
POETRY | SPRING 2018

Disheartening News

By Alina Plavsky

We had to know your pressure
look right, look left
we thought we could find
the main one
or several to open
to then get you
net, even
but now
your right
you're right
your left
you're left
with a clear corollary
with a weak pump
maybe weeks? maybe months?
just a fraction
it's hard to tell
your heart
this disheartening news

Alina Plavsky is an internal medicine resident at Oregon Health & Science University in Portland, Oregon. She is originally from Lithuania, but moved to the United States at the age of 7. She received her undergraduate degree and Master of Public Health from Dartmouth, after which she moved back to the Pacific Northwest to attend medical school at the University of Washington. During her residency, she has focused her attention on addressing disparities in health quality, access, and cost in healthcare and aspires to be an excellent primary care physician. She also enjoys the outdoors, photography, Zumba, and travel.

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