

I am so sick of
Hospitals and clinics and
The blood pressure cuffs,

The finger pricks and
Needle sticks and tourniquets,
The hum of machines

That I will never
Understand- CAT scans
And stethoscopes and

Endoscopes and such
And my forearms, elbows are
Black and green and blue

All the time from the
Needles, blood work, and IVs;
I never used to

Care about the pain
But now, I can't help but cringe-
Is it really so

Unreasonable
For me to not look forward
To this anymore?

At least I get to
Be a guinea pig sometimes
For med students and

Residents who are
Always trying to look all
Intense when they walk

Into my room with
A clipboard and stethoscope,
God complex in tow

Acting confident
Like they have it all under
Control but when I

Look into their eyes
I can see that they are just
As scared as I am

Scribble, mumble, turn
They leave and I realize
The look in their eyes

Is more meaningful
Than just fear; it means I'm not
Alone in this place

But that thought does not
Bring enough relief to put
Me to sleep so I

Wait a while and the
Nurse comes back and announces
That my TSH

Levels are out of
Wack but that's OK we have
A pill for that so

Just sit back, relax
Breathe easy, have some morphine
Let it hit you like

A ton of bricks and
You can sleep easy which is
Not always a breeze,

Not the easiest
Thing to do in this place that
Smells of peroxide,

Bleach, ammonia
Or ethanol; whatever
Sterilizers that

Smell, for some reason,
A lot less genuine than
Reality does.