

MIND TO MIND

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

Stephen T. Harvey, M.D., Editor

Morning in the Surgical Waiting Area

Donna Doyle

We drove through darkness, sky spread thick
with constellations, stories of immortals
stolen by artificial light. Now this glare
installed without thought of our need to move
slowly toward illumination—to witness faces
tired as ours, magazines crumpled by multitudes,
furniture scuffed and dull, burdened by so much
waiting. For as long as possible we delay
closing our eyes, moments when blindness
renders us better listeners. Around the room
lullabies hum, names of patients called
to endure another kind of sleep.

I love you...I love you...I love you
trails like stars falling, landing lightly
on our laps, scattering our histories,
legends of mortals left in our keeping.

This poem is one of the finalists of ANESTHESIOLOGY's 2018 annual creative writing competition, The Letheon. donnajodyle@gmail.com

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