

Pandemic Poetry Contest: Final Entries Are In!

WOW! Who knew we had such creative people in our community! Read and enjoy the final entries below. Congratulations to Sheldon Soman, Iris Danziger and George Schwartzman for winning our random drawing for an authentic Brooklyn Babka, and Yasher Koach to ALL who participated. We thank you for giving us some much needed enlightenment and comfort during this challenging time!

Covid Chai-ku

Virus surrounding
Inside our warm loving homes
Waiting to emerge
By Iris Danziger

--

Coronavirus Blues

The news screams pandemic
I'm locked in my home
My boredom's systemic
I'm tied to my phone
So how will I stand it
And stave off defeat?
Like my mothers before me
I'll kvetch and I'll eat
By Shelly Kerker

--

Alone Together

Social distancing, isolation
Streets are empty, throughout the nation.
Despite a fear, that strikes to the core,
We're more together, than ever before
By Marty Kerker

--

Slipping through our quiet pain,
The Spring's upon us once again!
And all the fears and all the dreads,
Can't keep sweet Spring from turning heads!

The grasses wake, and tender shoots
Send up their buds, and down their roots.
The crumpled winter slinks away,
To render green what once was grey.

And though a microbe none can see,
Spreads terror, universally,
Be grateful, friend, for this fresh start,
And let a crocus melt your heart.

by Grant Golden

--

Kaddish

Friends travel to a foreign land.
Why mourn their absence?
Rejoice! They have found peace.

The journey may be painful, but the destination is not.

by Deborah Greitzer

--

We see the world
Through altered eyes
Our vision re adjusted
But not in order, tilted,
Our compass is off

Skewed as if tumbled and tossed in a big
Clothes dryer
Wrinkled and disheveled.

We try to straighten our lives and the world
As rugs below our feet
Are pulled daily, tugged gently or roughly
You can't know which one
The day will bring

Order- we seek calm by cleaning
Hands, floors, dishes, knobs
Again and again

I dusted the window shades today
And the sun shone through.

Leslie Shuman Kramer

--

Passover Bunny

'Tis almost April and not a soul can come,
To the Seder at my house, cuz of the bad virus bum.
So time for Zoom and time for Skype,

To fulfill the occasion of the Passover hype.

So for Elijah this year he gets no wine,
Like everyone else he is in quarantine.
So let's have a good time and make it funny,
And let me invite the Passover bunny.

As the host of the Seder, no affikomen to hide,
Just a computer to watch my family with pride.
So with my friend the Passover bunny,
I saved so much of my Passover money.

George Schwartzman

--

Like all tyrants
This virus has a weakness
I heard on NPR that
because it succumbs to abrasion
(hand washing)
Scientists call it "Wimpy"

Holly Hutchinson

--

New Beginnings

Spring brings the promise of life renewed.
Birds returning from their time away.
New lives will be begin.
This year is different, however.
But like the 10 plagues of Egypt, evil haunts us.
A wave of death and disease spreads across the earth like a swarm of locusts.
No one is truly safe.
The streets are deserted
Where has everyone gone?
It brings out the worst in us and the best in us.
Try as we might, we cannot overcome our enemy.
We seek help from above, but wonder if anyone is listening.
When will this end?

By Sheldon Soman

--

Exercise blues

Bending, flattening?
We can do this to a curve.
How 'bout my stomach?

By Lisa Unher

--

In these times

When you see your neighbor walking down the way

Just try and stay six feet away.

Do the best you can to stop the awful spread

Of germs and virus causing so much dread.

You've got to keep your social distance,

Keep your social distance.

We all can help to flatten out the curve.

Just keep your social distance,

Keep your social distance.

Please do it right and don't lose your nerve.

When you see the rolls of paper on the shelf,

Don't grab them all for your own self.

Don't panic buy, it just isn't right.

So others have to search both day and night.

Please think about your neighbors,

Take care of your neighbors.

We're all in this together, don't you see.

Just think about your neighbors,

Care about your neighbors,

And this will go so much more easily.

By Lisa Unher

--

It is in times like these when most fear the dread,

Of a sickness that could very well leave us dead.

Yet many people hang on to their hope

From the lowest person to even the Pope.

The Irish even have their 4-leaf clover.

But we have more than just hope, for we have the " Pass Over ".

By Jackie Nowak

--

T. S. Elliot:

"April is the cruelest month."

Fasten your seatbelts...

By Grant Golden

O Covid-19!

Heavenly creation or

Just one of those things?

By Grant Golden