



COVID-19 PANDEMIC POEMS

VOLUME III

EDITORS

Dr. R.S. Regin Silvest
Dr. Malini Ganapathy

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Introduction

‘Art’ and ‘humanity’ are two faces of the same coin. This tacit connection dates back to the days of cavemen who resorted to painting on the walls of their caves to communicate, inspire and survive the workings of time and oblivion. Similarly, we consider art as a creative writing, which also sketches colour of human related things. Man has always been conscious that he has to survive the calamities of time and creative writing (particularly, poetry) has become his tool in the literature. In addition, these calamities range from wars that torn humanity apart to diseases that kept shaping and reshaping men. Whether the threat came from the outside or the inside, man has always felt the urgent need to resort to write and express his feelings, worries, and hopes.

As students and lovers of literature, we are familiar with works created during critical times. Poems, narratives, dramas, and paintings were means to either glorify or condemn wars. But little do we know about literature made during times of threatening pandemics. Probably a work that rings a bell is *Love in the Time of Cholera* by the Colombian Nobel Prize winner Gabriel Garcia Marquez that barely touches on the issue of cholera. Thus, this book also focuses to on COVID 19 poetry and try to understand the pandemic and feeling during the lockdown phase across the world.

In 2020, another ferociously maleficent pandemic deeply marks humanity, closing frontiers and pushing millions and millions of people to confine themselves, restricting their freedom, distancing them from their loved ones and limiting their potential to the walls of their houses. At similar times marked by restriction and loss, grief and sorrow as well as aspiration and hope, art stands as men only salvation and solace.

The impositions of travel restrictions, social distancing and self-quarantining, regardless of their success in limiting the pandemic, deeply affected Man and pushed them to consider ‘life and death,’ ‘love and passion,’ and ‘meaning and construction.’ While newsrooms gauges with fear and agony, the rooms of our poets spread hope, life, and creation in the face of death, pain, and loss. Bearing in mind William Wordsworth’s words that poetry is the “spontaneous overflow of strong and powerful emotions”, this *COVID 19 VOL III* poetry collection 50 poems in ENGLISH steps in as a healing force at the time of collective grief and pain. In addition, the selected poems provide the reader with an emotionally elaborate and comprehensive understanding of the pandemic on

mankind. It decodes the effects of restrictions, the desires for life, and the workings of body and soul in the face of such menace.

This collection offers the reader a thorough reflection on the deep impacts of the pandemic on humanity everywhere in the globe. Transcending cultural and geographical limitations, our poets meet on a common ground seeking to decipher the role of the pandemic in reshaping their lives.

The present compilation Volume further puts emphasis on the various experiences of the pandemic. 50 poems seek to understand humanity's actions and re-actions vis à vis the pandemic. With every poem, there are feelings, experiences, and lessons put forth for mankind to remember, to learn, and to employ in a post pandemic era. Life as we used to know has been drastically altered: customs, traditions, and manners are no longer the same, yet the need and desire for life and creation will trigger hope in the reader.

I, **Dr Cyrine Kortas** extremely thankful for the opportunity granted to me by **Dr Morve Roshan K.** to write an introduction to this compilation.

Dr Cyrine Kortas, The Higher Institute of Languages, Gabes, University
of Gabes, Tunisia

&

Dr Morve Roshan K., College of International Studies, Southwest
University China, and School of History, Philosophy and Social Sciences,
Bangor University, United Kingdom.

Foreword

“Hope can be a powerful force. Maybe there’s no actual magic in it, but when you know what you hope for most and hold it like a light within you, you can make things happen, almost like magic.”

– Laini Taylor, Author

Life was running on a very high speed and everyone was busy to get their own share. Humanity had lost its real sense of empathy and all of a sudden there was a u-turn when in December 2019, came a Pandemic known as COVID-19. The COVID-19 outbreak affected the entire World, Everyone was at halt and it seemed that World is at rest. This global health pandemic has touched every human person’s life in some way or the other, forcing isolation, uncertainty, anger, and hopelessness and this coupled with the economic meltdown is causing huge psychological distress. The COVID-19 pandemic is a threat to human Society, both for risking human life ensuing economic distress, and for its invisible emotional strain.

Poetry offers a sigh relief to the pent up feelings of the stress and crises. Wordsworth called poetry "the spontaneous overflow of feelings." Inspired by this definition, Cape Comorin Publisher comes up with Volume III of its Poetry collection to share and your emotions. It is important to share your feelings with others so as to promote your best of your ability and try to understand what you are going through, Keeping things bottled can be unhealthy and could lead to depression if you don't talk to someone, not everyone understands what you are going through, but opening up to others just to let your feelings out and vent about a problem that has been building is a great way to release all that tension that has been building for so long.

Dr. Shubhra Jamwal

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Editors



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1. The Almost Apocalypse

when all was so bleak
that darkness started
to completely swallow us
the world conspired
to remind us who we are
by creating a catastrophe
to teach us not to despair
to show us the good
inherent within each of us

ignoring the posturing
bickering lagging of governments
blind politicians and news agendas
people themselves took wing
they rose as one to help
each other and set examples
to raise spirits and offer hope

a groundswell of compassion
and determination not seen for ages
took root on this planet
to anchor a new vibration
a groundswell that focused
on cooperation aid love
rather than divisiveness denial greed
ignoring the posturing
bickering lagging of governments
blind politicians and news agendas
and we soon came to realize
the real apocalypse
the true apocalypse
was our suffocating past
that was tearing us apart
that was destroying the planet
not the recent catastrophe
that's bringing us together

--Marsha Warren Mittman, USA

2. Resilience:

COVID-19 Mayday!
Let's go virtual, they say
ODL, LMS, and all things seem grey
Fret if you must, but don't you get astray
It's the new normal, we obey
Yup, resilience is now the mainstay

Educationists, educators, plus the educated
Stay afloat or get grounded
Exiting isn't an option but only planted
In our minds to be uprooted
Yup, resilience is where it gets busted

I turn on my laptop, publish and flourish I see
I turn off my laptop, publish or perish, I am free
KPIs increased, COVID-19 ghosts, did you decree
Fear of being left behind I shall not flee
Yup, resilience is my play, hear me thee

The teacher teaches
Above all she manages
Online forms, meeting schedules, assignments,
attendance records and webinars in doses
Writes, researches, publishes in patches
My mind sometimes in tatters
Yup, resilience is all that matters

