

## **FM REVIEW 2016 2 COMMENTS**

**COMMENTS TO EDITOR:** This poem describes the unexpected death of a pregnant patient and the profound impact on the narrator. It is constructed around the framework of an inquiry about the narrator's wellbeing; and her conclusion that despite the emotional toll taken, she is able to say she is "okay." The story of grief and resilience in the patient death is compelling, but unfortunately the author's craft is not up to the task. The poem is accompanied by an explanatory paragraph which provides much-needed context and clarifies the poem. It also mentions the author's work using "trauma-sensitive yoga" with patients. One of the reviewers suggested that the piece be reworked as a prose essay, expanding on this paragraph. I solicited LeNeva's opinion, and she is supportive of this option. I think there is a valuable story in here, but suspect it could be better told in a different format. I recommend we reject the poem, but invite the author to resubmit this narrative in a prose version.

**COMMENTS TO AUTHOR:** Thank you for this poem. You describe a tragic and powerful experience which obviously had a profound effect on you. After careful review, the editorial conclusion is that this story could be told more accessibly and more fully as a prose essay. Therefore, while we are not accepting the original submission, we encourage you to resubmit your thoughts in essay form. We would be interested in hearing not only about the event itself and its profound emotional impact on you, but also how it affected the way you viewed subsequent patients and your awareness of the ongoing trauma to which physicians are exposed. We'd also be interested in having you described your work with trauma-sensitive yoga that appeared to be an outgrowth of this experience.