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My Future Patients

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My Future Patients:

We will watch them suffer from the pains of their ailments. We will watch them suffer doubly when they see the struggle and sacrifice of their loved ones now turned into their beasts of burden.

We, physicians, can never take our patients or their loved one's fears personally. Families can be fierce, when they are not able to protect the ones they love.

We, future physicians, vow to never give up--to never forget why we answered the call to help those in need. When we feel our benevolence is seemingly never enough or our artistry is starting to lose its meaning, remember the reasons that brought us here. We get the opportunity to honor the debt for the doctors who saved our own loved ones--those physicians whose training and dedication allowed our families more time. It is a debt we choose to pay in full-- the gift to practice the art and science of medicine-- a legacy that has existed since time immemorial.

There will be days when we inform families, that theirs will not be broken up today. Their loved one will make it through. Knowing that I will be in the position to give the gift to a future physician, makes this arduous journey to become the imperturbable physician I aspire to be, worth my moments of doubt. Worth every tribulation I have faced and those I will undoubtedly encounter along the way. No matter the size of the wall our diplomas fit on, our future patients won't care how much we know, until they know *how much we care*.

Ancora imparo-I am always learning.

ARTIST PETER SCIARRETTA TROCCOLI, IS A FIRST YEAR MEDICAL STUDENT AS WELL AS A BENEFICIARY OF MODERN MEDICINE AND THOSE WHO PRACTICE ITS ART AND SCIENCE.