



# The Artful Edit: On the Practice of Editing Yourself

*Susan Bell*

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# The Artful Edit: On the Practice of Editing Yourself

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**The Artful Edit: On the Practice of Editing Yourself** Susan Bell

"Bell's prose is elegant and wonderfully readable in this artful guide."—*Publishers Weekly*

*The Artful Edit* explores the many-faceted and often misunderstood—or simply overlooked—art of editing. The book brims with examples, quotes, and case studies, including an illuminating discussion of Max Perkins's editorial collaboration with F. Scott Fitzgerald on *The Great Gatsby*. Susan Bell, a veteran book editor, also offers strategic tips and exercises for self-editing and a series of remarkable interviews, taking us into the studios of successful authors such as Michael Ondaatje and Ann Patchett to learn from their various approaches to revision. Much more than a manual, *The Artful Edit* inspires readers to think about both the discipline and the creativity of editing and how it can enhance their work. In the computer age of lightning-quick composition, this book reminds readers that editing is not simply a spell-check. A vigorous investigation into the history and meaning of the edit, this book, like *The Elements of Style*, is a must-have companion for every writer.

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