

## Self-portrait as Medical Model of Disability

the [disabled] body [my body<sup>1</sup>]  
a pitiable object  
malfunction of a thing<sup>2</sup>  
the [disabled] body is always closest to machine  
in its dysfunction most fixable  
when it is furthest from human body  
as metaphor/rhetorical question:  
if a clock is broken do you repair it or  
ask the world to conform to its sense of time<sup>3</sup>  
[disabled] body as abnormality how the outlier  
must be removed from the data  
for more *accurate* results Medical Model<sup>4</sup> speaks  
says people [w/ disabilities] need to work harder  
to overcome [themselves] the cure is to make them  
*more normal*<sup>5</sup> my [disabled] body is a price tag<sup>6</sup>  
is scalpel bait a prayer to hospital ceilings  
or my [disabled] body is a weight on society<sup>7</sup>  
my [disabled] body is like any disease  
if we discover a new & hungry sickness  
is it our duty to cure it or to let it be?

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<sup>1</sup> cohabitation of pain & expectation

<sup>2</sup> how we other ourselves by suffering in daylight

<sup>3</sup> fix what is holding you back

<sup>4</sup> formerly Functional-Limitation Model; formerly Biological-Inferiority Model

<sup>5</sup> read: less disabled

<sup>6</sup> Septoplasty: ~\$6,000 / Decompression Surgery: ~\$24,000 / Complex Thoracic Fusion: ~\$80,000

<sup>7</sup> read: a price tag

## Self-portrait as Economic Model of Disability

how do you calculate      in hard mathematics  
the value of a [disabled] body?      how the body reduces

like a fraction<sup>1</sup>      to an object/icon      of pity?  
[in physics] *work* is defined      as the degree to which

an object<sup>2</sup> is affected      by an applied force<sup>3</sup>  
& is not defined by effort      exerted toward a task

ex. two birds      [of equal weight]  
fly [at equal velocity]      toward two windows

if one bird shatters its neck<sup>4</sup>      & one the window  
the first bird<sup>5</sup>      has achieved a net work of zero

consider the [disabled] body<sup>6</sup>      consider its potential  
for work:      if *force* is defined [in part] by *mass*<sup>7</sup>

how much weight<sup>8</sup>      can the [disabled] body exert  
[on society]      before the net worth is zero

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<sup>1</sup> some portion < human

<sup>2-3</sup> or body

<sup>4</sup> spine collapsing / like an equation

<sup>5</sup> still alive / beak loamy with blood

<sup>6</sup> not unlike the bird / malfunction of anatomy

<sup>7</sup>  $F=MA$

<sup>8</sup> read: burden