

I Remember When I Was Small

*I remember when I was small, before we all wore masks,
When visiting and shopping were simple daily tasks.
When grandparents came in our house, and we went into theirs,
Running around their garden and charging up their stairs.*

*I remember when I was small, before the restaurants shut,
We went for treats in McDonald's, KFC and Pizza Hut.
Grown-ups had tea and coffee, we had fizzy drinks or shakes,
We pressed our noses on glass counters filled with lovely cakes.*

*I remember when I was small, when friends were not all virtual,
Swing parks were loud and boisterous, playgrounds were always full.
When you saw some-one you loved you ran over for some hugs,
But now we are all socially distancing because of Covid bugs.*

*I remember when I was small, we washed hands before we ate,
Now we wash them everywhere after touching door or gate.
So sanitising stations have popped up everywhere you go,
We wash for 20 seconds singing that little song we know.*

*I remember when I was small, it was in the recent past,
Now time is passing slowly when it used to pass so fast.*

*We have not had a holiday or a visit to the sea,
Life has been quite boring, at least it has for me.*

*But this year is getting better, the vaccine is on its way,
More grandparents are going for one every single day.
Soon I can stop worrying about things and what might be,
Get back to the important job of simply being me.*

C. M. Riley