

FM REVIEW COMMENTS 2013 6

COMMENTS TO EDITOR: This is one of the better poems we've received. It shows evidence of real craft that simultaneously conveys deep emotion. I've made two minor suggestions below, and the author should pay attention to Richard Bronson's excellent review; but this is definitely a keeper.

COMMENTS TO AUTHOR: Dear Dr., this is a beautifully crafted poem that is also powerful and moving. Please look at the second review, which offers some excellent minor suggestions for revisions. I too felt the 1st stanza, 2nd line is too wordy - and definitely support your choosing sadness over frustration (an overused and vague word).

I'd also recommend you take a second look at the final line stanza 2. It seems too long, too full of words. Could you possibly remove the "and"? Perhaps choose one or the other of the two wonderful images?

Again, this is a terrific poem. Everyone who's read it has resonated to it. Thank you for choosing Family Medicine as an outlet for your work.

COMMENTS TO EDITOR II: This is a beautiful poem, reviewers loved it - as do I. The author has made the minor changes requested, and if possible, it is even more affecting. An enthusiastic accept!

COMMENTS TO AUTHOR II: Dear Dr. Kong, there is unanimous agreement about the exquisite quality of this poem. It is both beautifully written and incredibly touching. As well, it embodies a quality of "presence" with one's patients that all family docs will recognize.

I like both versions of your poem, but am in accord that the invitation "take your rest here" is more compelling and touching than the alternative version of "let me hold your hand," although this is a lovely image as well. Sometimes you've done enough and it's time to let go. The poem is a gem. Thank you for considering Family Medicine as an outlet for your work.