

The Bartered Settlement

Another year, another new day,
A life exceeding hope than yesterday's.
The crowd for traffic again seems similar
With no faces hidden under masks to murmur.
Unthreatened again, the stinky breath, exhaled
Some own illustrated lip-stains, ere now prisoned.
Creased clothes to be pressed all lays out
Again choosing amongst the favourite ones to be worn.
Teachers sharing same roof, not separated by screens,
The intervals again are chances to gossip.
No looks of judgement but "bless you", rejoins
When the air in crowded queue, by sneeze, is spoiled.
Hugs and kisses, anew, are badges of love,
Tangibility not distance, lets care to be served.

The steps aren't hesitant to venture into the open Again
tours are made to feel nature's essence.
While the race more civilized
In the houses stood arrested,
Nature took the opportunity
To adorn Herself beautifully.
Air to be unpolluted was treated with care,
Greener looked the forests after manicure
And oceans portrayed clearer since pedicure.
All set for voyage till next century's pandemic
Meanwhile will be ripped off of Her belongings!

-By Nishrita Sharma

Age- 21yrs