All dressed up, nowhere to go
Ah, my beloved clients are here, I know
Let's learn with Dr N, you glow
And who said the Internet was slow?
Yup, resilience is the path to flow

It's 8 o'clock, where are you?
I am waiting on Google Meet, all night through
Thinking how the lesson would glue

And now you tell me you have no clue
Yup, resilience, peppered with some patience too

Ok guys, let's sing a song today
Madam, I can't hear a word you say
Oh come on, let's sing anyway
We are the World, let's heal the world every day
I've been singing this since yesterday
Ok Madam, let's sing and have it your way
All sing, no one hears anyone anyway
Yup, it's a virtual class, and it's only May

COVID-19, Coronavirus beep
The learning curve has been very steep
Filled with feelings running deep
Ah, I have made a giant leap
Doing things I could never upkeep

I get up, dresss up,
Show up, buckle up,
COVID-19, you made me all stirred up
In return I smugly chin up
Resilience has meant never more
As much as COVID-19 has brought to the fore
I pick up, dust off and rejoice in galore
That I have arrived forever more

Once a teacher, always a teacher
So what if I'm now a faceless moniker
A happy hatter, with lots of banter
Online or face-to-face it doesn't matter
Learn, unlearn, relearn, maketh a noble character
Yup, resilience is middle name of Dr Naginder!

--Naginder Kaur, Universiti Teknologi MARA, Malaysia

3. Cherry Blossoms:

I have heard
That cherry trees bloom
With extra brilliance
This spring
Along the death visited Wuhan roads
They take away the stench and burn
Of those thousands who died

The Cherry Blossoms too will wither
And fall and decay under feet
Moving along the live Wuhan roads

They will return with lesser hue
Next spring
Will those thousands
Show life again?

--Mrs. Kamala Wijeratne, Kandy, Sri Lanka

4. The Pandemic (Covid 19)

It started as only another virus
Infecting people in only one country
Little that everyone realised
The virus began spreading rapidly

Countries started to close borders
In order to keep the virus from advancing
Unfortunately to many others
The virus began escalating

Number of people infected began to increase
Sadly, so did the number of the deceased

Panic, worry and fear were triggering
While governments worked to overcome the imminent warning

However, behind every cloud there is a silver lining
Families became closer, nature began healing
Many discovered surprising knack and bent
They never knew, nor had time to discover before then

Our main line of defence now is to stay at home to stop it from spreading
To always maintain a safe distance from people who might be coughing or
sneezing
To always wash our hands, and have our temperature monitored
And to wear a mask to as a preventive method

This pandemic has changed life as have always been living
It stopped us from doing our normal undertakings
Yet it also helped us to re-learn and unearth many other things
Hence let us hope that this new normal will make us better human beings

--Al Lutfy Aniq Bin Alsyukri, Kedah , Malaysia

5. Be Hopeful!

People call it Covid-19,
Tiny, small and not be seen.
Do and don't, but people want,
To go, to leave, oh! Please don't.
We sit, watching all the news,
Waiting for one, the best to choose,
The best medication, for generations.
Be home! Wash your hands!
Good advice, singing the bands.
Because of Covid, we sit at home,
Sharing thoughts, under the dome.
Will it leave and even go?
To Allah we pray, begging so.
Virus becomes the long story,
Virus stops even the lorry.

Countries all, try to make,
What we all wish to take.
Doctors could, find the clue,
That's good, the sky's blue.
People wait, hoping for,
Let it be and even more!
Children play having a dream,
Shouting loud, the doctors seem!
The last to write, the last to say,
May Allah stop it today!

--Malek Alouch, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia

o6. The Prophetic Cure

It came somewhere from the East.
It seemed like no one could escape from this beast.
People's lives are being taken continuously.
Something in this world manipulates the people's vulnerability.

When everyone thought the right decision was flight,
They realized too late that it was not right.
One should look after his family,
Because this wild beast does not seem to know mercy.

Everyone panics, but the solution is too unfussy.
People just don't listen and they regret it fully.
Hoping for another chance, but it is never too easy.
The world is not too kind, and this is the reality!

People stuck at home,
Doing whatever they can alone.
Praying that this beast leaves as it should
And all the sufferings be gone for good.

People grieved, people died.
They are not gonna come back alive.
But one thing they profess is sure.
People shall learn as they find the cure.

-- Nora V. Marasigan, Batangas, Philippines

o7. He departed from us—

He departed
from us –
Into another world....
At daybreak—
I stood
at his bedside
Overcome with sadness 'n fatigue..
I couldn't hold back,
the cascading tears,
Flowing down,
manly middle-aged cheeks.
Memories, like a blast of wind
descended upon my conscious mind.
His smiling face--
Greeting every patient
even on hectic OP schedules...
His flippant jokes,
And instant laughter!
His undying optimism:
“Let's fight and kill this virus, buddies!”
I remembered it all---
Now, the deadly monster
Had made a mockery
Of his bravado,
He himself...devoured
... annihilated..
By the deadly virus.
'Goodbye. My friend.'
Whispered I,
And walked towards the door.

[This particular poem has been written on a true-life incident about the death of a very dedicated doctor in Chennai. He died after getting infected from the hospital, where he had been treating COVID-19 patients, since two months. His name was Dr. Simon. Unfortunately, this friend, Dr. Prakash had to flee from a violent mob that gathered in front of every cemetery where he took the body for burial. Finally, Dr. Simon's body was hastily buried in a ground in the outskirts of the city.]

--Dr. Ancy Eapen, Jain Deemed-to-be University, Palace Road, Campus, Bangalore,
India

8. Corona Rhapsody

Clustering in a flock of similar feather
Your face glows in a crimson blossom
Your species range from the first three alphabets
Created genomes in our home garden.

Constellating any beings for natural selection
Your gait captivates each human race
Your descendants breed in gene splicing
Crowding every nook of mortal conscience.

Singing the blues, each chants a lament for your vanity,
Reconnecting with the missing link between the lines—
Corporeal synergy between things and spirit in this biosphere
Trying to coax you that you'll feel compassion for any creature,
To domesticate you to be congenial symbiotic denizens—
To entreat you to co-exist with any living being in harmony.

--Henrikus Joko Yulianto, Central Java, Indonesia

9. Lockdown Connection

Hugs. Kisses. Touches.
Nothing gives her more joy than being with you little one
Getting stronger every day and all the time
A connection only you and her will understand

Two big muscly hearts connected; to never be apart
Two arms extended, hugging so tight
Two red apple-like lips to kiss too sweetly.
Two holding hands to express affection physically.

