

Patience

Jamie Nicole LaBuzetta, MD

Neurology® 2019;92:98. doi:10.1212/WNL.00000000000006741

Correspondence

Dr. LaBuzetta
jlabuzetta@ucsd.edu

MORE ONLINE

🔊 Audio

Listen to Dr. LaBuzetta
read this poem.

[NPub.org/f2e9iw](https://www.npub.org/f2e9iw)

Thirty six years (thirty in school)
and still I'm just another girl
walking past his room.

"Nurse!"
An honest mistake, I tell myself.
"I'm your doctor, sir; how can I help?"

This patient isn't from a different time.
He's young, like me.
Doesn't he see my white coat, my badge (MD)?

Tell me, I want to know:
Last time normal? What happened?
I examine him from head to toe.

"Honey" that, and "Sweetie" this.
Would he call his male doctor buddy or dude?
Inside, I'm screaming
I want to spit.

I'm told it gets better with a little gray hair.
Not. Fair.

Perhaps his new brain injury made him this way;
I wonder what he would he have said yesterday.
I suppose it's a good sign he's speaking at all.

My trainees come in. They present to me—
the attending physician, I oversee;
I command their attention.

And still, before I leave the room,
"Please tell the doctor I'd like to see him."

Neurology[®]

Patience

Jamie Nicole LaBuzetta

Neurology 2019;92;98

DOI 10.1212/WNL.0000000000006741

This information is current as of January 7, 2019

Updated Information & Services	including high resolution figures, can be found at: http://n.neurology.org/content/92/2/98.full
Subspecialty Collections	This article, along with others on similar topics, appears in the following collection(s): All Clinical Neurology http://n.neurology.org/cgi/collection/all_clinical_neurology
Permissions & Licensing	Information about reproducing this article in parts (figures, tables) or in its entirety can be found online at: http://www.neurology.org/about/about_the_journal#permissions
Reprints	Information about ordering reprints can be found online: http://n.neurology.org/subscribers/advertise

Neurology® is the official journal of the American Academy of Neurology. Published continuously since 1951, it is now a weekly with 48 issues per year. Copyright © 2019 American Academy of Neurology. All rights reserved. Print ISSN: 0028-3878. Online ISSN: 1526-632X.

