

She was ready

Everyone there understood

*no one else could do*

*what she could do*

*and had done*

*for so long*

*she knew so many people*

*was loved*

*by so many*

*for her hard work good spirit*

*and newspaper gems*

it was a lot of pressure  
from her friends at the paper  
her friends who wanted her  
to take care of herself  
and every one else  
most of all

*from herself*

but there was another part  
of the equation  
which was who she was

*now*

and what she could  
and would  
and couldn't  
and would no longer  
try  
to do

and she brought that  
*simply*  
*and with love*  
to the meeting  
too

and because of the way  
she was  
when she came  
to talk to them  
they relaxed  
and saw her  
the way she saw them

and they listened

*It's all the hours  
she said  
I can't keep working  
all these hours  
and if I take  
my old job back  
and I still have  
to do it all myself  
I will do my best  
to do it no matter what  
to not let anyone down*

*and I can't  
I'm not going to do  
that to myself  
any more*

*so I can't take the job*

and they listened

they'd never known  
everything she did  
just knew that somehow  
she got it all done  
magically filled 12 to 16  
pages during the  
busy summer months  
did whatever was needed

but it wasn't magic  
it was her

*editing editing  
hour after hour*

*not let anyone down  
make a special  
gem  
for each one  
no matter how long  
it took*

now they heard  
started to understand  
and said

*how can we make  
this work*

and it was simple

people have to  
understand  
and help  
each other

and people  
have to take time  
to listen to  
their guts  
their hearts  
and their friends

hear what  
is most important

and know

*what they can  
and can not  
do*

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