

The Crown

A healthcare worker's experience on the frontline of the COVID-19 pandemic

As we battle against a force
Invisible to the naked eye
The mere mention of “coronavirus”
Provokes fear, distrust, anger even

Day by day the crisis unfolded
Leave suspended, vacations forgone
Ready to stand on the battlefield
Unfazed no matter what may come

Brickbats hurled from all directions –
Patients, their families, the public
Why all these inconveniences?
Things could be better, they say

Yet glimpses of hope shine through
Of comfort, of encouragement
A nod, a smile, an empathic wave
Chiming “we’re all in this together”

Streams of well wishes abound
Showers of gifts and food
Heartfelt words of appreciation
Rallying us to give our best

Together we will fight
To defeat this “crown”
Till the end is in sight
And we win the crown of life.

By Evangeline Chai