

MIND TO MIND

*Creative writing that explores the abstract side
of our profession and our lives*

Stephen T. Harvey, M.D., Editor

Hospital Waiting Room

Andrew Chenevert

A
A celebrity's polished face assures
great care is taken to protect
those inside the magazine. Anyone can forgive
the discoloration on the floor,
or a distant flat note breaking through a door
in the pleasant yellows of the family room.

Here magazines serve two functions,
the first purely aesthetic:
to hide the chipping paint on tables.
The second is to muffle the hours
of uncertainty entombed inside
the hospital.

When you get out,
and your mother is cured, you will
remember the ad for new lipstick,
rush to the store, and thank it for showing
mercy.

This poem is one of the finalists of ANESTHESIOLOGY's first annual creative writing competition, The Letheon.
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