Epidemiology of Work Related Diseases

Second Edition

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Work Related
Diseases

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Edited
Corbett McDonald

BMJ

Edited by Corbett McDonald

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Dear Mom why don't you just hit yourself on the head
with a hammer I think that would work faster
than not taking your medicine accruing with the salt
and pepper shakers in the cabinet above the sink
bottles like toy figures jilted in the dark behind
the laminated paneling tidy and easily tipped
in the company of toothpicks bouillon cubes birthday candles
I saw you sneak a pill in your mouth just before
I took your pressure but it doesn't work that way
outside your window a cardinal visits your birdhouse
and a God-sent snowfall lightens your yard so please
Mom please remember to take your pills and don't
walk on the counter tops to get the odd-shaped pans
and don't jump over Johnny's outstretched legs
in front of the TV and don't ride the El anymore
for the basement sales downtown and stay off the roof
forget about the eaves the pigeons need a place to be
and would you please stop cooking wiping rinsing drying
fussing fixing folding stacking for a singles second because
I love you and need one accurate reading.

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