One of the four temperaments, she holds the tool of geometry, yet is surrounded by chaos. She thinks, but cannot act, while the infant scrawling on the slate, who symbolizes Practical Knowledge, can act but not think. This is then, the melancholia of an artist. He cannot achieve perfect beauty, which is known only to God, because he cannot extend his thinking beyond the limitations of space and the physical world.

from *History of Art* by H.W. Janson, A. Janson
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Dürer’s *Melancholia* epitomizes my experiences as a graduate student, and the times of thesis research with its timid jubilation of new understandings and discoveries, as well as paralyzing anxieties. It was at those times of extreme gles and doubts, that family, friends and colleagues proved to be the most valuable resources that I could ever have.

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