

A former student voice: Holly Dejsupa

Hello everybody, my name is Holly Dejsupa, freshly graduated from Bristol Medical School and now a newly qualified F1 doctor working in Surrey. As a musician, what inspires me the most has always been, and will always be, people – thus, it was inevitable that throughout medical school I ended up writing songs about patients I met in hospital. The creative process was more of an outlet to begin with, but I wanted to do their stories justice. So, I'm proud to present my very own album, *“Wednesday's On-Call”*. Each song is about a patient, each song a 'clerking' — this album is effectively my hospital portfolio, albeit in the form of music. I want the audience to join me on-call to 'clerk' and meet each patient, with the hope their stories impact you as much as they did for me.

For my *“Outside the Box”* project, I submitted the song *“Red Freckles”* (albeit a preliminary version at the time). *“Red Freckles”* is a 20-year-old female who presented with repeated bingeing and purging on the background of known bulimia, somebody so eloquent and almost romantic in her words: *“At least I have these red freckles to my name...”*, the petechia on her cheeks from repeated vomiting; *“Everything else I crave will simply be blessed by the hand of benediction, but I'm not praying”*, the ulnar neuropathy sign medical students learn about, a gesture that mimics one putting fingers down their throat to retch; *“I'm homesick for everything my body used to be”*, a play on words to emphasise how much insight she had into her condition, so desperate to recover but unable to stop the disaster from wrecking her life. I don't know how she fared in the end, but when we said goodbye, she said she'd hold onto springtime for change. And so, I ended the song that way.

To say that music is just a hobby feels wrong, because it feels like so much more. Balancing hospital placement and learning music production was tiresome and tough (with lots of closet recording sessions in scrubs and annoying neighbours with loud piano-playing past midnight). So, I'm proud to say this album is entirely self-produced. If you'd like to hear the stories of the patients behind each song, please do follow my social media as that's where I've posted about them (don't worry, no patient identifiers!). I hope you enjoy the music, and even if you only listen for 2 seconds, thank you so much for your support.

“Wednesday's On-Call” streaming now, wherever you get your music!

wednesday's on-call



All links: <https://linktr.ee/hdjsp>
Spotify: <https://spoti.fi/3fUMRcn>
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