

Language Matters

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It happened again-
The use of “diabetic”,
“Schizophrenic” and
Other “ics” and “ives” to label
The individual
Rather than the disease.
There were no patients present
While my attending preached,
Nor would they have
Likely protested
Had they been there.
He derided “the mid-levels,”
Mentioned “MDs” to refer
To all physicians,
As my osteopathic colleague
Sat quietly.
After a minute-
After years-
I spoke.

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