

FM REVIEW 2025 4 COMMENTS

COMMENTS TO EDITOR: This is a lovely poem about the intertwining of professional and personal life organized around pregnancy during residency and that child now her mom's companion as she takes phone call. A particular strength of the poem is the repetition of words, phrases, and images, albeit in different contexts, that emphasizes the interconnectedness of mother, child, and patients. The reviewers were quite positive, and suggest just a few clarifying changes. I recommend minor revision.

COMMENTS TO AUTHOR: This is a truly lovely poem that shows the intertwining of professional and personal life. A particular strength is the way that words, phrases, and images recur, but in different contexts, emphasizing the interconnectedness of the worlds you describe. We suggest considering a couple of minor changes:

1) Jumping backwards in time struck one reviewer as slightly confusing (personally I did not find it so). Nevertheless, perhaps you could say "Two years ago..." or somehow indicate a time frame more directly. I also think the adverb "skillfully" could be deleted. It is not one of your repeating words, and it seems unnecessary to point out your own ability.

2) One reviewer was a bit confused by the final reference to release. I personally enjoyed the ambiguity, but you might think about some way of clarifying that you mean release from call (if this was your intent).

This sweet, warm poem should give hope to all physicians struggling to balance work and family life that it is indeed possible.

COMMENTS TO EDITOR II: This was already a well-crafted and lovely poem about balancing work/life responsibilities. It makes good use of repeating words and images which evoke both suffering and release. A few minor tweaks have brought the poem into even better focus. I recommend acceptance.

COMMENTS TO AUTHOR II: Thank you for these very minor adjustments in the poem, which nevertheless bring it into clearer focus. A lovely, honest, and moving piece of writing.