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A Poem I Wrote Years Ago

French Kisses (written in 2010)

It has been a long time since
I was able to drown myself
In French Kisses with
A lover or a friend.
What must people be like who have
Spent the last quarter century
French Kissing to their
Heart's content?
What must I be like, lacking
Hugs, kisses, kind words,
For decades, while I filled
One prison bed after another, in
One prison after another?
Some men would have become bitter,
Hated everyone.
I chose to become better,
Giving up the rage,
Forgiving the hurt.
Even though
I could not drown myself
In French Kisses,
I could still love.

For all of you suffering from the forced isolation and social distancing caused by the pandemic, please remember that even though you can't always choose what happens to you, can always choose how to respond to it.

This is an opportunity to count your blessings and be grateful for all the wonderful people you have in your life. The lockdown will not last forever. When testing and tracing gets up and running, there will be more movement. When a vaccine becomes available, COVID-19 will be just something that we went through on our way to a bright and glorious future. We'll mourn those we lost and get on with our lives.

Stay safe, stay well.