

The Silent Spring

PART ONE

A virus from China has invaded our spaces;
At first it was cruise ships in far away places.
People quarantined upon their return,
For many at this point, this was not a concern.

Then we were told to use soap, water or gel,
To avoid shaking hands, so we can stay well.
Fears of a lockdown meant empty shelves,
Showed us all up as very selfish selves.

A run on loo roll, on essentials and food,
Something was happening that was changing our mood.
The virus was spreading from person to person.
First one death then more right across our nation.

Then Boris spoke out, in a serious tome,
We must all save lives, we must all stay at home.
Many were furloughed, many were scared.
Our lives locked away, our living deferred.

From Zoom calls to clapping on Thursday nights,
Life as we knew it had gone from our sights.
No pubs, no restaurants, no nightclubs, no church.
No traffic, no aircraft, no days out or sport.

Everything normal all gone with no thought.
All kept at home, or 2 metres apart,
All to protect us, and our nations' heart.
To save our key workers, and to keep us from harm.

Spring has arrived, but it is like no other.
We're apart but together as we help one another.
The streets are all silent, surreal and unknown,
And many are separated from family all alone.

But thank God for the birds, singing away
Showing life goes on all through the day.
Nesting and twittering, still on the wing
Breaking the monotony of our Silent Spring.

The Earth it has spoken, it's given us a chance
By showing us how we can save it at a glance.
A new normal is needed, we have a kick start,
Now is the time to start acting smart.

A virus so small, but we will overcome,
It will be difficult for some,
Take this new normal and stay home we must do,
To save our lives, our health, and our planet too.

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PART TWO

A few months have passed, Spring became Summer
Businesses were desperate, lockdown a bummer.
Then Boris spoke again addressing the nation.
"Thank you", he said, "for your long isolation."

"The curve it has flattened, a future I see
Let's slowly reopen our great country."
First it was shops, construction and trade
"Help business recover", he said, "don't be afraid."

"COVID Secure, all businesses they must be
Eat Out to Help Out, we'll pay for half your tea."
Hands Face Space, three new words to follow
But no crowds in sport was a pill hard to swallow.

A haircut was had, facials now allowed,
You could meet other people, but not in a crowd.
But theatres and DJs still could not work,
Illegal raves made some people berserk.

A mess up with exam grades was just the start
Cleaning, one way routes, and bubbles looked their part.
Then schools reopened, cautions put in place.
Numerous control measures, all just in case.

And slowly but surely, awake from its rest
The virus started spreading - news hard to digest.
As Uni's returned, case numbers got higher.
Once again our great nation came under fire.

A phone app was launched, to trace who we were with,
It told you to isolate so that people could live.
Not everyone was able, their phone was too old,
More measures were needed, we had to be bold.

Three tiers were created, the north came out worse,
Pubs had to close again, life back in reverse.
Political arguments, they did not help us,
People were dying, there was no time to discuss.

As winter approaches, what will be do?
Many are thinking, "will we see new year through?"
But as in the Spring, when birds they did sing,
Nature continues to do its own thing.

Leaves are all oranges, and yellows and reds
The geese all migrating in formations above our heads.
Whatever the future, life will continue.
Just summon the strength lying within you.

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The Battle of COVID is not over yet
But one thing is certain, it's a fair bet
One day it will all end, lots will have been learned
Life will be normal, a virus overturned.

So stay strong and stay healthy
Keep washing those hands, Wear your mask properly
Keep away from your friends
We must do this for everyone. On it our life, it depends.

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