

## 2021 POETRY OURSELVES CHAMPION

### Mainstream Misery

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#### Mainstream Misery

It isn't hard to see

Our destiny, once bright and free,  
now buried deep under the sea

Some laugh and some complain

Some post pictures to ease pain

brought by a virus that isn't

alive inside of us

No punches were pulled

The plug was pulled

on the life support of our society

Why are we surprised to see

rioting in the streets?

Every industry has stalled

Only protected by these four walls

At least that's the sole call

amid the crowd of noise

replacing the crowds of

girls and boys

No children in the parks

The only dark we have to fear

is the one between our ears

Billions screaming, tears gleaming

Yet somehow all I'm hearing is

Silence

They say *It* came out of thin air

Caught us unaware

wreaking havoc everywhere--No

That's a delusion

An illusion, a facade

to cover the flaws

of this dystopian world

Society now a free-for-all  
Who will stop our downfall?  
Answer the call to ensure our survival  
Lead a revival of the human spirit

We need cohesion  
Adhesion to the beliefs  
our country was built upon  
We sing of unity, community  
But who will be the one to  
seize this opportunity  
to bring real change?

All it takes is one word  
One person overheard  
Spread the message  
Be the change  
Let the world be your stage  
This misery we live and breath  
Will not be our legacy