

## Parenting in a Pandemic

by G. H. Mosson

Dear diary, to get through—sheltered here—working from home,  
and the children home too in online school  
as Maryland shuts down, but “do not fall behind.”

No one dares to ask, *What's next?*  
With this virus in May 2020, it's step by step.

Our weekly car trips, to exchange the kids, is permitted by the Governor's  
Emergency Order, thankfully, so we can share in the parenting.  
Better with buffer, we're skilled at divvying up the sharing.

Awkward as stick figures of a child's picture,  
we step out of the blur of getting things done.

Let's meander after lunch. Stroll more after dinner. A slapstick,  
a binge of kickball, a tournament of cards, glancing at each other,  
shoulders shrug with questions.

In the slow time, more time.  
In this home time, our time.  
In this spring time:  
a cycle  
seeded to bloom,  
a song-pregnant air  
igniting singers:

We are a chorus  
for a blind smile.