Hugs. Kisses. Touches.-this is love and life
Then suddenly an invisible enemy arrives
Enforcing isolation, silence and distance
Making a line, stretching across sea and land.

You fear this line like a monster in a bedtime story

When happy play time turns into gray and anxiety
When hugs, kisses, touches, turns sinly
No one can be so close to you, even...sometimes she.

Being with you in this time of quarantine and uncertainty
Challenged her to find some peace and normalcy
Caring for you is like navigating a ship in great storms
But for you little one, she can seal love and comfort in your home.

Questioning life how to find a new normal in pandemic
Pressure falling hard in her shoulders like a catastrophic
Even facing difficulty, she builds a great wall for your safety
Bringing happiness and positivity for you and the whole family.

Her high hopes and prayers, believing this will soon last
She is desperately hoping to see you freely sing and dance
You in a playground, running outdoors, she wants to glance
Swimming in deep blue ocean, with a sun kissed skin at last.

Hi Corinne! This is your Mother, to hug, kiss and touch you forever.
For now, let us cuddle in your pink soft blanket to feel warmer
Our connection is not wavered, my love for you is stronger.
Hugs. Kisses. Touches. This is our love and life to savor.

--Genalyn P. Lualhati, Tanauan, Batangas, Philippines

10. Hope

The day will come
Victory over Covid-19
Freedom from the battle
Wash away all the tears
Sadness from uncertainties

The day will come
Victory over Covid-19
Family and friends reunion

Sharing moments of happiness
Strengthen back the bonding

The day will come
Victory over Covid-19
Students return to school
Adults embrace new normal
Enjoying every single second

--Mohd Nizam Bin Salahudin, Pulau Pinang, Malaysia

11. The Subjugation:

Boom...boom...
The cannon has been fired
Klang...klang...
Death knell resounded, and chimed then pealed;
War's a'birth, pandemonium a'stirred

The shriek of flesh in throes of blood
Was quenched by squeak of Draco's brood
The cleaver's tak-a-tak in butcher's stance
Unleashed a bane in Dragon's clutch

The rat-a-tat of bustling world
Was stifled by the masked perturb
The turning of the trading wheels
Was screeched to stop by impalpable stabs
The dove midflight was squelched and crashed;
The swoosh of wings is clipped by bugs

The cloaked Gloom stalked the lands
The clank of scythe, it haunts the hearts
The children's sob, enchained in blocks
The dust of doom, the world a'plague

The gluttony, the discontent
Has take its toll on Adam's whelps

The biped scourge, that gnaws the Earth
Succumbed, subdued by crowns of speck

--Bee Jay Olitres, University of Cebu-Banilad, Cebu City Philippines

12. Covid-19:

I am a boy
Who was forced to stay inside,
I can't go outside to play,
I can't go to school,
I can't go to the park.

I am a boy
Who likes to disobey the rules,
I can't bear to watch movies anymore,
I can't bear to stay at home anymore,
I can't 'bear to stay as a hostage anymore.

I am a boy
Who fight for my desire,
I go out to free myself,
I go out to see my friends,
I go out to see people outside.

I am a boy
Who did not know what is right and wrong,
I don't know I would be in trouble,
I don't know the danger awaits,
I don't know how the virus got me.

I am a boy
Who is walking in sorrow,
I felt regret and grievous,
I felt the pain that other feel,
I felt tears in my eyes.

I am a boy
Who is waiting for the doctor,
I believe what was dealt,
I believe I could make it,
I believe the feel that I felt.

I am a boy
Who needs cure and hope to end the pandemic,
I sense my grip became feeble,
I sense my hope is lost,
I sense I would never wake up from this sleep.

--Saif Sirhan Saifollah, Selangor, Malaysia

13. **Vulture**

Interview, camera and a live accost of the creepers
that might display the map of my walking country.
It reflects the dispossessed figure who are forced
to remain barefooted and you are on the OB van.
Half fed stomach hankers for the vocation.
Sometimes feminine droplets expunge the brazenness.
In a war-posh area a vulture of warped beak and
jagged claws was waiting behind a waning tot.
Perhaps it was a scavenger's gorge
on a creeping toddler.
A camera of same claws and beak was waiting for an award.
There is no latitude of death and desire,
no longitude of gluttony.
One is waiting for stomach and another
with claws and beak waits for the trophy.
If lies in west or walks in east
same portrait is on two different frames.
Life is deadlier than death.

--Wribhu Chattopadhyay, West Bengal, India

14. Battle Cry of a Warrior

SILENCE.

No parade of feet thumping on the streets
No people buzzing through heat despite being beat

CORONA.

A lethal virus that took away our days living under the sun.
An unforeseen force that took the fault for the fall of man.
It freezes the land where human reigns,
It left people no time for even fear to feign.
All became afraid of the outside world
Where no one secures of your safety.
As it spreads fast in every depths and corners of this country,
It left people no choice but to be weary.

IT'S A BATTLE FOR PEACE!

People were forced to stay locked inside, not passing beyond their doors
But some were forced to leave the place they called home.
Unsung heroes were left of no choice but to take a step forward,
Unto the land where there's no tomorrow that awaits
They took the role of knights who serve to save!
Amidst the deafening silence brought by COVID-19,
Frontliners took the lead in battling against this behemoth.

SING THE BATTLECRY!

In these trying times, the judgement have been sentenced:
Mass exodus may give chance to those who were left jobless and homeless
A chance to go back to the place they once called home,
But their advent doesn't promise peace for the place they are going to
As this virus will continue to plague through.

SILENCE.

Where does this battle against COVID-19 will lead us through?
What does this war would turn us into?
In a world where no one promise the safety of our lives,
Where shall we put our faith into?
As people travel across lands and battle against time to find cure,
Where shall we find the place towards the bright future?

