

# Curtain: The Other Side

## Uchechi Etumnu

Long shifts, sleepless nights  
Tough times, rough life  
Flashbacks of being *undermined*  
Yet she does not compromise


Although she was *discriminated against, disregarded, and disrespected*,  
She studied twice as hard, and her *resilience* was endless.  
Jesus was her newfound *strength* amid all her trials  
As her *passion* to save the lives of patients consumed her like a fire

With much anticipation and delayed gratification  
She matched for emergency medicine residency following her graduation  
She learned with *hard work*, even when she fails, she is winning  
Her story never ended, it was only the beginning

When others placed a period, by inserting a comma,  
She realized she needed to know more than the central dogma  
To impact patients far and wide to heal from their traumas  
And talk to anxious families in waiting rooms to diffuse the drama

So, she used a headband to pack her curly afro  
And threw on her scrubs, and wore her white coat  
She was a city on a hill that was made to shine  
And she sparks the same hope in her patients' lives

She spoke words to patients that brought health to their flesh  
Whether it was a major surgery or just checking a temp  
She healed broken hearts without a coronary bypass procedure  
And bound up wounds without needing a suture



When it came to any patient, she could deeply relate  
She has been *misunderstood* and accompanied by pain  
But during this, she found *grace, hope, love, and faith*  
So, her notable duty was to enlighten others to discover the same  
She is *knowledgeable*, yet her *empathetic heart* understands  
What it's like to be on the other side of the curtain with her face in her hands  
Except her curtain is...

Not just an imposter syndrome,

But being

Undermined.  
Discriminated against.  
Disregarded.  
Disrespected.  
Misunderstood.

Despite her

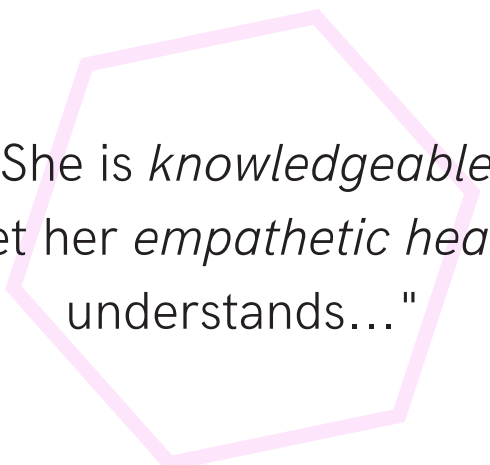
Resilience.  
Passion.  
Hard work.  
Knowledge.  
Empathetic heart.

Yet, she has

Strength.  
Grace.  
Hope.  
Love.  
Faith.

What is your curtain?

What is on the other side may try to break you, but it can save someone's life.



"She is *knowledgeable*,  
yet her *empathetic heart*  
understands..."