

Poppies & Pandemics

We wear our poppies now, with pride, for those we never met.
For those who fought, who saved our country, lest we should forget.
Those poppies were a sign of hope, on Flanders fields they grew,
So many lives were lost back then, remembered by so few.

Today we face a different war. The fight is hard and slow.
The enemy is deep within, its everywhere we go
But this time there are no fierce battles, armoured troops don't roam.
This enemy is in disguise, it creeps into our home.

For months it kept us locked inside, awaiting each new rule.
Jobs were lost, bars were closed, no children left at school.
We battened down the hatches, baked banana bread and cake.
Emptied long-forgotten cupboards, finding things to mend and make.

The shelves in shops were empty, as we learnt to queue and wait
Finding new ways to make tasty food to put upon our plate.
We planted seeds in gardens, hoping that this would help out
And then spent hours watering, as Britain faced a drought!

The days were long, the sun was hot, the rules were so unclear.
And as time passed, what grew amongst us was a sense of fear.
For those we love, the things we've lost, our freedom and our fun
Forgetting what our lives were like before this war begun.



Our youngsters face a new threat as they go about their day
To take the blame for spreading germs that just won't go away.
They wear their masks, but not for gas, for germs they cannot see
They wash their hands, they make a space, protecting you and me.

They head to school, though it is now a very different place,
With 'bubbles', open windows, and new rules set 'just in case'.
Some friends and teachers disappear, when told to 'isolate'
And in the meantime, all the others will just sit and wait.

We wait for news, we wait for change, we wait to win the war.
We dread that this new enemy will knock upon our door.
Our signs of hope are rainbows. Now the medics in our ranks
Are the ones that we look up to, and to who we give our thanks.

So, at a time when we remember those who fought and those who fell
Take a moment to give thanks that you are safe, and you are well.
Spread the love to those around you, say a prayer and just be kind,
Let those rainbows, one day, symbolise we've left this all behind.

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