--Karen Arlaiza O. Mendoza, Philippines

15. Corona – come let's fight

In this time of darkness when there seems no light
The white army is our saviour, they are our might

No money or power can save you, see the developed nations' plight
Hand hygiene, mask and social distancing are the things to do right

If we maintain solidarity, together we can win this fight
Can't afford complacency and carelessness even slight

Need to extend the lock down and make it much more tight
Let's keep spirits high there will be a dawn to this dark night

Remain in your homes; there is nothing in the streets to excite
Protect yourself, your family and your society, don't be blight

If you have symptoms isolate yourself, protect others and be a knight
For the sake of humanity and our own survival for once let's unite

--Dr Oliyath Ali, District Hospital Kargil, Ladakh, India

16. He kills in the silence

He just attacks us
Without any warning
Kills people
Kills economies
Kills everything that he touches

When he attacks us with his touch of death
The world is healing itself
Happy
Birds sing again
Air, fresh again
Quiet

Meanwhile
Humans are hiding
Trying to escape from him
Without knowing where will he attack from
Without knowing who is he. . . .

--Nova Noor Aisyah, University of 17 Agustus 1945 Surabaya, Indonesia

17. Bookmarked Pages

And I'd bookmark these pages in 2020,
to mark the days,
of uncertainty,
of thinking that it may end,
but then it goes on again..
~until God knows when..
The days of this pandemic..
of us hiding behind these masks
of fighting a fear that's unseen.
Afear that comes from an uncertainty,
~how sure are we?

of a new normal...
~was yesterday even something that we should always be proud of?
Last time I checked,
the world healed a bit these days, without our touch.
Perhaps the time has come for us to reflect,
~ on our actions, our doings,
And how to start afresh
~ for a better tomorrow ~ that is, if we'd still be given a chance for that tomorrow..

and of the faces..and the people that we rarely, or do not see much~ anymore these
days,
as in our houses we're told to stay.
of hearts we may have broken,
of our actions that may have hurt.

we'd always hope that they'd understand,
~but do we even understand?

Our responsibilities
Our sincerity
Our faith
that define us.
~that we shall never forget,
no matter how we'd be facing this pandemic..
this covid-19..

--Norlisa Binti Abdullah Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

18. Covid-19

The new name of the horror
portrays the demon "COVID-19".
Entrapping the mankind with its enigma,
terrorizing the rush of blood
it comes with its half-scarred faces,
all in blood and blemish.
Every little thing is screwed up
from the very midnight it has shown up.
Ruination has started clutching its hands,
the way mankind has smashed nature
is the way it's taking their lives without any mercy.
Have we ever seen this scorching side of nature?
No, we've never and none will be willing in future!
It's like the fate has turned fatal,
the termination of our vices,
and the dismal result of our karma.
People who has shed blood for the sake
of religion, caste, creed, colour or community
are now in the imprisonment of Corona.
The novel virus, has never been found
so pathetic, so vulnerable and so deplorable
to eradicate the human race from its roots
and been proven as horrendous as a pandemic.
WHO, from time to time, declares

to maintain social-distancing
as if a sneeze or a cough in public
or chilling in hordes can snatch the lives.
Public curfew, lockdowns,
feel like cities turning into deserts,
humans wrapped in enclosed boxes
and lives molded in the fire balls of panic.
One step out of the home,
and it's a clean invitation to the demon in our house
to spread its empire and eat to the core of our lungs.
Slow yet steady, COVID-19 without gasping
knocking down our regular lifestyle to the death.
No more time to waste in laziness,
it's the moment to accelerate and haste.
Repeat your hands in sanitizing
to remove the fear of COVID-19.
Eat fresh, spend your time in home,
and omit the situation occurring in Rome.
Stay away from circulating the fake things,
there is the cry of the dead what Corona brings.
Let's not jump in the grief-stricken pond,
it's the time to fight back together against this demon!

--Suchismita Ghoshal, Malda, West Bengal, India

19. Confrontation with Death

Stop right there, Death
Be gone, Death
Do not claim the souls of those sufferers
My patients, their lives
Under the clutches of the deadly Corona
They do not deserve such demise
They do deserve a life to live, yes a second chance to live.

They have a reason to live, Death
My poor patients
The souls of the mortals whom you seek to take
Each mortal deserve to live out happily one's time

Old mortals, Young mortals, deserve to live
Ups and downs, though the globe of life may be.

Please stop in the name of God, Death
Do not claim the mortal souls of my patients
They have loved ones, those who love them dearly
Parents, grandparents, siblings, relatives, spouses, friends
If one of them is gone, what will be of their loved Ones?
Will they feel lifeless? , will they feel lonely and fall into despair?

That deadly virus of that Corona of yours, Death
That Covid- 19 Pandemic whom you have created to claim the souls of many
It has caused mayhem to humanity
It has caused a loss of many in the population of mankind
It has even instilled fear among human race.

The feelings of anxiety are being inserted into individuals
Places of contentment, where family and friends take joy in are shut down.
Signs of Affections have become a threat to individuals
Love, fondness, warmth have become very hazardous to loved ones
Loved ones are feared by those affections
It might cause them to fall into a fatal doom.

You have been creating a life threatening chaos, Death
Ever since the past and even now in the times of present
In the Medieval times, you have cast out a lethal sickness in the form of a rat
Mortals have become sufferers of the rat disease
Bodies lying, the smell of death everywhere
Dead bodies being carried into carts
That incident that you have created shall forever be known as The Black Death.

You are still creating a life threatening chaos, Death
In this time of the present, you have cast out a lethal sickness in the form of a
Deadly crown of spikes with Corona as its name
Individuals get those deadly crowns of spikes and cause them to fall into a death-
dealing sickness
It may cause them a departure into the afterlife.

I am a Doctor, Death
I save the lives of people

Their feelings and their loved ones, I care much
My fellow doctors may have gave up hope or get claimed by you
But, I will not give up saving the lives of the sufferers from the clutches of Corona
and from your ghastly hands.

With God, as my strength
I shall never lose my hope
You hide well in darkness
But the light will shine; the sun will rise to give me a new day and hope
Cure, the Cure will I find till my last breath
Fight, will I to the end
Death, be gone!

--Elena Abigail Dilani Anthony, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

20. Time to Listen to the Call of Nature

The inferno of Corona at night kept me awake
Tossing in the bed pondering over after Corona stakes
Would man change, learn a lesson from his mistakes
Compassionate and humane, begin feeling nature's aches

Caged and confined in homes how restless are we
Haunted by sights of animals in zoo with meagre to eat
For freedom and salvation their sad eyes making a plea
Benign creatures of God, now mock at man's conceit

Man endeavours to cope with apocalyptic pandemic
Riding high on opportunities, stands helplessly unprotected
Teeming millions devoid of health care bear Corona panic
Economy going topsy-turvy, social distancing all expected

Starving mobs ,silent sighs , unattended on the road
Struggle for survival, half promises, one meal, no abodes
Mutilated hopes, masked pain, withering cheeks, sadly they nod
Worn out faces, wiped off tears, alas! Destinies are forged

Primordial survival instinct preceding over laissez faire
War against a micro -organism, holding human life in future

Stay safe, stay at home, irony when fresh is outside air
This alone can prevent loss of lives,
time to listen to the call of nature !!

