

# REWILD SCHOOL

## "I AM NOT YOUR PROFESSOR" MANIFESTO

I do not offer solutions. I pose problems.

I do not give answers. I ask questions.

I do not know. I repeat: I do not know.

I do not profess. I suggest.

I do not lecture. I reflect.

I do not answer. I learn.

I do not inform. I transform.

I do not convey facts, figures, and formulae. I tell stories, engineer experiences and manufacture moments of consequence - ordeals.

I do not teach with techniques. I guide with love.

I do not put on a show. I do not choreograph my movements. I do not memorize my lines. You are not my audience. You are my collaborators.

I do not hold court. I do not sit at the center; the problem does. All eyes are on the problem.

I do not manage my classroom. I poke it.

I do not strive for order. I lean into chaos.

I do not call on you. If you have something to say, speak up.

I do not lead group discussions. I survive them. You will have to, too.

I do not run a model classroom. At its best, it is rowdy, unruly, and cacophonous. But it is magical.

I am not in charge. I repeat: I am not in charge.

I do not lead. I do not sort. I do not organize. If an opportunity to learn goes unexplored, I may point it out. Otherwise, I stay in my duck blind.

I observe, watch, and listen. I note how you carry yourself, where you sit, the tone of your voice, how you communicate with others, and what words you use when talking about yourself.

I do not assign homework. I assign while-you-are-in-your-sleep-work, while-you-are-in-the-shower-work, and while-your-in-another-class work. You will come to view the work we do together as all-consuming. It is never done. It is never complete. It is always on your mind.

I do not give quizzes. I give quests.

I do not hold review sessions. I host training grounds. I equip, prepare, and ready you for the struggle that has no ending—the struggle with your fears.

I do not have office hours. I am on call 24/7/365.

I do not have a final exam. I have a crucible. We endure it together.

I only give letter grades because I must.

I am not your professor. At times, I am your Gandalf, Legolas, and Samwise Gamgee.