

## **WE ARE NOT IN THE SAME BOAT** **a reflection about COVID-19**

I heard that we are in the same boat.  
But it's not like that.

We are in the same storm, but not in the same boat.  
Your ship can be shipwrecked and mine might not be. Or vice versa.

For some, quarantine is optimal: a moment of reflection, of re-connection.

For others, this is a desperate crisis.

For others it is facing loneliness.

For some, a peace, rest time, vacation.

Yet for others, Torture: How am I going to pay my bills?

Some were concerned about a brand of chocolate for Easter.

Others were concerned about the bread for the weekend,  
or if the noodles would last for a few more days.

Some were in their 'home office'.

Others are looking through trash to survive.

Some have experienced the near death of the virus, some have  
already lost someone from it, some are not sure their loved ones are  
going to make it, and some don't even believe this is a big deal.

Some of us who are well now may end up experiencing it, and some  
believe they are infallible and will be blown away if or when this hits  
someone they know.

So, friends, we are not in the same boat.

We are going through a time when our perceptions and needs are  
completely different.

And each one will emerge, in their own ways, from that storm.

Some with a tan from their pool. Others with scars on the soul (for invisible  
reasons).

It is very important to see beyond what is seen at first glance.

Not just looking. More than looking ...

Seeing.

See beyond the political party, beyond religion, beyond the nose on your face.

Do not underestimate the pain of others if you do not feel it.

Do not judge the good life of the other,  
do not condemn the bad life of the other.

Don't be a judge.

Let us not judge the one who lacks, as well as the one who exceeds.

We are different ships looking to survive.

Let everyone navigate their route with respect, empathy and responsibility.