

6<sup>th</sup> May 2020

To the Core poets

How are you all doing? Hope you're well. How's the writing going? Hope you're using this time for your creativity. Well, an opportunity has come up for you to do just that!

I've got some exciting news to share with you! Core Arts is compiling an on-line photography exhibition! **CORE ARTS CORONAVIRUS LOCKDOWN PHOTOGRAPHY PROJECT – "A VIEW FROM MY WINDOW."**

**AND** The Core poets have been invited to contribute to it!

**Your task will be to capture your photo through your words!**

**There's an exercise coming up in this week's session; look out for "A VIEW FROM MY WINDOW." prompt.**

**I do hope you'll take part and write a poem. Of course there's no obligation to submit your piece, but if you do, it will be shared on Core Arts Facebook. In view of a further Core Arts exhibition.**

**I hope many of you do, as your words deserve to be heard!**

So get creative and enjoy!

Keep strong, keep safe and keep writing! 😊

Sara

# A view from my window project

Poetry Sara May 6<sup>th</sup> 2020

## **CORE ARTS CORONAVIRUS LOCKDOWN PHOTOGRAPHY PROJECT - *A view from my window***

Core Arts is creating an Online **LOCKDOWN PHOTOGRAPHY exhibition.**

**AND** the Core poets have also been asked to contribute...

**Your task is to capture your photo through your words!**

### **PROMPT**

**Write a poem describing a view from your window, depicting the view through words.**

- Look out of your window
- What do you see?
- *Describe the scene.*
- **Remember**, as with a photo, you are capturing a moment, a mood. Perhaps you see a solitary robin in the garden, a block of flats opposite, an empty street, a person wearing a mask.
- *Your view however simple tells a story just as a photo does.*

### **RULES**

- Please add what ***time*** it was taken and which ***borough?***
- If you want you can add your first name and a line to describe the photo / poem
- Be kind and courteous

- **Respect everyone's privacy**

Captain Tom UK No 1 single

Poetry Sara May 6<sup>th</sup> 2020

**Captain Tom Moore becomes oldest artist to claim UK No 1 single**

**The veteran's cover of You'll Never Walk Alone, recorded alongside Michael Ball and the NHS Voices choir, knocked *The Weekend* off the top spot!**

*By Laura Snape Fri 24 Apr 2020*



*Captain Tom Moore with his No 1 trophy. Photograph: Emma Sohl*

Captain Tom Moore, who turns 100 on 30 April, has become the oldest artist ever to claim the UK No 1 spot with his cover of You'll Never Walk Alone, a collaboration with Michael Ball and the NHS Voices of Care choir.

The charity single, released to raise money for the NHS, racked up combined chart sales of 82,000 units – the fastest-selling single of 2020 – pipping The Weekend's Blinding Lights to No 2 with 69,000.

Moore, who has already raised more than £28m in recent weeks for NHS staff, welcomed the “wonderful news”, saying: “My grandchildren can’t believe I am a chart-topper!” He thanked Ball, the choir, those behind the scenes who facilitated the release, and the general public. “We’re in this together, and I am for ever grateful for your support. And this just proves: you’ll never walk alone.”

**Captain Tom said: "I never in my wildest dreams imagined I would be releasing a single, but I also never thought it possible for me to walk in the garden and raise millions!**

**"So why not sing, spread some cheer and again - raise money for our national heroes. NHS this one is for you!"**

*May day song for the Festival* by *Gretchen Marquette*  
2020

Poetry Sara May 6<sup>th</sup>

At the May Day parade, my mask made of moss  
and bark, my hair full of flowers, my friend beside me,  
her pretty red mouth under the hawk's beak  
of her mask of green sage.

At the children's pageant, music  
faded in the speakers. The shadow  
of a crow passed over. My hair a crown  
of flowers, yellow and red roses large as fists,  
flowers on which I'd spent my last \$20  
at the mercado.

But beauty wasn't enough. Being admired  
by strangers was not enough.

