

---

POETRY | FALL 2017

## Parsonage-Turner: Pathologic Study

By Schneider Rancy

consider :

the nerve is a golden filament  
of light ,  
weaving  
beneath translucent skin

twisting and turning  
inside ourselves ,  
diving  
under  
always  
soft layers  
of fascia  
and  
a girdle of epineurium  
shimmering , electric like  
a new dress

such fibers  
pull ;  
cock back  
the arm ;  
make beat  
the heart : run  
the blood : quicken  
the breath—  
(

but when they fail  
grow numb ,  
turn insensate and flail ;  
when muscle no longer  
contracts  
with lifeblood ;  
when these lights go dark  
and this wondrous  
system

of pulleys and levers  
falters

tell me :  
what moves you  
then ?

)

---

**Schneider K. Rancy is a Haitian-American graduate of Columbia University, where he studied English and Comparative Literature and Biology. His poetry has been published or is forthcoming in Columbia New Poetry, Intima: A Journal of Narrative Medicine, Ars Medica, and Apogee. He is a medical student in New York City. His editor-reviewed articles on nerve and wrist reconstruction have been published in the Journal of Hand Surgery (American Volume), the Journal of Hand Surgery (European Volume), and the Journal of Wrist Surgery.**

---

© 2017 *Intima: A Journal of Narrative Medicine*