

2024

Treatment Plan

Peggy Hammond

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Recommended Citation

Hammond, Peggy (2024) "Treatment Plan," *Nelle*: Vol. 7, Article 22.

Available at: <https://digitalcommons.library.uab.edu/nelle/vol7/iss2024/22>

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Peggy Hammond

TREATMENT PLAN

Imagine you are in the eye of the storm.
Imagine you are a rag doll, one button eye
hanging by a thread. Imagine yarn
hair in tangled disarray. Now imagine
the storm is subsiding. Imagine
you land in a parking lot, no, you land
high in a tree. Your button eye is a problem
but you think the view must be spectacular.
Now you are in a hospital.
Imagine kind nurses murmur as they search
for a vein that has not collapsed.
Imagine they do not drip poison into
your arm. Imagine you are in your kitchen
making pasta, no, souffle. Imagine it is
spring, forsythia wild in its yellow.
Imagine you are a gathering storm.
Imagine everyone in the infusion room not with
one needle-kissed arm but wings.
Imagine you are a constellation of starlings,
iridescent green flashing against black.
Now you are swooping, rising, an undulating
ink blot testing the skies.
Now the ravenous falcon falls away. Imagine
blue earth receding as you reach the clouds,
weightless, free.