
POETRY | SPRING 2021

Cosmetics

By Mo Lynn Stoycoff

Sleepless at 3am, the thought
crosses my mind. If I look
younger, will I get better
treatment at the hospital?

If I get worse, and I look old,
will they leave my gurney
in the hallway and give
the ventilator
to a teenage boy
or a young mother?

Maybe I should cover
my gray, I think. At
3am, I'm thinking
I should snazz
myself up so they'll
consider letting
me live.

Mo Lynn Stoycoff is an autodidactic writer and poet whose work has appeared or is forthcoming in *Temelo*, *Rise Up Review*, *South Broadway Ghost Society*, *California Quarterly*, *Speckled Trout Review* and many other journals and anthologies. Stoycoff is a longtime activist and was author of the popular “Get Off Yer Ass column” in *Alive n’ Kicking* music magazine and has written and performed occasion poems for Women Take Back the Night and other rallies. Stoycoff works in the performing arts and lives on the colonized land of the Patwin people in Central California. Molynnstoycoff.com

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