

FM REVIEW 2015 26 COMMENTS

COMMENTS TO EDITOR: Both reviewers liked this rather humorous poem about a patient experiencing the unexpected side effects of using a nebulizer. The poem nicely captures the "high" that accompanies effective treatment of his symptoms. I am not quite as enthusiastic about the poem as the reviewers, but I agree with Reviewer 1 that the poem will have greater consistency and immediacy by writing it in present tense. I've included some suggested edits.

COMMENTS TO AUTHOR: This is a humorous, slightly rueful poem about a patient encounter the unexpected side effects of using a nebulizer. It is full of vivid and unusual imagery. In general, the tone is well-suited to the content. The poem could be improved by making a few small changes:

1) It seems uninteresting to begin the poem with the date. I understand this is important to identify the season which is referenced in the last line of the poem. Could you possibly include it simply as a sub-head to the title?

2) The technical terms and details about the nebulizer seem distracting and unnecessary, as does the footnote

3) The phrase "Neven been 'on drugs'... does not quite work grammatically or stylistically. I've suggested an alternative which might not be quite right either. Please look at this line.

4) The most important recommendation follows from Reviewer 1's critique, and involves bringing the poem into the present. Doing so will boost the poem's consistency and immediacy. The present tense is better suited to the jangly, high-energy tone and content of the poem.

Please look at the revised poem for ideas. These are suggestions only, but indicate where the poem could benefit from some editing.

COMMENTS TO EDITOR II: This author is a pleasure to work with! He easily grasped the issues involved in reviewers' concerns, and adapted their suggestions to the betterment of the poem. The poem is vibrant and immediate, and indeed gives the reader a good sense of the nebulizer "high." I recommend accept.

COMMENTS TO AUTHOR II: Thank you for these changes and for seeing so readily how they improved the poem. The poem now reads with great vibrancy and immediacy. Readers will quickly be immersed in the experience of a nebulizer "high" - as well as the precious relief it brings.