

Doctor, Please...  
By Sarah Lee

Doctor, I know that you are busy –  
Buzzing through hospital traffic, weaving in and out,  
But I'm your patient and I've been patient;  
B r e a t h e for a minute to feel what I'm all about.

Doctor, I know that you went to med school –  
Myocardial infarction and ventricular fibrillation  
Sound like jtnelxmehwieur paojwelrksjfm;  
Don't assume I know and need no explanation.

Doctor, I know that you are human –  
You [----] up, you make mistakes;  
But Doctor I refuse to be *your* statistic;  
Your errors can't be on me. I have too much at stake.

Doctor, I know that you feel awkward –  
When questioning me if I have sex and if I smoke crack;  
But vulnerability and fragility have been our backdrop,  
If you don't ask, I'll never look back, never, ever look back...

Doctor, I know that you're scared –  
Playing God, walking between life and death, that line  
Please, Please hold my hand as I slip to sleep,  
And promise me life will turn out just fine.

Doctor, I know that you are tired –  
And I'm just a name on the list for you fill-in.  
Look here, Doctor! Welcome to my crisis!  
With our rendezvous I'm going all-in.

Doctor, I know that you can't hear me –  
My pain and suffering won't echo echo echo...  
HELP ME ESCAPE FROM MY OWN BODY!  
I'm trapped by my illness, sickness is my pseudo!

Doctor, I know that you are tired.  
Doctor, I know that you are busy.  
Doctor, I know that you feel awkward.  
Doctor, I know that you can't hear me.  
Doctor, please?

Author Bio: Sarah Lee, a senior at Stanford University, is studying Human Biology, with a focus on Women's Health. She is particularly interested in establishing women's reproductive rights and fighting sexual violence, both in the United States and abroad. After graduating from Stanford, she would like to pursue degrees in medicine and public health and practice primary care, catering to women and children in urban areas. Hailing from the great city of Seattle, she loves to drink coffee, sing in the rain and explore nature through hiking, running, and backpacking. You can contact Sarah at: [sarahlee@stanford.edu](mailto:sarahlee@stanford.edu)