

When an Editor Explains Rejection

So You Want to Be a Journalist · By Simon Townsend · 1 min read

Editors owe you nothing

Well, an editor is not a teacher.

He's not there to help you or to foster your career. That's my job. Use ME to work out why you were rejected.

Your editor does not OWE it to you to explain the rejection. And I agree with that.

Your job is to make yourself so familiar with your target publication that you should be able to work out why you were rejected.

Would you send an article on knitting to Architectural Digest or an article on architecture to Crafts Australia?

No?

Well some of my students make these kind of blunders and still wonder why the editor hasn't the "courtesy" to explain the rejection.

Reprinted from The Wonderful World of Journalism. Written in the spirit of Simon Townsend's journalism craft advice. Visit simontownsendjournalist.com for the full archive.