

Maw Shein Win

Blood Pressure Logs

aster revolution

brother stopped at the border

a dying coral emporium

director calls: don't wear stripes

blood pressure: 130 over 88

sparrow hopping on one leg

blood pressure: 141 over 83

rigor hum, pastor spells

boss says: can you quit already

welcome to the chaos party

C & I go to Marshall's one week before my surgery date. I want something fuzzy to lounge in, new pajamas patterned with pink cats in space. Experience some landfill guilt.

Last night I dreamt I was kidnapped by a health cult. The cult leader insisted I drink a potion made of crushed wood chips. I wanted to escape, then I wanted to stay.

The RN instructs: No Motrin, Advil, Aleve, Ibuprofen. Tylenol, okay.

nurse advises: use tea bag as gauze

long for kind bones

fuzz trapped in the hollow

grunt crate

blood pressure: 127 over 86

dental technician digs

blood pressure: 138 over 94

flesh flotsam

life coach offers: never too old

crow brawl overhead

This morning I have my weekly writing date with A via zoom. She's wearing a knitted maroon cap. We share stories about medical procedures. Our mothers.

T & I take our blood pressure. 143 over 86. Kaiser advises to sit up straight with feet on the floor, wait five minutes.

On to-do-list: Download Calm app. Wash sheets. Pre-op vid appt. Buy stamps. Call HR. Lift weights.

I talk to my sister on the phone & ask her to make sure T is okay. She's slightly annoyed. Of course, she says, he's family.

We decide to go to a German deli in El Cerrito Plaza. The Junket. C orders a sundried tomato & cream cheese sandwich & I, a lentil avocado on sourdough. She tells me about her friend who died of ovarian cancer.

popcorning on ether grid

blood pressure: 108 over 79

clover scrim, bee hair

sister whispers: avoid the cupcakes

a visit to fallout island

notice dew on whisker

neighbor reveals: time capsule found

puppy fever galore

blood pressure: 119 over 81

neighbor reveals: time capsule found

My belly is round, hard. Size of a small soccer ball. Occasional movements. An assistant takes my blood pressure three times. At the gynecologist office, I make reference to that scene from the first *Alien*.

I read that The Junket is closing down.
Two words on the back of a receipt: *Drink water*.

Syllabus Log

Module 1: Metaphor is essentially a mystery of the human condition.

Imagine the compositional cloudburst.

No one has seen my lower half.

Module 2: Urgent offerings are hidden in banalities.

Subvert your attention.

We construct memories in 25-minute sessions.

Module 3: Implicate the reader to upend their views.

Astonish with sonic delight.

Takes 32 credits to begin climbing the seniority ladder.

Module 4: Visual rhetoric in relation to image can skim water.

Include low stakes assignments.

My slideshow of falling architecture.

Module 5: Respond to nonce language with nonce enthusiasm.

Instigate labor-based grading.

Recurring dream of disappeared lesson plans.

Module 6: An examination of parlor flames.

Analyze the gestures of flat characters.

I revise my POV while brushing my teeth.

Module 7: How to archive lost scenarios.

Investigate the subjective experience of time travel.

Our field trip to the pirate BBQ.

Module 8: Explorations of the vagus nerve.

Analyze relationships among air-breathing arthropods.

I grapple with squishy boundaries.

Module 9: Developing close underwater reading skills.

Inhabit painterly realms of the netherworld.

Our requirements lament.

Module 10: Ruminations on post-capitalist mindsets that don't love us.

Engage with bamboo similes.

I loosen grip on desired income.

Module 11: Revision of initial response to pineapple jam.

Superficiality characterizes these "A+" essays.

Safe in our plastics, we develop enticing title headings.

Module 12: How do we navigate intention and receptivity?

The body presents the "complication" that sets the plot in motion.

Review feedback on third nightmare.

Module 13: Unmasking definitions of re-imagined disciplines.

Note that four absences will result in rapid eye movement.

Differing types of engagement with leg veins.

Module 14: Some evidence of smelling strategies.

Students commit to deft aesthetics.

I long for counter-arguments.

Module 15: Division of product and process must be blurred.

Post-its of confessions on whiteboard.

Bring to class an object that fuses abstraction and glow.