

## COVID Days by Kim Drake

One day the world will live again  
Mask free and without fear  
We'll walk about wherever we please  
Oh, life will feel so dear

One day we'll tell our children  
Tales of COVID days  
When empty streets, and empty skies  
Brought toilet roll delays

When grocery aisles laid bare and waste  
And storefronts shut their doors  
Of eateries whose kitchen's closed  
To isolate indoors

We'll talk about the cruise ships  
Who were unable to dock  
With sick and dying stuck onboard  
In terror and in shock

Of students blocked from going to school  
Some far away from home  
Alone, afraid without support  
And unable to roam

Of times when classrooms were at home  
And moms and dads the teachers  
When doors to worship sites were closed  
Barred to rabbis, priests and preachers

Of doctors working triple shifts  
Without food or rest  
Overwhelmed and overworked  
Their own fears well suppressed

We'll talk about all those who died  
While nurses held their hands  
Themselves exhausted, stressed and scared  
Handling tests and vents and scans

We'll speak of those who on the street  
Died helplessly alone  
Without comfort, care or love  
To us they were unknown

But there were good things happening too  
The world needed a rest  
From humanity's ever presentness  
I'm sure we'll all attest

Heroes emerged day after day  
Cashiers, doctors and nurses  
Deliverers of many goods  
To keep at bay the hearses

While in our homes, we read and prayed  
And skyped, e-mailed and phoned  
With friends and family near and far  
Even those disowned

We sang from windows cross the way  
From doorways cheered and shouted  
We helped our neighbours and those in need  
And never ever doubted

That we'd survive COVID's cruel fate  
One way or another  
Humankind's resilience would win out  
We're all sisters and brothers

But we realized we had to change  
Rid ourselves of greed and want  
Embrace things of importance  
Not be apathetic or nonchalant

One day the world will live again  
Children will play in parks  
We'll visit one another  
Celebrate benchmarks

We'll gather in great numbers  
With family near and far  
Rejoice and sing, shed tears of joy  
Go shopping at bazaars

One day the world will live again...

Kim Drake  
2020