

The Great Realisation

It was a world of waste and wonder,
of poverty and plenty.

Back before we understood,
why hindsight's 2020.

You see the people came up with companies,
to trade across all lands.

But they swelled - and got much bigger
than we ever could have planned.

We always had our wants,
but now, it got so quick.

You could have anything you dreamed of,
in a day – and with a click.

We noticed families stopped talking,
that's not to say, they never spoke.

But the meaning must have melted,
and the work-life balance broke.

And the children's eyes grew squarer,
and every toddler had a phone.

They filtered out the imperfections,
but amidst the noise – they felt alone.

And everyday the skies grew thicker,
'til you couldn't see the stars.

So we flew in planes to find them,
while down below - we filled our cars.

We drive around all day in circles,
we'd forgotten how to run.

We swapped the grass for tarmac,
Shrunk the parks, 'til there were none.

We filled the sea with plastic
because our waste was never capped.

Until each day when you went fishing,
you'd pull them out – already wrapped.

And while we drank and smoked and gambled,
our leaders taught us why.

It's best to not upset the lobbies,
more convenient, to die.

But then in 2020,
a new virus came our way.

The governments reacted
and told us all to hide away.

But while we all were hidden,
midst the fear and all the while.
The people dusted off their instincts,
they remembered how to smile.

They started clapping to say “Thank you”
and calling up their mums.
And while the car keys gathered dust,
they would look forward to their runs.

And with the skies less full of voyagers,
the earth began to breath.
And the beaches bore new wildlife,
that scuttled off into the seas.

Some people started dancing,
some were singing, some were baking.
We’d grown so used to bad news
but some good news was in the making.

And so when we found the cure
and were allowed to go outside.
We all preferred the world we found,
to the one we’d left behind.

Old habits became extinct,
and they made way for the new.
And every simple act of kindness,
was now given its due.

But why did it take a virus,
to bring the people back together.
Sometimes you’ve got to get sick my boy,
Before you start feeling better.

Now lie down and dream of tomorrow,
and all the things that we can do.
And who knows if you dream hard enough,
maybe some of them will come true.

We now call it the Great Realisation
and yes since then, there have been many.
But that’s the story of how it started
and why hindsight’s 2020!