

Hope

Sanjhee Gianchandani

Normalcy is a myth and
permanence is a facade
A lockdown has taught us
all this in a way that's hard
Life need not be a graveyard
of buried hopes
But should be a conglomeration
of sunrises and sunsets
Human history is the perfect example
as a tale not only of war and oppression
but of sacrifice, kindness, and compassion
what we choose to emphasize
will determine our character and our lives
and chalk the trajectory of imminent times
One cannot wait for a utopia
merely sitting in one's living room
the future is nothing but a
succession of the present hour
A small act of gentleness
can direct perspectives
in completely different directions
Accept the finite disappointments
but never let it put on the mantle
of marvelous infinite proportions
We are on the threshold of healing
and defining the idea of normalcy
in the clearest way as can be
if we defy the negativity around
using hope as the weapon
that itself is a magnificent victory
for the human race today and
for the tomorrows to come.

Sanjhee Gianchandani holds a Master's degree in English from Lady Shri Ram College for Women and a CELTA from the University of Cambridge. She worked as an English language assessment specialist. Her love for publishing brought her to her current job as an ELT editor in the K-8 space. She compulsively writes poetry to fill in the interstices in her day and to streamline the chaos in her head. Her poems have been published in several anthologies, journals, and magazines notable ones being *Muse India*, *Madras Courier*, *eFiction India*, *LiveWire*, *Setu*, *Indian Ruminations*, *Otherwise Engaged Journal* and *Poetry Northern Ireland*.