

Survive & Thrive: A Journal for Medical Humanities and Narrative as Medicine

Volume 5 | Issue 1

Article 14

2020

Institutionalization

Michal Coret

University of Toronto, michalcoret@gmail.com

Follow this and additional works at: https://repository.stcloudstate.edu/survive_thrive

Recommended Citation

Coret, Michal (2020) "Institutionalization," *Survive & Thrive: A Journal for Medical Humanities and Narrative as Medicine*: Vol. 5 : Iss. 1 , Article 14.

Available at: https://repository.stcloudstate.edu/survive_thrive/vol5/iss1/14

This Poem is brought to you for free and open access by theRepository at St. Cloud State. It has been accepted for inclusion in *Survive & Thrive: A Journal for Medical Humanities and Narrative as Medicine* by an authorized editor of theRepository at St. Cloud State. For more information, please contact tdsteman@stcloudstate.edu.

Institutionalization

Cover Page Footnote

n/a

Institutionalization

I don't know why they cut me open.
I ask the nurse each meal,
But she feeds me another spoon instead of answering.

I don't know why I have this tube.
I cannot talk with it taped to my nose,
But it lies limp across my chest, not connected to any machine.

I don't know what is wrong with me.
I confess to you in whispered gasps,
But you are not my doctor. Who is?

I don't know what will be of me.
I ask god,
But even he has given up: a tube with no machine.

I don't know if this body is mine or theirs.
I try to move, to touch your hand,
But these wrists have been handcuffed to the bed.