

Monday, February 27, 2006

### **Brokeback Sweater**

Has anyone else seen Brokeback Mountain and found themselves noticing Michelle Williams' knitwear?? I have developed an obsession with the blue cardigan she wears in the scene with the laundry line and while she is washing dishes in the sink. It is wooly and vintage-y and has a nifty looking rib pattern. I'm trying to replicate it right now with my Treasury of Knitting Patterns, Vol. 1. I've found something that I like ok, but I don't think it is the one from the movie. Anyone have any ideas? I've tried Googling to get better pictures, because the sweater goes by quite quickly, but have not had much luck.

Posted by Mia in Knitting at 21:24

Thursday, February 23, 2006

### **Homicidal Intent**

I hate to say it, but today while at OUTPATIENT Psych, I found myself yearning for the fun times of the locked ward. I don't like my outpatient doc too much. He was one hour late, did not give reason or apology for said lateness, and AGAIN answered his cell phone while in the middle of a patient interview. NOT COOL. It actually makes me so mad that I had a hard time concentrating on other things. During the day I get more and more angry, and start to think about throwing things and hurting people. Psych is giving me psychiatric disorders. I came home sad and angry, so my roommate's boyfriend made me drink bourbon and dance around their room with him. It helped!

Posted by Mia in Medical School at 20:00

Tuesday, February 21, 2006

## **Allergies**

Here is the inside of my recently completed Lopi sweater. I REALLY like the way it looks on the inside, almost better than the outside! I'm just so proud of my stranding work. I think I'll design a sweater that is intentional inside-out Fair Isle...Psych sucks somewhat less than before. This week I'm with the doc that I'll be with for the next 5 weeks, and he is very nice and friendly. However, the patients all still make me want to cry, so that has not improved. I had a funny conversation with my boyfriend last night, as I was describing visiting my parents. They are "babysitting" my cousins' guinea pig, who is very cute, but who causes me great allergic reactions after about 3 minutes of holding him. My boyfriend and I have been talking about the "future" a lot, but we often have funny ways of thinking about it. Case in point: Me: Yeah, so I was really allergic to the guinea pig, I almost had an asthma attack! BF: Oh no! What happens if you are allergic to dogs? How are we going to have a dog? If you are really allergic, we couldn't have a dog. That would be really bad, I think it would be all over between us! Me: Oh, that's nice. Look, I'm NOT allergic to dogs, and I don't think that I'll become allergic. But what if I did? It would be a deal breaker if I was allergic to dogs? BF: Think of it this way, what if I suddenly became allergic to children?

Posted by Mia in Ramblings at 19:21

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

**Day 2: No punches so far...**

The red roses are from my boyfriend, he is SO wonderful, and not just because of the flowers. The white cyclamens are from my parents, and arrived yesterday in the FREEZING cold snowiness, which seemed appropriate to me. My roommate and I were trying to remember the name of these flowers, and all she could come up with was "Something that sounds like Chlamydia?" See what med school does to you?? Thanks to all of you for your words of support or "Hey, I've been there too!" This morning I arrived for morning report and one of the nurses started telling me about how many aides had gone to the ER because of Mr. Punchy. I thought that I might barf or cry, but then I was granted a reprieve, somehow, and now seem to be in charge of a nice lady who is suicidal. The ward I'm in is depressing and stressful. At one time today, there were three people all saying "Help Me!" in different but equally distressing ways. There was the guy YELLING it in a very rude way, punctuated by swears. There was the lady barking it over and over again. There was the other lady plaintively yelling it from down the hall. So far, the folks that I'm the most impressed with are the social workers, who manage the family members' total panic and stress. I also have to give a lot of credit to the nurses, who have a lot of hands-on contact with the patients, who can be anywhere from meek and sweet to punching and hitting. The attending in charge of me, as you may have gathered, is not the most attentive towards med students, although she does treat the patients with a lot of care and respect. I spent a long time today feeling out of place and awkward, unsure of my job. I guess this is part and parcel of third year, which is like having a brand new job every 6 weeks. However, confused and stressed is sort of my baseline in a locked psych ward! I need reassurance! Needless to say, when I was set free I went yarn shopping, then to the gym for some stress relief. And the flowers didn't hurt either! Supposedly the doctor who will be in charge of me for real, who is away on vacation, is great. I am counting the HOURS until he arrives... Here is some progress on Laralund (Silk Garden was purchased on 30% off sale, so how could I say no!).

Posted by Mia at 18:31

Monday, February 13, 2006

## **Psych Psucks**

I have been dreading psychiatry. I get nervous around aggressive, unstable people, and for some unknown reason I often attract more than my fair share of attention from people like that. They can smell my fear, I guess. Today was my first day at my outpatient site, a locked ward in a small hospital. I walked into the ward, and it smelled like piss and some lady was screaming, "Help me" over and over again. Then, I was assigned to my first patient. Guess what his deal is??? He's been punching people. Some advice from my attending: "He's slowly getting better. He has not punched anyone in the last few days. You can tell when he gets mad, he gets a dark look in his eyes. Watch out for that look. Also, don't go within arms length of him. And if you wear glasses, take them off so if he punches you, he won't hit them and break them. And take your keys off from around your neck." Guess which future doctor career I WON'T be choosing?!?!?

ch

Posted by Mia in Medical School at 18:45

Saturday, February 4, 2006

## **Blah**

Here is a picture of my newly discovered skill-I can actually do Fair Isle, and I don't have to learn to do it two-handed for it to work! I'm not sure if this is violating some sort of unwritten law, but I finally saw a picture in this book of how to use my right hand to hold both yarns, and it clicked!! My sweater has progressed a lot since this photo was taken, but my camera is acting up, so this is the best I can do. I've not felt much like blogging lately for a wide variety of reasons, but I have been knitting like mad. I finished my Kureyon sweater and really like it, except for some wonky parts on the sides that might need a little steam blocking to calm down. I couldn't get a good picture of it, but I will try to soon. I also finished knitting all the parts of Lace Leaf Pullover. I discovered that I HATE grafting with a bulky weight alpaca blend yarn. Then I discovered that I had grafted the top to the wrong side of the bottom, and promptly became so frustrated that I put it away in the closet. Soon I will tackle it again. The yarn is really lovely, soft and not terribly sheddy, but I just think Teva was crazy to have us grafting with ALPACA. It doesn't work well. I actually considered ripping the whole bottom and doing what others have done and knit the lace chart upside down, basically. We'll see...Medical school wise I've been having a crisis of decision making, and don't like it. I'm torn between Pediatrics, OB/GYN and Family Med. Since the beginning of med school I thought I would do Family Med for sure, and now I'm not so sure at all. Hm. Any advice? I have to make some of these choices pretty soon, which makes me feel queasy.

Posted by Mia at 17:18