

Believe

Kevin Garrison

I just inserted in my student's document
another MS Word comment,
Calibri font in a pink background,
telling him that "it doesn't matter what you believe."

I didn't quite mean that.

You see, he was writing a technical document,
a letter where he had already written "you see"
even though I don't see.
And he knew only how to "think" in every fourth sentence,
proving he didn't,
and "hope" for my understanding after feigning gratitude in the
final line.

I almost typed "avoid subjectivity."
I often do.
Or "your beliefs matter less than proof."
And I have.
Or, since I was tired, "Delete" or "Rephrase."
And they do.

But I believe I don't quite mean those, either.

You see, I've read Derrida
even as far back as Kant and Plato.
And I know that the belief is all that matters,
and that rationality fails when they write.

So next time, I think,
I'll insert in my student's document
an MS Word comment,
Calibri font in a pink background,
and tell him that "it doesn't matter what you believe"
while believing that it does.