
POETRY | SPRING 2019

AUSCULTATION OF A FAILING HEART

By Prerana Chatty

Do you hear it?
The lub, *swoosh*, dub?
Do you hear it building?

Tell me if you hear the wreckage.
These breaths are tangled,
ensnared.
I do not know these sounds or what they are
becoming,
only how bright they are –

do not be afraid.
The things we love always
realign.

Listen for the collisions.

Don't you know
we love what we destroy?
We grow the stars,
the sky holds us –
it is almost celestial,

the way a heart expands
before it breaks.

Prerana Chatty is a third-year medical student at Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School. Prior to medical school, she received her BA in Biological Sciences with a minor in Creative Writing from Cornell University. She firmly believes that the core of medicine is made up of patients' stories and hopes to continue to integrate narrative medicine into her career. She will be applying for a residency in pediatrics in 2019 and is looking forward to the next step of her journey. Outside of medicine, she has a voracious love of tea, dogs, and outdoor walks.

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