Taking Notes Again

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About the Contributor (Optional)
Marie Campbell was homeschooled through high school and is now an English major at Colorado Christian University. She enjoys singing, acting, playing the flute, snowbarding, and scrapbooking. She hopes to someday publish historical fiction for children.

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TAKING NOTES AGAIN

"Two and a half pages by Monday. . ."
Neglected nausea of graphite on white; screen blinks
To another slide before my pencil's final scratch.

Tight-fingers-tight stomach.
Tight thoughts trickling, burning
Like NyQuil from mouth to middle,
 Gulps of rusty Déjà vu.

Pericles, Sadducees, and Juxtaposition
Drone in a manic monotony;
My next percentage dangles from his tie.

Failure skulks behind the brain—familiar,
Like those barf-green shoes evading garbage bins,
Hunched behind the dryer, tucked inside a spider's web
Just in case.