
POETRY | FALL 2017

ORDER

By Catherine Klatzker

You gather the forms
Clip them together
Chronological order you wonder,
or *reverse chronological*,
Which makes sense
when you never
spill your guts, you're known
for how contained you appear
under all circumstances

You are so civilized
so well-behaved

Yet this feels like something
is tearing, ripping open
—an impossible rupture on your
right side, right there—so
you document this, you
have the record of its course
It's all in order
A tidy folder of symptoms
and test results, neatly clipped

Catherine Klatzker is a writer and RN in Los Angeles, California, retired after twenty-two years in pediatric intensive care. Her essay "Al Chet" was 2014 nonfiction winner in *Tiferet: A Journal of Spiritual Literature*. Catherine Klatzker's work has appeared in *Intima*, Fall 2013 "Range of Vision" & Spring 2015 "What We See When We See Each Other"; *Emrys Journal*; *Lime Hawk Literary Journal*; *The Examined Life Literary Journal*, and the anthologies *Same Time Next Week*, and *Parts Unbound*, both in 2015. Her book-in-progress was shortlisted for the 2015 Mary Roberts Rinehart Nonfiction Prize from Stillhouse Press.

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