



LOVE

What is this humanity ?

How kind it is
when it wants to be so
as in friendship
or in forgiveness given.

But, as with all,
it has a dark side
a wayward appetite
for self destruction
cell on cell
until the final bell tolls
and death unrolls its feared face.

For those who survive
to wonder at the hunger
we have, we humans,
to forge a pact
with a wrong choice
or a voice that glistens
with promises of gold
when in truth it speaks
of rivers of pain untold,
for those – us –
who live still
in hope we will come through,
there is a diamond
in the river bed
refracted
when observed from above
a gem that glitters
in the waters of the world
stronger than any current
or rock, a nugget
we call love.

Julian Nangle
New year's eve, 2019–20