

# Poems

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## ON THE COUNT OF THREE

On the count of three,  
I tell him, take a  
deep breath and hold it.

On the count of three  
I do the same but  
he doesn't know it.

On the count of three  
everything boils down  
to this one moment

in which I listen,  
eyes closed, to his neck  
for sound of movement,

the sound that comes from  
liquid flowing not  
smooth, but turbulent

while the eddies of  
our previous breaths  
dissolve around us.

## EPLEY MANEUVER

In medicine  
it's the closest we come  
to exorcism:

placing unsoiled hands  
on either side  
of the patient's temples;

shepherding the head supine  
toward the shoulder  
with the afflicted ear;

confirming the presence  
of a demon on that shoulder  
by eyes possessed;

allowing said demon to  
stir up trouble  
for about a minute;

turning the cheek  
a quarter circle  
the other direction;

giving audience to  
an angel there before rolling  
further toward good;

ending upright  
with a stone uncast,  
free to turn again.

# Neurology®

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