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TENDER TRIBUTES

"Make donations to... A patient brutally ended her life."



I crumbled the cold page with a sharp inhale. Feeling faint, I let it fall to the floor.

It was my name at the top.

Brigitta Scheib is a teacher that lives in Harrisburg, PA with her husband, daughter and 3 orange cats. Her work can be found at Temple in a City, Flash Phantoms and Choeofpleirn Press.

Two Ways to Say Grace by Matias Travieso-Diaz

An evening, long ago, in a faraway island, a missionary bowed his head and said grace:

"May everything I do serve Thee, our Father, and may the meal I offer today honor Thy name. Bless those who are hungry, and may their need inspire us to generously share our bounty with them. In Your name, Amen."

The last words the missionary heard before passing out from the heat inside the boiling cauldron were in a language he did not understand:

"Let us thank thee, Sky Lord, for the meal you provided us and which we are about to consume, Amen."

Born in Cuba, Matias Travieso-Diaz migrated to the United States as a young man. He became an engineer and lawyer and practiced for nearly fifty years. After retirement, he took up creative writing. Over two hundred and thirty of his short stories have been published or accepted for publication in anthologies, magazines, blogs, audio books, and podcasts. One of his novels, an autobiography entitled "Cuban Transplant," and four anthologies of his stories have also been published.

Pins and Needles by Deanna Davidson

Silver glints in the moonlight, sharp and slender. Delicate fingers grasp a thin thread, wrapped in an almost-empty spool. A whistled tune reaches my ears, my eyes frozen open in fear. I am lying on a cold table, solid metal hugging my rigid back. My wrists are bound in shackles, red welts forming under the constraints, blood pooling onto the stone floor. Trapped. A tall figure enters my view, blocking the light. A wicked grin spreads across sultry lips. "Don't worry, this will only

