

Silly Dude Gets High

By **Vanbric Casilla**

(To the tune of the theme to “Gilligan’s Island”)

Now sit right back and you’ll read a tale,
A tale about Silly Dude.
Who was not aware of the side effects
Of ascent to high altitude.

He started out at sea level,
At a pressure of 1 a-t-m;
Looked up from the base of Everest,
And said, “I think I’ll go with them!”

He was pointing at 2 Sherpas standing there;
To the top they all would go.
They’d guide him through the rough terrain,
And miles and miles of snow.

They were now on their way to the top,
As happy as could be;
Not knowing that by 18,000 feet
The pressure would be half that at sea.

At 6,000 feet he was doing fine,
No altitude-related sickness yet.
But I do not think he realized
How brutal things would get.

His vision was good in the day,
But at night he could not see.
It had to do with the rods in his eyes
Not working properly.

Plus, for every foot they climbed in height
There was a fall in PO_2 ;
This made the 3 men hypoxic,
And made them hyperventilate too.

Respiratory Alkalosis
Also results from this response.
Thus, continuing this breathing trend
Causes effects that no one wants.

Still the 3 men kept on climbing up
To 1,000 feet times 8,
Which resulted in an increase in
The need to urinate.

Their conditions kept on getting worse:
Headache, GI upset, and dizziness.
These symptoms are all telltale signs
Of Acute Mountain Sickness.

But unfortunately Silly Dude
Had an especially bad case.
He died because of brain swellings
Due to his untreated HACE.

So, now Silly Dude's poor family
Has to suppurate and mourn,
All because they did not hear a talk
Given by Sally Osborne.