In Celebration of the College of Nursing 50th Anniversary

This collaborative poem was created by Kent State University’s College of Nursing faculty, students, and alumni during Healing Stanzas writing workshops conducted in 2017 by the Wick Poetry Center. Edited by David Hassler. Illustration by Each+Every.

**Some Days**

Some days you’ll wake up and know your life has a purpose. This is who you are who you want to be a nurse.

Your arms will open like doors welcoming those in need. You do not know all the stories but you will learn to become them.

Some days your heart will feel heavy with hope. You’ll wipe away the worries and the why me’s and realize hurt and healing are not so different.

Some days you’ll feel a fire in your chest as if the whole world is burning. You’ll feel your tongue fold inward the weight of unspoken words flutters in your stomach and clogs in your throat.

Some days you’ll reach for the stars wishing you had longer arms you’ll break into a million pieces and call yourself confetti or look at another and feel for just that moment everything is right with the world.

Some days your heart will crumble like crust and when the beeping stops you will feel in your nostrils a burning void.

Some days all the lines and scribbles of your life will make a picture. You’ll feel like being a daisy though everyone around you wants you to be a rose.

Some days your mouth can speak a powerful magic. Your heart is a lighthouse in your body. Remember your patients can teach you lessons greater than any you will hear in a lecture hall.

Some days with grace and grit, you’ll know the work of a nurse is the work of the heart sacred and profane.

Find your passion let it write your story. This is who you are who you want to be a nurse.

Never forget nature’s healing touch or the comfort of a wrinkled hand reaching out to you.

Your mouth can speak a powerful magic. Your heart is a lighthouse in your body. Remember your patients can teach you lessons greater than any you will hear in a lecture hall.

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