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## We Have Our Work Cut Out

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## We Have Our Work Cut Out

I hear those words that have been repeated  
until they're see-thru, tracing paper thin,  
and I see a child with scissors in her hand  
turning and turning a sheet of construction  
paper to cut out a perfectly-shaped heart,  
hand drawn, to paste onto another colored  
sheet of construction paper, twice folded,  
with printed letters, large in her tiny hand,  
that will be recognized undeniably as hers  
by others and herself over years to come--  
her Mother's Day card of first or third grade  
that will be put up on the fridge for weeks,  
then taken down--tucked away in a box  
of childhood memorabilia for forty years.  
I think of her words on her handmade card  
and the cutting out of her red paper heart  
and I know she's gifting her perfected love.

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