

The MSPress Journal

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Poetry

White(coat) Noise

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Med school breaks you...
They warned me.

A small notebook in my pocket like
Mary Oliver,
I too walk in fields.
Fluorescence lighting the hospital hall serves proxy
For the waking sun outside,
Washing out my skin.
I pretend it has the same effect on the beeping monitors, because
Wonder peeks out from stillness,
So I desperately seek even ephemeral pause.

Learning to save lives,
I can't help but query—
Who gets to help people live them?
Should I have picked that job instead?

I don't need an accidental needle stick to show my
Bleeding heart.

Med school breaks you...
They warned me.
I finished their sentence,
...open and words fall out.