

Mitchell and His Antagonist, the Cancer

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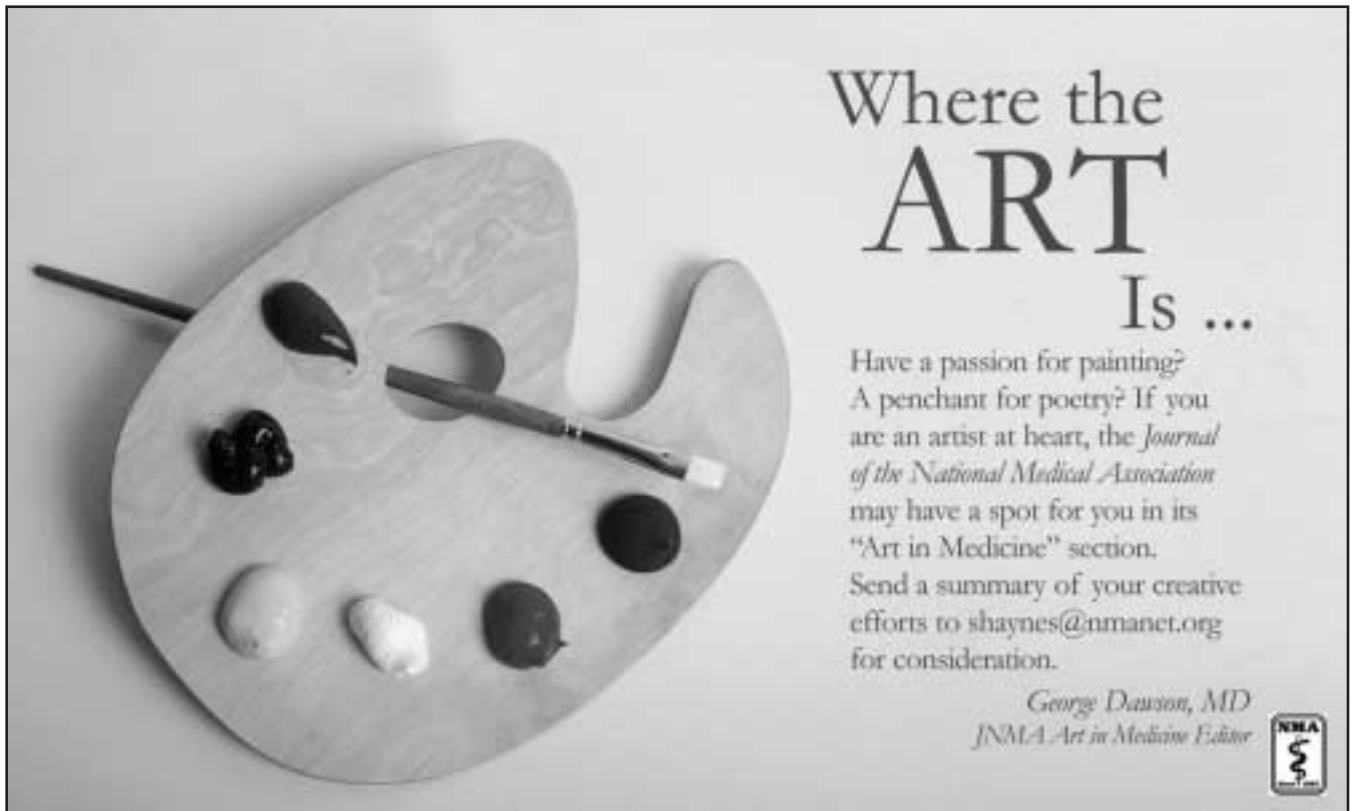
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a consoling tube meanders through
his nose to the cancerous stomach collecting
vile from his wasted remains

his body is emaciated beyond survival
but refuses to shrivel and succumb as
he spurns the unyielding and callous
grasp of death in a vicious battle

still, he strolls the sterile corridors and
salutes ailing travelers with a smile
that is gracious yet forged

but now it's time for him to return home
where his distant mother awaits
her missing and departing son



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