

pivot
An Interdisciplinary Journal

In the Rehab Waiting Room

Deborah Herman

Pivot, Vol. 10, No. 1 (2023): Voyages: Traversing the White Space

Published by York University. *Pivot* is published through Open Journal Systems (OJS).

Deborah Herman

In the Rehab Waiting Room

For Elizabeth Bishop

Only veterans know these things:
real soldiers never swap sea stories
and dead men tell no tales.

Montages are for the movies—
fragmented memories
patched together
to reconstruct the day your life changed forever.

There is a 1000-yard stare
that we all share.

The secret handshake
just a nod of acknowledgement—
an eyeing of the tell-tale scars on the scalp.

That's all the story you need.