Celebrate Spring

Where are you now Mom?
Lost in a fog in your own
Room. You look around,
Hair tousled, eyes blinking,
At the strange door that leads
To the hallway and living room.
You look up and smile,
You’ve seen a friend but don’t
Know why he’s here.

Two years ago you lost your
Way in town, over and over again.
“When is Nina coming?”
Minutes later, “When is Nina
Coming?” No answer stops the flow.
Last year you couldn’t use the
Phone. Later, they took you from
Your kitchen. Each time you gave
Up a bit and seemed more lost.

It’s hard for me to reach
You. I see you as I knew
You, whole, a few years ago.
Only your face is familiar
But it’s not the same,
An older child lost but peeping
Through with glee from time to time.

Sometimes, when we talk of old
Times, long, long ago—the fog
Clears and you laugh the real
Laugh, or cry real tears and I
Can weep with you, son and
Friend, in the same boat,
Close to shore, for a short time.
For that brief moment in your
Wintry fog, we celebrate spring!

—Phiroze Hansotia, MD

Phiroze Hansotia MD is a retired neurologist from the Marshfield Clinic and an Emeritus Clinical Professor of Neurology at the University of Wisconsin. After over forty years in medicine, he is now returning to his old interest in poetry and literature. These interests and retirement have brought a ‘new season’ to life.
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