--Dr. Ritu Kamra Kumar, MLN College, Yamuna Nagar, Haryana, India

21. Covid Lessons

I feel the rhythm of the gentle breeze around
I hear the sound of chattering rain behind
In this beautiful autumn morning
I see the power of Creator blushing
Man is the king and crown of everything
He has the power of doing anything
He is proud of his mighty power
But I realize his weakness at this hour
With his great scientific findings
He tried to do many things
He thinks the world is at his fingertips
But corona shattered and smashed his dreams
Pride and power, everything is in vain
Corona created great frustration
Utter pain he finds everywhere
Solution he finds nowhere
Corona is invisible to our naked eyes
Yet troubling the entire humankind
It taught us to value our lives
It made us to care for all at all times
Let us fight together against it
Then we shall overcome it
Let us break the chain together
May God bless us to live forever

--Anusha Alex, DM Convent, Venniyoor, Kerala, India

22. We Want To Return Home

Life is like a rainbow
Sometimes it is bright
Sometimes it is dark
But returning home is inevitable

Our days are not the same as before
Our days changed 360°
From being free to being locked up
There are eyes watching for possible misstep

Corona virus, you are so great
Corona virus, cruel and has no heart
Corona virus, evil and has no mercy
Old or young, the whole world are no exception

Corona virus, we are unafraid
Corona virus, we aren't admitting defeat
Because ... because ..
We have The One

Corona virus, you will be destroyed
We believe that The One is above everything else
We believe in Him
Trust that you will lose in time

O Allah, The Responsive, we want to return home
O Allah, The All-Aware, we miss our parents
O Allah, The Forgiving, forgive our sins
O Allah, The One, The Glorious, destroy the Corona virus
O Allah, The Merciful, we want to return home

--Sr. Dr. Nazirah Binti Mohamad Abdullah, Faculty of Civil Engineering and Built
Environment, Universiti Tun Hussein Onn Malaysia

23. Locked out

My heart searches for
The answers to questions
Yet to be asked.
My heart yearns to hear
The notes of the unheard melody.
Eager ears pressed against the door,
An unseemly audience
To the dirge drowning the senses
While the silent air surrounds
This forced quietude.
The tinted glass
Hides the squeamish hearts
Stealing a glance
At the patrolling batons
Belting out orders
To cowering corners.
My heart begs to feel
The rhythmic beat of the street
That turns in its own dust
And rises to a mishmash of a medley.
"Retreat! Retreat!
Locked down is the street!
The enemy has gone rogue, beware!"
A flurry of nervous feet
Scurry home, unaware
Of what my heart wants to know.
What my heart wants to know...
What my heart wants to know...is...
Wait...does it matter anymore?

--Neelima Chakraborty, , Faridabad, India

24. Mother Earth Had Enough:

Midas Touch was forewarning of greed,
But mankind took no heed regardless of their creed,
Eating to survive was no longer considered efficacy,
Instead bats and pangolins became a delicacy,

The coronavirus came in the scale of a pandemic,
It had so many crowns it was just epic,
COVID-19 spread as fast as fire,
With the vengeance that would befit Mother Earth's ire,

From shaking hands and smiling at each other,
There was a need to dread one another,
Our profligate ways made us feel supreme,
Until nature decided we were too extreme,

All she needed was for a virus to catapult,
To keep us locked up and bring every man-made mechanism to a halt,
She made us fear our very own cough,
And let us know that Mother Earth had enough...

-- Mahaletchumy Krishnamoorthy, Politeknik Sandakan Sabah, Sabah, Malaysia

25. Invocation

Discontinuity has ravaged the world
Beckoning a plague—marking the eleventh hour
Of anxiety, gripping our minds
S-T-A-T-I-C!

Our robust vitalities has left us for some mythical quest—
HOPE desiccated, and beliefs crumbled—
Faith shaken burdened with innate toil.
Let us offer this prayer, invoke the Gods
And plead to banish Pestilence from the world.
Cleanse the world off veiled diseases and threats
And bask in the twilight of blessings

Of Divine purgation!
Time is upon us now to stand tall and strong amidst adversity.
Let us witness the fore bearer of evergreen prospects,
Behold a dawn of endless possibilities, where
Perseverance shall highlight our paths
And the World shall heal in silence, uninterrupted.
Come now— let us chant Harmony's Prelude!

-- Kakoli Debnath, Vill: Seuj Nagar, Assam

26. Letter to Corona

Dear Corona,
Please stay with us! But don't harm anyone.
Because of you LOCKDOWN is in process...
Because of you we are staying with our family more than two months...
Ozone's depletion and preservation miracle happened...
The Holy river Ganga which is cleansing all the sin,
Is pure now! It's all because of you only.
Maybe the Ganga think, "I cleaned all your sin, It's my time, I became Holy again".
The pollution we studied in science subject are least now.
Yes we are dying. But Nature is getting REBIRTH.
All are saying, "Corona is a dangerous virus"
But I'll say, "You're an Angelic Devil".
Even the Government says, "Learn to live with Corona"
The Government itself gave permission to you.
So, why can't you stay with us!
But Dear Corona, please be friendly with us...

-- P. Geetha Davenci, Ponnammal Nagar, Dindigul, Tamilnadu, India

27. Together We Can

Together we can
Put our difference aside
Put our feelings aside
Put our religious beliefs aside
Put our differing political ideologies aside

Together we can
Put our hearts and heads together
Put our words and thoughts together
Put our deeds and actions together
Put our energy and resources together

Together we can
Walk away from criticisms
Move away from empty talks
Stay away from our politics
Purge away negative thoughts

Together we can
Stay at home but do something
Stay indoors but make a difference
Don't think it will not come to me or my family
Open our hearts and minds to combat this virus

Together we can
Channel our energy to pray
Divert our attention to help
Focus our thoughts to give
Focus our deeds to protect

Together we can
Don't be a passive commentator
Don't be a potato couch
Don't be the silo citizen
Don't be a bigot

Together we can
Let's do our part however small

Let's care for one another
Let's break barriers and unite as one
Let's all be humane then a mere human!

