

They asked the right questions,  
as they had been taught.  
Her body examined,  
omissions were naught.

"Left side facing down,  
chest over the side.  
A deep breath, breathe out!"  
No strange sounds to hide.

"Well, what did you hear?"  
I asked them in turn.  
"A rumble, a snap,"  
and rales to discern.

"What else did you learn?"  
I asked them for more.  
No answers came forth  
as moments before.

I looked at her face  
and spoke with a smile,  
"What should they have heard?"  
She paused for a while.

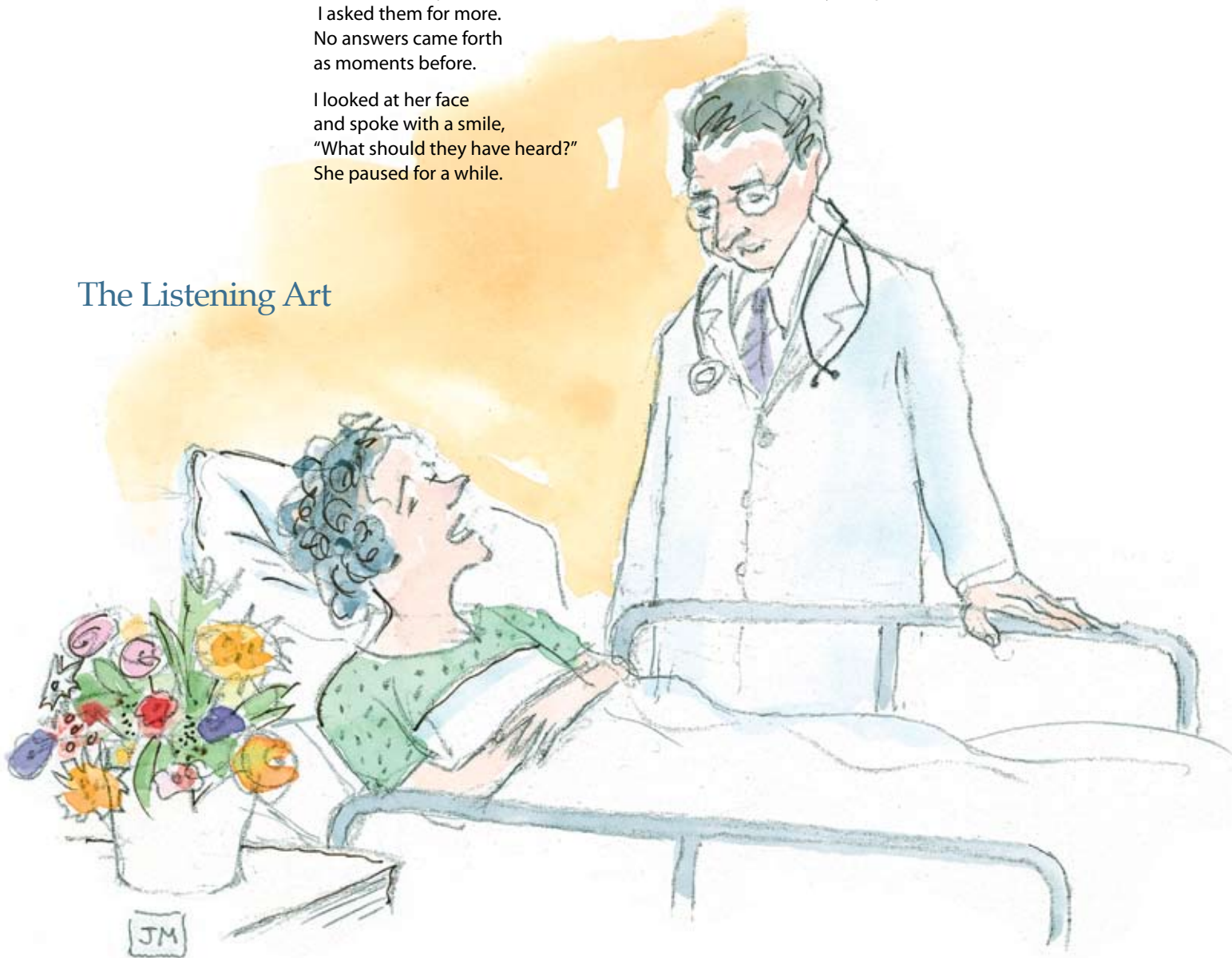
"The fear that I feel  
that each breath I take  
will sure be my last.  
I'll no longer wake."

Once we left her room  
with few words to say,  
for each student learned  
a new skill that day.

When questions are asked,  
and answers are heard,  
listen for feelings  
that come with each word.

*Arvey I. Rogers, MD*

## The Listening Art



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