

Left MCA stroke sonnet: The melody bereft

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“I love you, Doctor, like a friend.” “I love you, Nurse, just like a friend.” His monotone less a surprise than language sparing, proved this dextral patient with his gentle drone within left hemisphere had his domain for speech that’s propositional. The strange communication prominent remained throughout recovery. It didn’t change Automaton he stayed, the speech bizarre, robotic, right paretic (plegic not), by hemispherectomy was scarred. Since stroke, the prosody his brain forgot, while sparing content of his speech had left emotion and the melody bereft.

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