Together we can
Put Corona to rest
Put People at ease
Put Humility as our priority
Put Humanity before superiority

--Ravindran Raman Kutty, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

28. In the Lens of Third World People

We shield our smiles behind droplet-proof fabrics
To shut our mouths from voicing our miseries.
We laminate our faces with plastic sheets
To distort our most honest reactions.
We keep ourselves hidden behind our doors
To helplessly endure sufferings
Triggered by extreme isolation
For we are the common people
Living in a quarantined nation.

We have been imprisoned by lockdowns
While you are blaming, chasing, prosecuting
Whichever had caused your economic deterioration.
We had lost lives and feared the infection
While you are competing, capitalizing, declaring
Whatever your best plan in controlling the contagion.
We have risked the health of our front-liners
While you are militarizing, politicizing, expanding,
Whosever forces will conquer the islands and sea of our nation.
Whichever, whatever, whoseever,
We may not have won this battle
For we are not fighting this together.

To those hands signing the legal papers

Please help us stand and reach your hands to us.
Forget your momentary issues with one another
And talk and work as if you were brothers.
Leaders of different nations and prophets of various races
Convene and bless us all by uniting your aces
Think critically together and act with strong solidarity
To combat these global miseries
Caused by this inevitable pandemic.

-- Richard M. Bañez, Malvar, Batangas, Philippines

29. No New Vision

Maiden fear has unrested me
in my lonely life with dense solitude
around me. No gleaming gems nearby –
and I am trembling with my structure.

No sweet dreams are in my dreamy sleep –
nor with the streams of music or poetry.
The warm company of beautiful women
with their soft throbbing breasts – a past story.

I am hearing the whispers of breeze
and it is so wild and gay around me.
The submission to cruel fate is the realism
because of stranger fatty body.

No echoes of hope from the sky
nor golden vision at horizon.
Only the darkness has zoomed around
with despair and frustration.

-- Sushanta Bhattacharjee, Surendra Bhavan, Cachar, Assam, India

30. The Year of Great Realization

The World War C, known as the Covid – 19 pandemic virus
This pandemic virus is so serious
It affects and infects the whole world
We need to fight the virus to survive
People were thinking by drinking water with salt might subside
We are curious to find the cure for the pandemic
The virus is very traumatic
Day, after day, after day, the virus started to mutate
We need to eradicate the virus
I hope and pray that after the virus
We will never have any virus coming into our world again
Because if we have a virus again
We might not find the cure
Where will we be?
Who knows? Maybe the world will end

-- Omajuwa Dave Fornilda Etiethola, UUM International School,
University Inn University Utara Malaysia, Malaysia

31. The Corona Wave

It came as a wave,
A wave of uncertainty.

It came as a wave,
A wave of uncertainty.
It was a storm that broke,
The borders across the globe.
It united the mankind,
Which none could do for ages?

It came as a wave,
A wave of rejuvenation.
It came to remind us,
The truth which none can deny.
That we all are just guests here
And we have to depart once to be born again.

It came as a wave,
A wave of internalization.
It came to make us realise,
How important it is to be 'you'...
It came to make us understand,
How important it is to love 'yourself'...

It came as a wave,
A wave of uncertainty.
It gave us time,
To be born once again...!
To rethink what we actually wanted,
And to reconnect to the 'real' around us.

It came as a wave,
A wave of revival.
It enforced in us,
The much forgotten 'parenting'.
That the womb of the family was once blessed,
With a soul created much intentionally.

It came as a wave,
A wave much needed.
To make us be thankful.
About what we already had.
It once again reminded us,
To connect with the soil that we were born in.

It came as a wave,
A wave surely of uncertainty.
But as a wave of reinforcement,
To the entire mankind....
To work hard and to be consistent,
And to be the real 'Human'.

It came as a wave,
A wave of uncertainty.

-Thombre Diksha Pandit, Bal Sahyog Middle School,
Govt. of NCT of Delhi, Connaught Circus, New Delhi, India

32. Cloudless Blue Sky

The recklessness of humans was pushing it towards full consciousness,
It was conscious enough to grasp the throat; the throat of uncountable innocents,
Not letting itself to slip through the hands of fate and danger,
Making every single cough worth the rush.

A cloudless blue sky,
The wish of disappearance of the devilish existence of 21 st century,
The prayer of each and every soul that belongs to humanity,
Consciously letting themselves dwell in the sound of hope,
Not knowing what's next.

-- Darshni Gunasekaran, Quest International University, Perak, Malaysia

33. Hope, Our Greatest Arsenal

Days are gloomy and nights are bleak,
Pandemic is extensively reaching to peak.
Artery's are deserted, egress are locked,
Looks, as if we are, always stalked.

Neither buzzing of horns, nor traffic jams,
Seems as if we are like, an innocent lamb.
The reticent war has shocked the world,
Oh! The savor of experiment made us fall.

We all have an arsenal known as hope,
And with that the aliment will elope.
The blanket of silence has covered the earth,
But now every soul is taking rebirth.

Nature is healing, and so is our mind,
Absurd ,nasty situation has aroused mankind.
People around are connecting once again,
We are using our heart and not only brain.

Hope we will overcome with the situation,
The disorder will go for eternal damnation.
Keep, the light of aspiration burning,
Let us be optimistic and keep grinning.

-- Savita Boral, Gurugram University, Gurugram, India

34. Words of Exile

The world is a mess, a cuss, a fuss
what happened to the doomed new year...once full of hopes and bliss
not even a month through, the epidemic blew
and taught everybody sorrow of exile

lovers separated from others
quarantined patients' sole will is to hover
and the wait prolongs...
with despair and sad old songs
but what patience befits the desire to reunite with a lover
or the wish to fully recover
still, the wait prolongs...

