

NOW 'n THEN

By Adrian Lim C K

14 February 2020

I rise awake
From slumber too short
A nightmare a dream
Ready or not.
I'm starting I'm moving
Live by the clock
Can't be late - going
Reach on the dot.

Outside I trudge
A rush a haze
A cacophony of people
It's all a daze.
Traffic noises
More info to embrace,
The more I move
The more into space.

Check the time
Still some to spare,
Good morning! Good morning!
Over here 'n over there.
In these four walls
Count Dracula's lair,
Work in chains
My desk 'n chair.

Clickety clackerty clack
The keyboard I aim attack,
I read, I write, I unpack
I hit pause when ivory black.
Sippity sippity sup
The devil's brew in my cup,
A sip a drag will pick me up
Ready again to get back up.

The cycle continues
Pretty much the same,
Day in day out
A little mundane.
Miss those days
When T'cher was my name,
*"The rain in Spain
Stays mainly in the plain!"*

The laughter and joy
Class in session,
Come quick - ahoy!
Answer 'n question.
They learn 'n grow
Feeding my passion,
Reap 'n sow
Not lost in translation.

Once upon a time
Seem so long ago,
So free and tame
Come teach n' go.
Celebrated differences
Beijing, Seoul, Tokyo
Riyadh, Sana'a, Rio
Almat', Moscow, Cairo

Gone were the days
Simpletons live simple lives,
The fun and games
Locked up tight in archives.
One, two, three, four -
Is this where limbo lies?
Again 'n again
How many more test drives?

Hickory dickory dock
One by one they drop,
Keep your eyes on the clock,
No way, 'tis ain't gon' stop!
Bipperty bopperty boo
Is what you see really true
Or have we all caught the flu?
So whatcha gon' do?

Oh! Old memories -
They keep replaying
The good 'n hard times
Keep me smiling.
As a wanderer
I'm still wondering
When T'cher would be my name,
Geez - wishful thinking!