



The Day The World Stopped

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It appeared to have happened from out of the blue,
unfortunately there were many subtle clues.
People with flu-like symptoms are normal for this season,
but exponentially more people were affected for no reason.

The Coronavirus attacked people from all over the world,
humankind with severe illnesses, concerns and deaths unfurled.
The 'not knowing' when or where the disease would strike next,
kept the whole world nervous and cautiously perplexed.

Our heroes lead the way; doctors, nurses, first responders were in harms way.
Facing the invisible virus head-on, dying in mass day by day.
Those who cared for the sick and dying encouraged citizens to stay home,
"Please shelter in place, stay in your dwelling and do not roam."

As the weeks wore on, the more anxious we became.
The numbers were exponentially exploding, would we ever be the same?
There were 'hot' spots in the United States, people dying all around.
And at such an alarming rate, where was mankind bound?

One month ago a new term was introduced into our lives.
It was mandated that we 'socially distance' to keep ourselves alive.
To stay six feet distance from each other when out and about.
This proclamation has left us with fears and doubts.

As the loss of life became apparent and the statistics kept rising,
it was reassuring that many people, although ill, were surviving.
Numerous states were under orders to 'Shelter In Place' to 'Flatten The Curve'.
Many family members were longing for loved one's embrace, that they so deserved.

We reached out to family and friends more often than we did before,
and waving to our "peeps" in Central Park, from the second floor.
Talking to neighbors from our apartment door as they pass,
how much longer can this unwelcome virus possibly last?

What day of the week is it anyway, days rolling into each other?
It's only April, but my how it feels like September.
Sundays usually started our week with services at our church.
But can't count on that anymore, so for the calendar we frantically search!

We worshipped at home, as church services were cancelled for our protection.
Everything was being done to keep us safe from this vile infection.
We gathered around our computers for Zoom services on Easter Sunday.
We sang hymns, listened to music, the sermon and we did solemnly pray.

We are blessed to live at C.C. Young Retirement Community.
Where everything is done to remain safe and maintain our 'sanity'.
Excitement was getting the 'Staycation Guide' with a coloring book inside!
I color with Sharpies, but there are so many pages, that I may get high!

Now face masks are encouraged if we have to leave our houses,
buying groceries and doctor's appointments without our spouses.
Businesses closed, workers sent home to care for their own,
and into home-schooling they were unhappily thrown.

People hoarding toilet paper, Lysol spray, meat and bread,
what will the outcome be and what else lies ahead?
Silly memes about toilet paper hoarding and quarantine made us chuckle.
But from this ride from Hell, we wanted to quickly unbuckle!

When things calm down, grandchildren will ask us about this occurrence,
and how we prayed for the world for no virus reoccurrence.
We'll tell them what we did to stay safe in this time of uncertainty.
We'll enlighten them, that we were in deep prayer, during this raw adversity.

Prayers and love for our world and all those who inhabit it... *Barbara*

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