I miss you, that is all they feel
I miss, that is all they say
I am hopeful to see you again one day

From now on they knew
one thing they will strive for and forever attain
it is human connection—sincere affection
for they were nothing without it—hopeless and empty
and in pain they grew
in pain of exile

-- Shahd Ashraf, Desasiswa Kompleks, USM Main Campus, Pulau Pinang, Malaysia

35. Covid 19

Covid 19

A name that shook the world
A pandemic that taught mankind self-realization
A god send virus to heal the sick world
Cleanliness and social distancing were the key to rehabilitation
Lockdown was the solution to survive

Covid 19

How you managed to tone down the arrogant humans
Hefty price to be paid if you are ignorant
Money or power matters no more in your eyes
Only life is the most valuable and precious asset

Covid 19

Hope lesson is learnt by man
To work together with mother earth
For the normal times to return
For the sake of our next generation

--Pushpa Ramasamy, Penang, Malaysia

36. The Great Realization

The earth is recovering and may
There are always bills to pay
For all what human ruins
Its time at home to stay
We trapped the animals
We burned the woods
And now the earth with virus filled
Will we one day understand?
The fears of these days?
The pain and the stress
Will we survive or not?
Will we realize why really the world been shut?
Behind the scene. The earth celebrating our cut!!
The earth breaths fresh again no coldness or hot!

The soon as we realize the soon this crisis stops
We need to hold each other's hand
And together will save the humankind
To better life... To green life...
Stay home, stay safe. Till these days may end.

-- Imran Mohammed Dhannoon, Universiti Utara Malaysia International School
(UUMIS), Malaysia

37. Life with Coronavirus

The streets were empty in the morning
Shutters were down
The streets were empty in the evening
As it's a countrywide lockdown.

Rich are enjoying at home
Kids are surfing on Google Chrome
Lovers are chatting with zeal
Poor are worried of their meal.

Coronavirus, the big black witch
Will visit door to door,
Rich will always be rich
Poor will have to keep their roar.

Don't cry in despair,
For we have many things to prepare
United we still stand
Divided, it's too tough to withstand.

-- A. Sajeeth Hussain, Tiruvannamalai, India

38. I know

I know it's difficult
But believe me you will
I know situations are hard
But believe me you heal

I know you're lonely
But need to walk alone
I know you're broken
But struggle is going on

I know you miss them
But this battle was tough
I know pain was extreme
But be a strong enough

I know you lose hope
But keep little trust
I know this hurts you
But now wait is must

I know you need support
But have to stay separate
I know you feel guilty
But don't feel any regret.

-- Shivani Lad, Mumbai, India

39. I Had A Dream

I had a dream.
People of India.
Discarded foreign again.
To rebuild their nation.
From the impact of covid -19.
I found shops were filled

with the Indian products.
There were no foreign imports.
Someone had renamed as Indians' shop.
Suddenly I woke up with a question.
Unfortunately I have a day dream.
How they did it before.
Where no social media.
Where no 4G and smart phones.
Swadeshi movement is possible now?

-- Ayyambala M, Ramanathapuram, India

40. No One Appears:

I never see this sky clear before,
No one appears at any shore,
Nature plays in the galore,
I never see this sky clear before.
Apparently, nature is trying to restore,
I never see this sky clear before.
If men do their deeds as bad chores,
Nature will come to play as encore,
I never see this sky clear before.
Let us make a promise to sustain the nature,
Let us make a promise to sustain the nature,
Adversely, it ruffles with claymore,
And never give answers of wherefore.
I never see this sky clear before,
No one appears at any shore.

-- Honey Pasricha, Nawanshahr, Punjab, India

41. Covid-19

Our earth has found a new traveller
Yes!! We all had found too
COVID-19 is a single word that
changes the whole world
Off course!! We felt it

No rape cases, no murders, no riots, no robbery,
No crimes at all and less air&water pollution too
U corona... healing the whole world
Thank you for that

No work no income, everything
We earned is loss & u gave a moral story too
Many faced difficulties for needy things and
Even many faced death but emotionally...
We found a beautiful bond in every family

Students are the most active community
You are the only reason for...
we are being in home
but remember...
very soon we all be together
And arrest you permanently

I am sure that corona biowar is more
and more powerful than
that of combined both world wars
But even knowing that you people
doing a beautiful jobs are greatly appreciated
Yes!! You are the real heroes and heroin
in this story....
Your intelligence, hard work, support
are the saving grace of this nation
During this dark episode
You have taken care of our country
At each and every step, from
Birth to stroke to cancer and now
You are walking right into fire to help us

Thank WHO.... Thank you!!

Look corona...

Now we all being together
You can't rule this beautiful world anymore
Go fast as how much u started this journey
hope u & your family won't be a retraveller

-- Thenmozhi K, Madurai, India

42. Nature's Revenge

Reasons and thoughts meet
To explain the explosion of nature
For the way the earth we treat
And the way we ruin our future
She sent us invisible virus
It threaten our security
We just stand there and watch it
While it destroys our community
Coronavirus is not just a name
When it came here everything was never the same
Before.. The pollution blocked the way
To clear it this is how the earth made us pay!
Schools aren't open all the malls are closed
We have nothing to do it's like our life just froze
If you wanna know why corona is here?
Well we're all to be blamed
We disrespect this earth, and we never feel ashamed
I hope now everyone realize
That this is the Mother Nature revenge
And learn from what we have done
And to put this to an end.

-- Asmaa Mohammed Dhannoon,
Universiti Utara Malaysia International School (UUMIS), Malaysia

43. Within the Spice Forests of Goa

I pray,
you and I
do not fall into the
binary politics of this pandemic
that death would not
slay/divide us
from life.

The pawpaw trees
rustle against your window
while you repose in diamond
prayer, naked in contemplative
guiding of the souls into the light
behind the pawpaw trees
ripened with fruits
for soul food
along the way
you leave on surface of stones
as offering
for the God of the living,
and the dead
passing by.

-- Shalom Galve Aranas, Manila, Philippines

44. Corona - An Eye Opener

I was blind having good sight,
Not knowing my life's destiny;
My senses worked in darkness
Since corona rose in fullness.

No aim and no dream is the cause
Of my present state of existence.
Prophetic refrain of Kalam didn't sense
To me this tragedy of twenties;
I was blind to foresee the desperation.

No guaranteed job to balance my life
Trembling in the economic typhoon,
Storms out my drops of money soon.

No work, no salary but no food
Is not accepted by this human wood.

I woke up like Milton's blindness
But I was shunned by not making hay
While the sun shines.

Little saving might be a lamp in darkness,
Home town might be my safety hub,
Having sown seed grown fowls and
Small cattle might serve unfailing food.

If I be a techno savvy, predicting next
Not wasting all my time in social text,
Avoiding quarrels on petty social matters
Would have brought me success.

I realize now,
My sunshine days are plausible only,
If I am unison with nature and science.

