

Fall 2020

Thank you

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The mission of medicine is to promote health and save lives. Unfortunately, one's actions in the medical field may sometimes never be enough to revitalize a patient. From my experience, the magnitude of the loss of a patients' life will never be fully appreciated until witnessed first-hand. This poem serves to illuminate one of sad truths of medicine and provide inspiration for medical professionals to continue to promote humanity and appreciate the true value of life.

ARTIST STATEMENT: KRUNAL PATEL

We just lost our fifth patient. My heart hurts and my head fills with frustration.

That is five families asking, “How could this be?” Is this really supposed to happen to me?

Happy families with huge smiles and grateful hugs have been replaced by a pit where my aching heart thuds.

What more could we have done? So our patient could once again see the sun.

My whole world doesn't feel right. Deep inside I struggle with a fight.

If medicine is to heal Then why is despair the only emotion I feel?

I'm stuck, deep inside this black pit when their family saves me with words that I'd never expect to fit.

Thank you!

Did I hear that right? Or am I just dreaming in broad daylight?

I never imagined such a simple phrase could elevate me out of such a dejected mental phase.

Those two words gave me light.

Life is too short to be overcome by plight.

Learn to love smiles for they will take you miles.

Learn to give simple gestures of sympathy. It will transcend all of humanity.

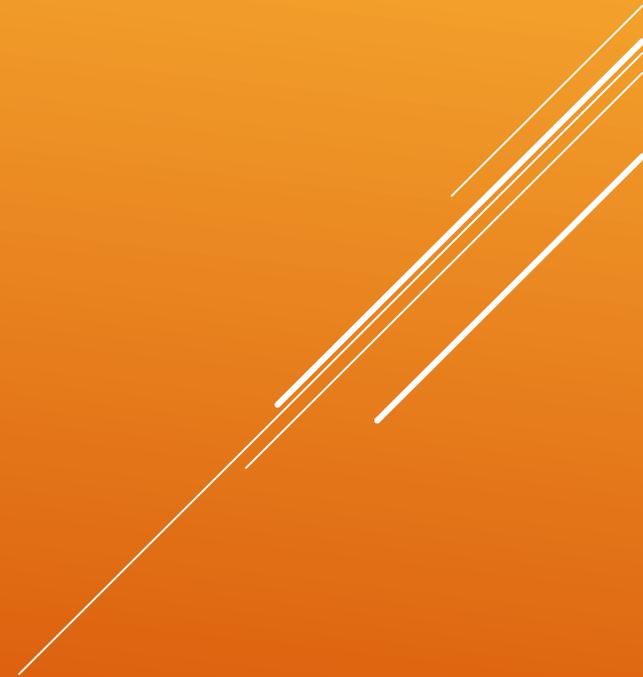
Most importantly, learn to appreciate life.

Just live and let yourself thrive.



Share your love and never stop celebrating.

**Appreciate every moment as if it was the most
breath-taking.**



Krunal Patel is a third-year medical student. He wrote this piece following his clinical clerkship in Internal Medicine to share his unforgettable experiences. His purpose for writing his poem, was to provide support and inspiration to those struggling with disheartening medical situations in medicine.

ABOUT THE ARTIST: KRUNAL PATEL