

Getting Down with The Sickness: A Teledoc Visit
By Lauren Lynch

Lacey takes advantage of the Teledoc system, an online Skype session with a real doctor. Dr. Moss expects a normal appointment, but Lacey may have a different goal in mind.

Dr. Moss
Hi, are you Lacey Ling?

Lacey
That's me!

Dr. Moss
Great. Sorry for the wait; my last Teledoc conference went a little long.

Lacey
They don't call me your patient for nothing! Ha! Get it? It's like a homoph--

Dr. Moss
(Very Professionally) Ha. Ha. Yes. (*short beat*) So why have you requested this virtual doctor visit?

Lacey
Well, I have a sore throat with white spots and a fever.

Dr. Moss
Ah. I see. Have you—

Lacey
And a headache.

Dr. Moss
Oh? (*writes*)

Lacey
I feel excessively nauseous.

Dr. Moss
Excessively?

Lacey
Yes, it means to a greater degree, or more than necessary. Though I imagine it is never necessary to be nauseous?

Dr. Moss
I know what excessi—

Lacey
I would leave that expertise up to you, though, Dr. Moss. Perhaps in due time it will be necessary for us all to become nauseous, but only a doctor would be privileged to such wisdom.

Dr. Moss
No, I wouldn't say—

Lacey
I've also been feeling rather malaise. And I had diarrhea yesterday.

Dr. Moss
Oh, diarrhea? How often? Have you been able to rehydrate?

Lacey
Five times, and yes. I've been binge drinking the blue Gatorade... And then promptly throwing it up. So, actually... maybe not?

Dr. Moss
It's exceedingly important that you rehydrate as quickly as possible.

Lacey
Exceedingly?

Dr. Moss
It means to a great extent. Extremely.

Lacey
I know, but why is it... am I going to be okay?

Dr. Moss
Dehydration is immensely dangerous. You will be okay, but you need to begin to retain fluids. Drink one teaspoon of your blue Gatorade, or water, every thirty minutes until you can fully hold that down. Then, gradually increase the amount until you can hold a full bottle of Gatorade down.

Lacey
(Scrambling) Ahhhh. Okay. Hold on. Let me take notes. "Drink one spoon of Gatorade every thirty seconds and then drink a bottle every thirty seconds after that until I can hold that down."

Dr. Moss
No.

Lacey
Wait, what's wrong?

Dr. Moss
Most of it. You don't need to take notes anyway. We'll send you an email once we're done here.

Lacey
Oh, that's a relief because I'm starting to feel really dizzy. I don't think I'll remember any of this Skype call.

Dr. Moss
Ms. Ling, perhaps it would be best if you saw a doctor in person? If you're this dehydrated, they may need to put you on an IV.

Lacey
(listening to someone off camera who we can't hear) No dude. I mean, distinguished Dr. Moss. I'm just dizzy. Maybe Adderall would help?

Dr. Moss
Lacey, you definitely do not need Addera—

Lacey
I have a really tough time finishing the crossword sometimes, and my thoughts can be all over the place. Like now. Remember Destiny's Child? Who was Destiny and why did she let her three daughters dress like they were constantly clubbing? Also, did anyone ever notice that it's Destiny's "Child" and not "Children"? Like which one is even her actual child?? Oh...Never mind. Stupid question. It's Beyoncé.

Dr. Moss
Ms. Ling. Are all the symptoms you've been describing actually accurate?

Lacey
...Accurate?

Dr. Moss
Yes; it means correct, truthful, or exact.

Lacey
(looks to an off-screen friend) Yes. Totally. I mean, precisely.

Dr. Moss
In that case, I will prescribe you a low dose of antibiotics as it sounds like you may have Strep Throat.

Lacey

What about my inability to focus?

Dr. Moss

I'll recommend you to a specialized doctor for further testing on that one.

Lacey

(Looks off-screen with a face that says "my bad") Oh, yes. That sounds ideal. Thank you.

Dr. Moss

Thank you for choosing Teledoc. We hope you feel better soon.

End of scene.