

Right Brain: Should we wear flowers in our hair?

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Speak of healing
and freedom and love and peace
Eschew conventions
and expectations and hard-nosed technology
Expand awareness
through mindfulness and meditation and music

Should we wear flowers in our hair
shrug off stiff white coats drop crumpled patient lists
forget statistics and record-keeping the whys and wherefores
who goes on whose list who is on call

Tune in to crescendo tension
of warring chords rocking
primness of white-collar job and profession
squealing under bloated commerce screaming headlines
of physician burnout and despair rising steadily
epidemic swelling year by year

Should we gather the kindred for another summer of love
remember the Hippocratic oath
this is not only a career this is not just a job
our patients are not statistics and we are not numbers

Should we run the revolution confront bayonets with flowers
celebrate another Monterey turn on and sing it
of simplicity of bygone days
of compassion and kindness
of integrity and strength
of one's good name

Remember humanity remember to care
remember to leave the flowers in your hair

Author contributions

C.J.J. Yeo: drafting/revising the manuscript, accepts responsibility for conduct of research, and will give final approval.

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