Time to Go

*For a long term patient in a veterans hospital*

*Richard Kravitz, MD*

I've been here too long, and it's time for me to go.

Summer's ended, leaves have begun to fall.

It's almost cold enough to snow.

So thank you for the homemade throw

I'll use on whatever bed I'll sprawl.

It's been too long, I know, and time for me to go.

I'm sorry that my mood has been low

My face a mask, my voice a growl

And my heart not quite as pure as snow.

But I've loved the chocolate and espresso,

I've mumbled, rather than howl,

And yes, I've stayed too long, so it's time for me to go,

Which is fine. What's left to grow

But the ache inside, my rumbling bowel,

And my knuckles white as snow?

So forgive me if my bitter tears show

Or if you think my behavior a stall.

This has been my home, and time to go

I know, but it's cold, so cold it could snow.