

Lockdown

Poetry

BY SOMA SENGUPTA

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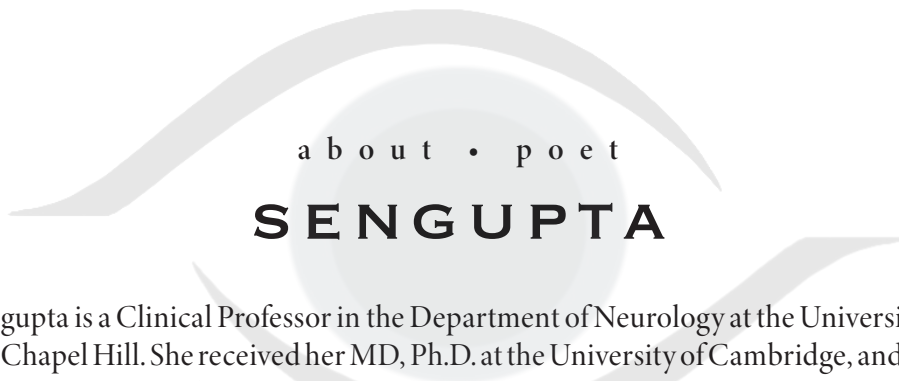
Poplar leaves whistle in a breeze
as life eases into the infinite beauty
of a lazy summer's day, teasing
flitting butterflies and meadow flora
as blackberry vines and orchard bowers
melt into fragments of ancient towers.
The ebb and flow of crumbling castles
and the decay of modern buildings

While ivy weaves into the landscape
and the mistletoe kisses the night
which heaves into the River Avon,
flowers fade, and the bard's sculpture
shines with the bleeding sunset,
listening to a herd of bleating sheep.
I travel back home, gone is my vacation.

Instead of gathering around my tribe,
a tribe of friends for today and tomorrow
gratitude for the learning endured.
As Mother Time fades into yesterday,

Gunshots and lockdowns trapped
into a counterpoint state of suspended
animation, the animosity of acrimonious
pent-up rage, frustrations borne
of helplessness-- wellness, they say.
And I listen and listen, but the night
drowns in the chorus of the
singing cicadas and the oblivion

of feeling trapped and lost evolves.



a b o u t • p o e t

SENGUPTA

Soma Sengupta is a Clinical Professor in the Department of Neurology at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. She received her MD, Ph.D. at the University of Cambridge, and completed an MBA this year with a focus in healthcare administration at the Lindner School of Business, University of Cincinnati. Soma Sengupta has fellowships in neuro-oncology (Dana-Farber/Brigham & Women's/Massachusetts General Hospital) and integrative medicine (Andrew Weil Integrative Medicine Center), and she is currently doing an executive leadership in healthcare fellowship, part of the prestigious the Hedwig van Ameringen Executive Leadership in Academic Medicine (ELAM) at Drexel University. Dr. Sengupta has considerable teaching experience, and she runs a translational brain tumor clinical laboratory and clinical trials. Soma Sengupta is a published poet and an author of children's storybooks. She has published extensively in science and medicine:

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