

POEM

Handsome cat

Cocooned in her blanket
 She asks again
 If I've seen the kitten's photo
 Framed at her bedside

He's a big tabby now
 And you should see his markings
 You should see him now
 He is such a handsome cat

All alone in a four bed ward
 Her youth stolen by tainted blood
 Now cancer invades her
 All alone, no one visits

Oncology promised to assess her
 No notes in the chart
 They haven't come
 We remind them once again

With each day
 Her will drains
 She barely eats
 And it grows

Twice more
 We do our dance
 As her walker gathers dust
 As hope fades

Have you seen him?
 You should see him now
 You should see his markings
 He's such a handsome cat

Kevin Dueck

Correspondence to Kevin Dueck, McMaster University Department of Family Medicine, David Braley Health Sciences Centre, Hamilton, Ontario L8P 1H6, Canada; Kevin.Dueck@Medportal.ca

Competing interests None declared.

Provenance and peer review Not commissioned; internally peer reviewed.



CrossMark

To cite Dueck K. *Med Humanit* 2017;**43**:e30.

Published Online First 2 May 2017

Med Humanit 2017;**43**:e30. doi:10.1136/medhum-2017-011254