

Pis Aller



Illustration by Eleeza Palmer

My pancreas plays whimsy.
CEO of hospitals I have been, yet
I am a servant to nature's follies.
In preoperative imaging
My pancreas etches toward my liver.
"Liver metastasis, indeterminate."
From black and white
They carve gray
Gamma knife surgery is my—no,

Was
My *Pis Aller*.
Was it not Yeats who said—"For everything
That's lovely is but a brief, dreamy, kind delight?"
It is so of my own life, now.
The skylark comes
With shimmering, tinsel eyes
Her crippled, arabesque wings and
Turquoise sinews
Wrap me in a *hyggeligt* embrace.

—Kunal Kapoor, MD