

## **FM REVIEW COMMENTS 2013 5**

**COMMENTS TO EDITOR:** I am in agreement with the reviewers that this 55 word submission needs extensive work. I like the theme of the piece - how a family member's gratitude can revive a doctor's flagging spirits - but as it stands the writing does not adequately convey the emotional tone of this experience. I recommend major revision.

**COMMENTS TO AUTHOR:** Dear Dr., this 55 word piece shares an experience - how a family member's gratitude can revive a doctor's flagging spirits - that all family doctors will recognize and cherish. Reviewers, both of whom are experienced in reviewing poetry, and one of whom has expertise with 55 word pieces, feel this work has potential but requires extensive revision. It is important that, through the images of the work, the emotional power of the experience comes through strongly. One way to do this is by providing additional details - for example, as reviewer 2 suggests, ground the narrator's "tiredness" in some specific (hours on call).

One of the reviewers points out that sometimes a story does not lend itself to the restrictions of the 55 word format, and requires more space to develop. This is a point worth considering. On the other hand, perhaps by first writing a longer version, you can more effectively distill it down.

Please submit a revision that carefully considers reviewer suggestions.

**COMMENTS TO EDITOR II:** The author gave serious consideration to the excellent suggestions received from reviewers, and made changes accordingly. I think it could be tweaked a bit (see attached), but would recommend acceptance after one more effort.

**COMMENTS TO AUTHOR II:** Dear Drs. Zamudio and Vlahos, this version is much improved, and evokes more of the emotional distress of the narrator. I also agree that removing attention from the bus driver helps retain the focus of the piece where it should be - on the narrator. I still think a few word choices could be improved upon. Please think about the suggestions in the attached version.

**COMMENTS TO EDITOR III:** The author has made the changes requested. This has turned into a pretty good 55 word piece. I recommend acceptance.

**COMMENTS TO AUTHOR III:** Thank you for your patience with the revision process. The 55 word format is a hard one to master. I hope you are as pleased with the end result as we are.