

Turning to White

Alana R. Horwitz

We're sitting in his hospital room
He says he's not ready to die so soon

He's trying to put on a brave face for us
But we can tell that his body is starting to rust

The doctor says it's not an easy case
And you can see the tears rolling down my dad's face

His voice cracks as he tells us how much he loves us
We can tell he's realized his life is on the cusp

He says it all happened too fast
The look of despair on his face is unable to be masked

He says he still has a lot to live for
He wants to enjoy his life so much more

We keep asking the doctor to clarify
But we continue to become more terrified

I never thought my once powerful dad could become so weak
Nor that I would now be so meek

Throughout my entire life
He always spoke about how my future was so bright
And he was so excited to see what I would become
He would talk about his future grandkids
And how proud he would be that they were his
But now he has an expiration date

Mastered by the decision of fate

I kiss the top of his head goodnight
Not knowing when everything for him will turn to white

And I thought I could stay strong
But I couldn't have been so wrong
Because how can I be okay
When my father, my role model, my best friend
Is slowly being taken away