I saw a girl, wandering, looking for her mother.  
I knelt down, lowered my mask, showed her  
my face. She's looking for you too, I say.  
She tries to spot her mother's yellow dress.  
A gold dog passes, happy and white-faced,  
wearing pink nylon fairy wings. The girl points  
and laughs; the hard part of her day  
is over.

The people I'm looking for, I don't know where they are.  
I don't know the color of their clothing. From across the park  
I see the windows of my apartment.

Spring has arrived.

### About This Poem

**“Every spring, my neighborhood hosts a May Day festival in the park across the street from my apartment. I wrote this poem after spending the day all kinds of moods, surrounded by beauty of all kinds. So I kept the bark mask anyway; it's become**

one of my favorite possessions.”

—*Gretchen Marquette*

## PROMPT

- Write a creative piece about one of *your* favourite possession. Perhaps something that's been keeping you going whilst we're in lockdown ie; a laptop, a favourite book, a pet, something sentimental...
- Note the details, bring the object alive by describing it's features, describe what it means to you...

*OR*

Use the list of words below to write your creative piece

Mask

Bark

Flowers

Red

Sage

Shadow

Music

Crown

Roses

Face

Gold

Wings

Spring

Mouth

# International Dawn Chorus Day

Poetry Sara May 6<sup>th</sup> 2020

***Bring the reserves into your home.***



Join thousands of people on Sunday 3 May 4AM for International Dawn Chorus Day!

Set your alarm and celebrate with thousands of people across the country at dawn to listen to the dawn chorus... one of our natural wonders.

As this year, no one can visit our reserves due to COVID19, we're bringing them directly to you instead.

*Why so early?*

**Singing at dawn appears to have several advantages. The dim light means the birds may be harder to spot by a predator. Similarly the poor light makes foraging for food difficult, so perhaps it is a better time to be singing for a mate. Sound can also carry further: as the air is often still at this time and, with less background noise, bird song can carry up to 20 times as far.**

## **Make some time for mindfulness**

**Sit back, relax, take a minute or two and experience the Dawn Chorus from our reserves**

<https://www.rspb.org.uk/reserves-and-events/events-dates-and-inspiration/events/dawn-chorus/>

**Our reserves may be closed, but nature is always open and lifting our spirits like never before, with blossoms blooming, birds nesting and the greatest symphony of all – the dawn chorus – leading the charge.**

**At the moment, with fewer cars on the roads, few planes in the air, and a reduction in the noise all around us, it seems as if bird song is louder than ever! Have you heard them?**

**So, although the bird song chorus has been and gone, It's been recorded! If you get a chance, do check out the link – It's worth a listen, even just for a minute. Never imagined I would, but I must say, I'm glad I did! 😊**

**What struck me is it's totally uncontrived; there is no big bird conductor - it's completely organic with a natural flow, there is space and sound. Therefore, offers a real beauty. This organic rhythm is what we as writers strive for!**

### **PROMPT**

- **Look at the image below – look at the bird's expression – what are the eyes saying?**



- **Look at its open beak... Write your piece from the mouth of its open beak...**
- **Use some of these words to write your creative piece**

**Dawn  
Song  
Light  
Secrets  
Sound**

Far  
Air  
Noise  
Cry  
Still  
Wonder  
Natural  
Symphony

## You'll Never Walk Alone Lyrics

When you walk through a storm  
Hold your head up high  
And don't be afraid of the dark

At the end of a storm  
There's a golden sky  
And the sweet silver song of a lark

Walk on through the wind  
Walk on through the rain  
Though your dreams be tossed and blown

Walk on, walk on  
With hope in your heart  
And you'll never walk alone

You'll never walk alone

Walk on, walk on

With hope in your heart  
And you'll never walk alone

You'll never walk alone

**PROMPT**

- Use one of the sentences below to ***begin*** your creative piece.

**When you walk through a storm**

**Hold your head up high**

**Don't be afraid of the dark**

**At the end of a storm**

**There's a golden sky**

**The sweet silver song of a lark**

**Walk on through the wind**

**With hope in your heart**

**OR**

Use some of the words below to write your creative piece.

Storm  
High  
Walk  
Dark  
End  
Golden  
Sky  
Sweet  
Silver  
Dreams  
Hope