

Working The Apocalypse Shift

By Charlotte White

Nurses and doctors worked to the bone,
floor number three on high demand,
with each day the cases have grown,
and each day the wards are hopelessly undermanned.

COVID clinging to the unsuspecting,
every cough bringing in two new patients,
running out of the vaccines they're injecting,
the healthcare workers begin to lose their patience.

Being supported by faithful volunteers,
all while being paid what a waiter would earn in tips,
powering through blood, sweat and tears,
through the 21st centuries apocalypse.

Adorning hazmat suits for those in need,
living in fear for those they look after,
waiting for the day their efforts succeed,
and the hospital walls once again reverberate with laughter.