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“Indians for Collective Action” and online at <https://latikaroy.org/donate-online/>.

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When Moy Moy was alive, I was often struck by this paradox: how her vulnerability was her secret strength; how her weakness inspired courage and tenderness, how, as she began to decline, so many friends stepped forward to catch her and hold her in safety. Since 1994, the Latika Roy Foundation has been inspired and led by the thousands of disabled children we’ve worked with. Some of them have encouraged us to slow down; others insisted we go faster and work harder. Every one of them has made us think differently, do more, be better.

Covid Time. For most of the last year we’ve been compelled, against our will, to slow down, step back, press pause. We’ve lived our lives for months and months in a kind of suspended animation, caught mid-stride between activities, worlds, frames of mind. It’s been tedious and terrifying by turns but every now and then, oddly, there have been glimpses of quiet and simplicity, a memory, perhaps, of a world we thought we had lost.

Albert Camus | But the heart has its own memory and I have forgotten nothing.



Manik Mandal

Manik Mandal



Jo Chopra

Press Pause |



Hughes Mearns

Yesterday upon the stair

I met a man who wasn't there.

He wasn't there again today –

Oh how I wish he'd go away.

As children, we all experienced that moment on the stairs: the nameless fear, the night terror, the monster under the bed. Then Mom or Dad came swiftly to the rescue and the monster was banished. This past year, we've all been children again, afraid of something we can't see, waiting anxiously for reassurance from whomever is in charge.

Sadly, in many countries, that reassurance is yet to arrive. In spite of consistent, simple, practical advice from public health experts (Wash your hands. Wear a mask. Watch your distance.), for the most part, we've been on our own. Our so-called leaders have been busy with their own affairs: recounting votes, pandering to their bases, arresting elderly priests and fighting with farmers, doing whatever it takes to remain in power. The result has been chaos (remember the migrant workers walking home in the height of India's summer) and rising numbers (America is 4% of the world's population with 20% of the world's cases).

Now that Covid has disabled us all (kids out of school, adults out of work, everybody isolated at home, travel impossible), maybe we can learn from disabled people about what to do next. About how to stay safe when nobody in charge seems to care. About how to get what we need and do what we can in spite of all the barriers. About how to continue living our lives without waiting around for "leaders" to tell us what to do.

Disabled people know all about chaos and barriers. They have experience with official callousness and disregard. They've been left off of the national agenda for so long that self-reliance is part of their DNA. They figure things out for themselves. Just watch the boy with no legs scoot across the railway platform to deliver cold water to thirsty passengers. Watch the girl with autism calm herself down in the face of an impending sensory overload. Watch the deaf students communicate in the language they invented themselves because their school banned sign.

Disabled people are creative and resourceful problem-solvers. It comes with the territory. As we confront that invisible presence on the stairs, let's remember the battles disabled people engage in on a daily basis. They stand down isolation, fear and ignorance to be their best selves even while they follow the science to maintain their physical and mental health.

During this enforced "pause period," while we wait for real life to resume, let's learn from the real experts: those who fight against the virus of exclusion with persistence, innovation and courage and who remind us every day of the power of endurance.

Jo Chopra

The calendar was designed remotely (a first in our 25 year history) by Shalini Sinha and printed at Thomson Press in Faridabad. The photographers graciously volunteered their services. Donations to the Latika Roy Foundation support our vision of a better world for children with disabilities.



Cathleen Chopra-McGowan

Raymond Chandler

I had a funny feeling as I saw the house disappear, as though I had written a poem and it was very good and I had lost it and would never remember it again.

January 2021

sunday	monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday
31					1 New Year's Day	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26 Republic Day	27	28	29	30



Jo Chopra

Maya Angelou

Forgive yourself
for not knowing
what you didn't know
before you learned it.

February | 2021

sunday	monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						



Soumini Menon

Czeslaw Milosz

The purpose of poetry is to remind us how difficult it is to remain just one person, for our house is open, there are no keys in the doors, and invisible guests come in and out at will.

March 2021

sunday	monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11 Mahashivratri	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29 Holi	30	31			



Jo Chopra

Claude Debussy

Music is the silence
between the notes.

April
2021

sunday	monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday
				1	2 Good Friday	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14 Ambedkar Jayanti	15	16	17
18	19	20	21 Ram Navami	22	23	24
25 Mahavir Jayanti	26	27	28	29	30	

सर्व शिक्षा
अति



Tanmay Rawat

Dr Seuss
Do you dare to stay out?
Do you dare to go in?
How much can you lose?
How much can you win?

May
2021

sunday	monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday
30	31					1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12 _i	13 _{Id-ul-Fitr}	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26 _{Budh Purnima}	27	28	29



Manik Mandal

Billy Wilder | A man enters a room through a door - you've got nothing.
 A man enters a room through a window - you've got a situation.

June | 2021

sunday	monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			



Jo Chopra

Rachel Eliza Griffiths

I say I can't remember how to be the same.

I say that I am beginning to understand
the way my friends sing alone inside of walls.

July 2021

sunday	monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20 Id-ul-Zuha	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31



Rumi | This being human is a guest house.
 Every morning a new arrival.
 A joy, a depression, a meanness,
 some momentary awareness
 comes as an unexpected visitor.
 Welcome and entertain them all!
 The dark thought, the shame, the malice:
 meet them at the door laughing, and invite them in.
 Be grateful for whoever comes,
 because each has been sent as a guide from beyond.

August | 2021

sunday	monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15 Independence Day	16	17	18	19 Muharram	20	21
22 Rakshabandhan	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30 Janmashtami	31				



Aarti Nair

David Bowie

The truth, of course, is that there is no journey.
We are arriving and departing all at the same time.

September | 2021

sunday	monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		



Srini Balram

Finn Butler

Everyone who terrifies you is sixty-five percent water.
 And everyone you love is made of stardust . . .
 Nothing is infinite, not even loss.
 You are made of the sea and the stars, and one day
 you are going to find yourself again.

October | 2021

sunday	monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday
31					1	2 Mahatma Gandhi's Birthday
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15 Dussehra	16
17	18	19 Id-e-Milad	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30



Manik Mandal

Seamus Heaney

You are neither here nor there,
 A hurry through which known
 and strange things pass
 As big soft buffetings
 come at the car sideways
 And catch the heart off guard
 and blow it open.

November 2021

sunday	monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday
	1	2	3	4 Diwali	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19 Guru Nanak's Birthday	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				



Cathleen Chopra-McGowan

David Bowie | I'm an instant star.
Just add water and stir.

December | 2021

sunday	monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday
			1	2	3 World Disability Day	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25 Christmas Day
26	27	28	29	30	31	