

An Aegophony of Sight
2008 Award Winner

Decadent Affairs, I saw,
written on a simple plaque next to a closed door
in a back hallway on the first floor of the hospital.
I wandered past, lost, in the short white coat
creased from the package I had carefully opened,
one night before.

I wondered:
Could this be a dedicated space
for doctors to bring nurses
and nurses to bring patients
and patients to bring lovers,
for earnest entanglements
overseen and protected by a benevolent hospital administration?

But no.
An aegophony of sight
turned an "e" into an "a"
to replace a room dedicated to the business of dying
with an imagined place of scandalous love.

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