

## The Sun also Rises

April 1<sup>st</sup> of the Pandemic, 2020, no foolin'

Patrick Curran

1.

It's dark now

Stay-ing home

Barbed wire's strung tight

Fenced-in

Lock-ed up and aw-ay along the Yampa

S-e-p-e-r-a-t-e-d

Trying to com-pre-hend

To focus, to fathom, to be...*resilient!*

That's what's called fer, right?

2.

Okay, all right, I've heard, yesterday is not today

Community...that was yesterday

The simple pleasure of hanging out with yer pals...

Definitely not today, maybe tomorrow,

Now, I o-b-s-e-r-v-e from afar...

A life I'm not part of

The school bus no longer runs

Along River Road

Kids are shuttered in...

School's out

They say, they say, the price we have to pay

And what of jobs, making hay, the harvest?

3.

No partner, I won't give you false hope

Sure, I know about war  
I was there in Vietnam  
But...over a hundred thousand KIAs, ††††  
Maybe twice that in the USA  
No small war  
Damn sure, no metaphor  
Oh sure, I hear  
The sun also rises  
And...it has to get dark  
Before the stars come out'  
But...no false hope here, not from me, not now

4.

Sorry, I'm back now, up and about,  
Peering out the window  
Gondolas hang limp up on the mountain,  
Keeping their social distance...  
Lifeless as roadkill on the wire  
Oh yeah...yesterday I slipped away  
The ice-plate was off Fish Creek Falls  
Froth and frolic, flowing free...  
...the run off from Rabbit Ears  
So, tell me please, if you're listening  
What do you make of...?  
The laughing, brimming Yampa, the first robin, the bird song?  
The orange, aromatic buds on the cottonwoods?  
Do the season's com-pre-hend the virus?  
Are they immune?  
Part of the antivirus?

Well Hello! Is the sun rising over Storm Peak?  
Think me and my lady will go "shoeing" on Buff Pass

4.

So partner, this here is the new-me-now  
And I'll go with the wisdom of Ecclesiastes  
'The sun goeth down but also ariseth' and...  
I'll also goeth with resilience, and Doctor Fauci  
And John Prine, bless them boys'...  
Blow up your TV, well, turn it off,  
Got to binge on Netflix,  
Eat a lot of peaches  
Wash them hands, keep your distance, ya here...  
And hoist a jar of cheer!  
So you go ahead, let your horses run on my pasture  
Come summer, I'll be there to help out with the haying  
Dang it partner, be resilient, we'll get through this  
There I said it!