

It Took a Pandemic

It took a pandemic for everyone to see
We were drowning in our own toxicity.

It took a pandemic for us to be able
To have the whole family eat at one table.

It took the whole world becoming infected
For us to start seeing those most neglected.

It took the whole world grinding to a halt
To realize, just maybe, this was our fault.

It took losing so many vulnerable souls
To notice perhaps we'd been setting bad goals.

It took staying a distance of six feet apart
To remember the importance of a hug to a heart.

It took keeping us separate to bring us together
To know we're meant to be connected forever.

It took a pandemic to understand the verse
The first shall be last; and the last shall be first.

We've all lost so much, yet more we will gain
If we remember the lessons from all of this pain.

We hear every day, "We're in this together."
Yet hasn't it truly been like this forever?

It took this pandemic for all of us to see.
My actions affect you; and your choices, me.

Let's take all these lessons
Learned through losses so epic,

May we never again say

It took a pandemic.

THERESA LEASE

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