

Forever Blind

Luke Stowers

With worry and fear, I met you that day
Holding in tears as I saw how you lay
I knew we'd get to know each other
But I also knew you were someone's mother
As I held your hand, oh so cold
My only thought was of your story untold
You lived your life, but it was far too brief
You were here teaching me despite such grief
Forever blind, you taught me to see
Forever kind, now you are free.

My pain and sadness were soon replaced
At the joy of learning what you had faced
Joy because I understood
How one day I could do some good
For another will face a similar fate
And because of your gift I may yet save
The life of someone else's mother
Father, Sister, Child, Brother
Forever blind, you taught me to see
Forever kind, now you are free.

As I look back at what you gave to me
My only regret is I could never speak
With you to hear what made you smile
And what made you cry once in a while
To hear that for which you dreamt
To hear of how your life was spent
I knew everything of you and yet I missed
What made you You!
I only know this:

Forever blind, you taught me to see
Forever kind, now you are free.

*Written for the
Florida State University College of Medicine
2013 Cadaver Memorial Service
In Honor of the Men and Women
who Donated their Bodies to Science*

■ **Luke Stowers** is a second year medical student at
Florida State University.

Starry Sky

Tyler Wellman

We descend into a windowless
lab lifting bodies from sterile steel
coffins. Retracting a pale green

tarp to expose a nude
body, leaving a small cloth
to cover the face.

We cut to uncover a mosaic
of cells, tissues, organs.
Like Adam in the garden,

we give names to all we
see. The lab is
loud: names proclaimed,

functions recited, nerves mapped out.
"This Orion's Belt, this the Big
Dipper, over there the Little."

I find solitude in the shuffle, silently
contemplating the mystery: this
from union of sperm and egg.

For a moment please, do not
talk about constellations,
Let me gaze.

Let me know mystery.
The human body,
my starry sky.

■ **Tyler Wellman** is a first year medical student at
Florida State University.