-- Joseph E Ahiman, The American College, Madurai, India

45. A Perplexed Little Bird

I woke up today in the mid afternoon
The sun was overhead but I was confused about one thing
How I was able to sleep for so long?
Everything seems to be a little unusual, a little abnormal
The wind was blowing in its own direction with a new freshness added into it
Surely some sparkle and shine were added to the sun's light
My friends were flying and were chirping so loud than usual
I noticed everything but didn't understand a single thing
Surely something was missing
Suddenly, I just felt that I am able to hear only my friends chirping
I was unable to hear all other things as if I was deaf

There was no one on the roads, the hustle bustle in the markets were missing
Suddenly the crowdy places with long queues has no one to stand in the marked
lines

Inevitably, I was in a dream about a life I always wanted.

But it was not a dream, it was reality for sure
It was that appropriate time to explore the outside world
Now I can fly and chirp around the whole sky finding its brim
As there are no aeroplanes flying around interfering into my dreams
I can share this sky with my friends and have head-to-head race competition
We jumped from one nest to another, one tree to another enjoying our endless
happiness
At evening we also flew a little low and laugh seeing human beings looking
towards us
Through the bars of their windows with appalling eyes and downhearted spirits
But we are content with our independent breathing place to roam and explore the
outside world

Late evening, we went to our little friends growing in the lap of mother earth
Our little rose bud is now ready to blossom
His mother is now spirited to look for her little son rose to blossom
Her fear of losing her son is no more as we told her about the closing of near-by
flower shop
Now there is no one who could separate it from her mother by plucking
He is all set to grow and spread his fragrance and beauty in the lap of mother earth

We also bump into the water and there we encounter little fishes
Diving deep in the clean waves with cheerful high spirits
They were full of joy and were spinning and whirling with happiness
Their view towards the sky was no more blocked with big ships and boats
No waste was dumped from months into their rivers and seas
Yes, they complained of the plastic cans, bottles and polythene bags
But were hopeful for the positive change that is maybe not far away

We travelled a lot and returned to our nests at night
But I still have a doubt in my heart somewhere deep inside
Was today a dream?
I feel I am living in a dream and my eyes will unfurl now
And that hustle bustle will be back with humans and humans everywhere in a race
with no final destination

Or maybe it was a world which our ancestors used to tell us in their stories
I wish this could be same tomorrow.
I swear I don't hate humans; they too are a creation of mother earth like us
But I just wish that they could slow down their speed and learn to live life
Enjoy with the beauty and creations of mother earth
And make this mother earth a better place for every creation to live blissfully
May my dream come true one day and I will fly high and high and my happiness
will have no bounds.

--Kritika Bhalla, Government College for Girls, Ludhiana, India

46. The Great Realisation

From just speculation
Came the great realisation
That Covid-19 was here
Causing panic and fear
Spreading from here and there

But in the doom and gloom of calamity
Emerged the brighter side of humanity
That of compassion
Where masks became the new fashion
And social distancing the new norm
For surviving the Covid-19 storm

With Covid-19
Came the great realisation
That in order to overcome
The world had to work as one
This is how I see the world, as of now

-- Tawana Maraire, UUM International School, Malaysia

47. Covid-Nineteen

Micro thrones of innumerable heads
Hand to hand together and spreads
Giggling noise entered within
That laughter bat Covid-Nineteen

Seclude Fallot relations
How we keep our connections?
I am not your and you're not mine
That laughter bat Covid-Nineteen

We keep away from each other
But each lampblack together
Wait for o'r dream and happy sunshine
We'll defeat laughter bat Covid-Nineteen

They're not there like a deaf & mute
Not always sit on glittered throne as a brute
They're on the roads and hospitals protecting
We'll defeat laughter bat Covid-Nineteen

Blossom sprouts and filters breath
Fill yellow, orange energy with
Morrow is lovely spring and freen
We'll defeat laughter bat Covid-Nineteen

-- Vasundhara Nandkumar Jadhav, Tal Ratnagiri, Maharashtra, India

48. The Great Realization

When we went on with our daily lives
We noticed nothing, the nature and what was coming
We did not notice the dread we have to face.
There were warnings that said:
"Beware of the coming years"
We did not realize, it was not a big deal we thought
But now we are distanced from each other
Trapped in our own houses

Made to stay away from people
For our benefit, and lives
The virus that we once thought had gone forever
Had returned in full measure
Now, we know what is to come,
And that is that great realization

-- Farishta Rahemeen, Universiti Utara Malaysia International School,
Changlun, Kedah, Malaysia

49. Mama Take Me with You

There is something coming,
Coming to stifle my sobs,
my worries, all my perils.
Mama, is it you?
I can sniff your strawberry lips
brushing against my pallid cheeks
while you see me flare and recede,
gasping for breathe in the subtle quite
of the intensive care unit,
I wish to initiate a conversation
but the pain overrides my syllables,
the virus gnaws on me impatiently.
Is it the lustre of the stars that have faded,
or is my vision receding?
This place is murky
a sea of patients battle over the air,
the hearse screams unsubdued,
the ambulance siren roars vividly
disturbing my sleep.
Mama sing me a lullaby
I wish to sleep, follow you to the celestial arc
and never rise to entertain the new morning.
It brings me so much joy to be near you.

-- Anindita Sarkar from Kolkata, West Bengal, India

50. Emotional Quarantine:

The summers became adult by now,
The seasonal flu was common now.
But for me flu transformed into fear,
I'm covid positive, I couldn't bear.
I became untouchable that night,
No hugs, no kisses, and I cried.
I encaged myself as if I was with leprosy,
Seeing kids from far seemed so crazy,
My soul was oxygenation by my daughter,
A beautiful letter slipped under door, everyday.
After 14 days I was ready for the guests,
Only death angels can settle my breath.
My prayers of loneliness were heard,
I could see people near me, touching me.
Forgotten was the texture of the skin,
warm of shake hand, solace of hug.
The virus a hard-working chap,
Each minute it turned my nerve into a wire.
By morning i will be a robot, I cried last time.
In hospital room, i wept for hours at last embrassed by sleep.
Next morning my inbox was emotional,
Happy tears walked down my cheeks,
I replied to each tiny sms.
But I was selfish,
Oh God not my family,
Take my body, take my soul,
But not my children please,
I was heard, my family was saved.
I could always feel the Holy Presence,
It's 60 days, still I'm transforming my each wire into nerve.
I am exhausted, broken, worn out but I see sun shine.

--Shamaila Ijaz, Johar Town, Lahore, Pakistan



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