

THE NEW-NORMAL BLUES

At first it was crisis, we're in this together.

At first you were brave-faced, believed you could weather,
believed in the kindness the world seemed to treasure.

You're weary now, daily a new fact to swallow;
you're weary of Public Health guidelines to follow.
Your kids find your upbeat encouragements hollow.

You sanitize, mask up, and wash in hot water.
You sanitize, fine, but you fear for your daughter:
you wonder what long months of lock-up have taught her.

Her friends pose a danger. She worries and wonders:
her friends play with others. She can't make a blunder
and risk taking both of her grandparents under.

Now all the world races for vaccines and knowledge.
Now all the world makes plans to slow down the carnage,
as livelihoods, countries and loved ones are ravaged,

and each day brings more or less risk, or a new cost,
and each day you improvise, bear latest trade-offs,
while yearning for old-normal life, which now seems lost.

So challenge yourself to keep finding the bright side
And challenge yourself to take all of it in stride
Plus drink lots of wine! They say this one's a long ride.