

Greetings

Lala Tanmoy Das¹ 

Published online: 19 May 2018

© Springer Science+Business Media, LLC, part of Springer Nature 2018

Greetings

There are greeting cards for all occasions
at the hospital's little gift shop— bar
mitzvahs, anniversaries, get-well-soon's,
condolences— catty-cornered from the table
selling wigs, stuffed animals, chocolates—
inexpensive joys, each, that seek to distract us
from this fight against ourselves. I sit
on a stool by the cashier's desk
and find that the most popular kind
has been the one that says *Good Bye
Cancer* —a vanishing stack of paper
hopes, poised to kill
our body's reckless blossoms
in the forests beneath our skin.

✉ Lala Tanmoy Das
tanmoy.daslala@gmail.com

¹ Weill Cornell Graduate School of Medical Sciences, 985 Lexington Avenue, 3R, New York, NY 10021, USA