

# Little that this crown brought was gold

ADITHYA PRADYUMNA

*It fascinated me that several so-called nursery rhymes actually contained in a few simple sentences the essence of major historical events that occurred in medieval Europe. We are in the midst of a very historic event by way of the Covid-19 pandemic, and I was keen to capture it in a few sentences. The poem contains information on the onset and spread of the pandemic, the preparedness and response of governments and people, and identifies those disproportionately impacted both by the virus and the response measures. The term "crown" was used to represent both the virus and pandemic because of the literal translation of "corona" being crown, and also because it has indeed ruled the world and our minds for several months. The language is crude because of the style adopted. As a doctoral student at*

*the threshold of completing a thesis in public health, holed up in a hostel room for over a month now, far from home, feeling a bit helpless to contribute otherwise, I used this opportunity to channel some of my creative energy into this poem.*

## Little that this crown brought was gold

Little that this crown brought was gold,

Not all those who carry on are calm;

Deep were the warnings foretold,

Insidious was the cold night's storm.

While the crown sits tight on the broken,

The strong shall tide the spring;

The wretched face fire that is stoken,

For this crown has shaken kings.

Author: **Adithya Pradyumna** (adithya.pradyumna@gmail.com), Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute, Basel, Switzerland; University of Basel, Switzerland.

To cite: Pradyumna A. Little that this crown brought was gold. *Indian J Med Ethics*. 2020 Apr-Jun; 5(2):NS:157.DOI:10.20529/IJME.2020.045.

© Indian Journal of Medical Ethics 2020

**Disclosure/Acknowledgement:** The poem was stylistically inspired by JRR Tolkien's "All that is gold does not glitter", from *The Lord of the Rings*.

## THANK YOU, REVIEWERS!

We are grateful to our reviewers for the hard work they put into evaluating and improving submissions. Besides our internal reviewers, we thank the following external reviewers for their support during the year 2019-20:

Aamir Jafarey, Aasim Ahmad, Abha Saxena, Adithya Pradyumna, Alok Sarin, Angus Dawson, Anindita Majumdar, Anjali Nair, Anoop Thekkuveetil, Anurag Bhargava, Arun Bhatt, Barbara Secker, Bevin Vijayan, Bushra Shirazi, Carolin Elizabeth George, Chinu Srinivasan, David Healy, Denny John, Dheeraj Kattula, Dhvani Mehta, Emdad Ul Haque, Gajanan Phutke, Gayathri Prabhu, George Thomas, Irfan Engineer, Jagriti Gangopadhyay, Jaya Sagade, Jennifer Gibson, Jing-Bao Nie, Jissa VT, Joe Varghese, Johnson Pradeep, Ketaki Chowkhani, Lars Breimer, Leena Lourduswamy, Leena V Gangolli, Lopa Mehta, Malu Mohan, Manickam Ponnaiah, Manjulika Vaz, Margaret Whitstock, Mark Wilson, Mario Vaz, Meghan Doherty, Monica Sakhrani, Monty Khajanchi, Nandini Kumar, Naveen Kumar, Navjeevan Singh, Nazli Hossain, Nithya Gogtay, Nobhojit Roy, Prabir Chatterjee, Pravin Bolshete, Priya Satalkar, Priyadarshini C, RR Kishore, Rakhil Gaitonde, Rakesh PS, Raman Kutty, Ramani Atkuri, Ravi Prasad Varma, Ravi Vaswani, Richard A Cash, Roshini Alexander, Sandeep Bawdekar, Sangeeta Rege, Sanjay Nagral, Sankar Giri, Saumil Dholakia, Sara Bergstresser, Satendra Singh, Sayori Ghoshal, Shaibya Saldanha, Sharmila Jalgaonkar, Shilpa Phadke, Sophia Modi, Soumitra Pathare, Srinivas DK, Subhasri B, Suchitra Dalvi, Sudarshini Subramaniam, Sudarshan Kottai, Sujit Chandhy, Sunil Nandraj, Sunu Thomas, Supriya Subramani, Swarnalakshmi Singaravelu, Sylvia Karpagam, Udaya Mishra, Upreet Dhaliwal, Usha Raman, Varalakshmi Elango, Vikram Patel, Vipin Vashishtha, Vivek Divan, Vrinda Marwah and Yogesh Jain.