

Coronavirus Pandemic

by Nina Serrano

(Italian hospital staff must choose who they will allow to die)

Dear Sick Italian Octogenarians

I too am over 80

It saddens me that you

will be allowed to die

from lack of hospital facilities

I hope the effects of the illness

are not so horrendous

that you still can have

peace to review your life

be satisfied and ready

to leave the hospital bed

medicine and care

for the next younger person's turn

at this precious thing called life

It is all you have ever known since birth

I hope feelings of gratitude and graciousness

overwhelm you in your last breaths

and your soul leaves your body

feeling love

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