

Chief complaint

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Lights.
A miasma of translucent neon lights.
“It’s not so much a complaint,”
she folds her fragile hands;
“as a beautiful concern.”
They are the geometric patterns
and the delicate ribbed glow around her visible world,
almost worth their pain.
“At first I thought I was going mad,”
she gives a bashful half grin.
“But it was a lovely madness,
it was like I woke up one day with a gift.
They keep me company, in a way.”
Her eyes dart down.
The doctor makes notes until she is done.
“Migraines,”
he says,
“very common.”
He looks at his notes.
“I cannot leave you with the lights, and not the pain.”
“It’s your choice, of course.”

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