

THE WAY FORWARD

I am a caterpillar
I am fat and beautiful
Eating as many leaves as I can see
Life is good

Starting medical school, I enter my cocoon
Lonely, dark and cramped
I am fearful of the outside world
Yet, I feel myself changing

I burst forth from my prison of darkness
I am a stunning butterfly with brilliant wings
I flap them for the first time
I can fly

I spread my wings
The time has come to share my gifts with the world
I depart my familiar branch
Only to hit a wall

I see the outside world
An invisible barrier holds me back
I am in a cage
I am a resident
The light that illuminates my wings is fluorescent
I flap my wings in vain
I still sit on the same branch
The place I once hung in darkness

My physical needs are met
I dream of the day the lid is opened
When I am free again to choose my own path

I am wounded by my experiences
I seek healing for myself before I can truly care for others

I am a doctor