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poems
by
doctors

Bitter Treatment

Sandy Goldbeck-Wood

it was the area between
the midlines of the two
temporal lobes, and back
for eight to nine centimetres –
the hippocampus, the parahippocampal
gyrus, the entorhinal and perirhinal
cortices, the amygdala –

the young man was awake
on the table the whole time, apparently
as Dr Scoville inserted a silver straw
and sucked out nearly the entire
greyish-pink mass including
his memory, like finest *mate amargo*
through a bombilla.

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Chosen by Femi Oyeboode.

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