

**Ghazal on Miracles** 

Jack Coulehan

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### POETRY AND MEDICINE

#### **Ghazal on Miracles**

Nothing less than a miracle will do. Nothing less than dropping disbelief. Nothing more and nothing less.

An unfortunate woman, who failed to respond to chemo. I had expected more, nothing less.

Is it wise to embrace the solace of morphine, unsteadiness, itch, and confusion, nothing less?

In winter grass cracks with frost and ruins of corn lie where stalks collapsed. Now spring will do, nothing less.

Take only yes for an answer and never say never, even in winter, or later. For nothing is less.

Failing her chemo fires up the engine of success. Isn't it miraculous? Could it be anything less?

Is compassion a miracle, or must she believe in suffering now for the sake of doing nothing less?

Nothing happens that hasn't recurred. Nothing is given without disguise, neither a miracle, nor anything less.

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