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I Can't Fix That

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I Can't Fix That

Audrey Lane

Patient: "I repeatedly think about..." describes watching a man die from a gunshot

Audrey: I am in over my head

Dr Lane: "Let's try therapy."

Patient: "Doesn't work."

Dr Lane: "Let's try medication."

Patient: "Doesn't work."

Dr Lane: "Let's try deep breathing."

Patient: "Doesn't work."

Audrey: My God, did I just suggest we could fix this trauma with breathing?

Dr Lane: Training dictates next action, training activates motivational interviewing.

Dr Lane: "What's your goal?"

Patient: "Stop feeling this way."

Dr Lane: "What do you think will help?"

Patient: "I don't know, a pill?"

Dr Lane: "Let's try a pill."

Patient: "I'll try the pill."

Tries to die using the pill.

Audrey: I repeatedly think about Patient's visit. I think about the wound and death he saw. I think about his loss. I think about my loss. I think about the wounds and deaths I've seen. I repeatedly think about Patient's visit.

Am I rehashing a conversation with a patient or with myself?

Dr. Audrey Lane is a second year Internal Medicine and Pediatrics resident. When not working, she enjoys spending time with her husband, cooking, running, and knitting.