
POETRY | FALL 2021

Early Mornings

By Noam Margalit

Heartbeat under breast pocket,
I watch as he slides onto the steel scrollwork
of a wrought iron bench,
his spine finding the crest rail in relief.

I stare at the stillness of his features,
and I am brought back to early mornings—
mornings draped in green gowns and white linens.
His hands, violet from fragile vessels,
were cupped in mine.

I see the raised scar just under the crease of his arm,
stretching like an etiolated torch beam.
I feel the weight of watching,
and he looks my way—
a mirror come to pass.

Noam Margalit is a fourth-year medical student at the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine. She is pursuing a career in geriatrics and enjoys spending time thinking about issues related to interprofessional care, medical education and ethics of aging. Margalit and her black Lab can be found swimming in Lake Michigan on Chicago summer days.

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