

MANIFESTO (after I Corinthians 13)

Page I: Theory

If I can advocate for your needs; if I have the expertise and professional language to get those needs prioritised; if I have no shame in speaking up, questioning doctor's decisions, arguing on your behalf

But I don't have love

I'm just a snake's rattle, a bluebottle's irritating buzz.

If I know exactly how the system works to manipulate it on your behalf; if I understand the physiology and psychology and neuroscience and psychiatry of your condition; if I brandish a faith that has been here before (too many times)

But I don't have love

I might as well be a robot-carer, a textbook.

If I sacrifice my free time and hobbies, pour everything I have (my energy, my health, my relationships) into caring, and take some twisted pride in that martyrdom

Instead of loving myself alongside you

I end up resenting you and losing everything.

Page 2: Questionnaire

(*) INSERT NAME HERE

Tick Y (yes) or N (no)

- | | | |
|---|--|-----|
| (| *) is patient. | Y/N |
| (| *) is kind. | Y/N |
| (| *) does not envy. | Y/N |
| (| *) does not boast. | Y/N |
| (| *) is not proud. | Y/N |
| (| *) does not dishonour others. | Y/N |
| (| *) is not self-seeking. | Y/N |
| (| *) is not easily angered. | Y/N |
| (| *) keeps no record of wrongs. | Y/N |
| (| *) does not delight in evil but rejoices in the truth. | Y/N |
| (| *) always protects. | Y/N |
| (| *) always trusts. | Y/N |
| (| *) always hopes. | Y/N |
| (| *) always perseveres. | Y/N |
| (| *) never fails. | Y/N |

Page 3: Vision

But where I have a career, it will end.

Where I have expertise, it will be superseded.

Where I have loved ones, they will die.

For I only know now and not what the future holds.

I only see the back view of the tapestry.

One day I hope to see the full design and then I will forget all the tangled yarn and knots.

I'm not finished with yet.

God's not finished with me yet.

For now, these three colours continue to weave their pattern: faith, hope, and love.

And the richest hue is love.