

Stimulus: A Medical Humanities Journal

Volume 4 *Stimulus: A Medical Humanities Journal*

Article 6

9-12-2024

Underneath the Sycamore

Jessica Nwankwo
University of Texas at Arlington

Follow this and additional works at: <https://mavmatrix.uta.edu/stimulus>

Recommended Citation

Nwankwo, Jessica (2024) "Underneath the Sycamore," *Stimulus: A Medical Humanities Journal*: Vol. 4, Article 6.

Available at: <https://mavmatrix.uta.edu/stimulus/vol4/iss1/6>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Mavs Open Press Open Access Journals at MavMatrix. It has been accepted for inclusion in *Stimulus: A Medical Humanities Journal* by an authorized editor of MavMatrix.

Underneath the Sycamore

Jessica Nwankwo



My art piece is titled “Underneath the Sycamore” and depicts the process of woman’s body becoming one with the earth, of transformation and change, of growth. And her lover is sitting right next to her, holding her hand and savoring those last moments before things are completely different. It is supposed to be a representation of what the process of dying can look like, particularly in moments when a person has approached the acceptance phase, but their loved ones are scared of the thought of them not being around and of them entering that great unknown. I drew some inspiration from a song of the same name by a band called Death Cab for Cutie, including the feelings of peace and healing underneath the sycamore tree with a loved one, in a safe and secure space even with the struggles and uncertainties surrounding them. Additionally, there is symbolism associated with sycamore trees, such as strength, longevity, and beauty, which I wanted to depict in the art as the woman becomes a tree herself and passes on, and her partner is able to recognize that something beautiful can grow and come out of this transitional period between life, death, and the afterlife.

