

TAKING SOLACE IN SOLITUDE

© KaNikki Jakarta, Poet Laureate of Alexandria, Virginia

My Daddy once told me
“If the birds don’t fly away, know that everything is okay.”
So today
Stay Home! Watch TV, organize, and talk on the phone
Take this time and enjoy every breath that you take
Bake the cake that you never have the time to make
April is National Poetry Month, so take out your laptop or pen
And when you’re finished, share poems with your poetry friends
Enjoy time with family and get to know one another better
Delight in this time that you’re spending together
We’re practicing social distancing to be healthy and safe
Stay six feet apart, this is not up for debate
I have to be candid
Because there are so many things we have taken for granted
Hugs, social life, visiting your family and friends
So be mindful that when this is over, you won’t do this again
Stay safe and be hopeful, and remember to wash your hands
This too shall pass so make your future plans
And when you hear the birds chirping
Know that they decided to stay
Remember what my Daddy said, “Everything is okay.”