

## DISTANCE *by Glenn Carmichael*

I've been ill  
For quite some time.  
Actually  
I've been ill  
For only three days;  
Less.

But I've been thinking.  
You do a lot of thinking  
When you're ill.

Distance.

In time,  
Space,  
Thought,  
Physical being...

Distance.

Time is a great healer,  
But it doesn't hide the scars.

Scar tissue heals.  
Memory fades.  
But really...  
It's only...  
... Distance.

Why do people climb mountains?  
Because they're there.  
So much organisation,  
So many factors  
To consider,  
To eliminate  
The fall  
From top  
To bottom...  
...The Distance.

How many lovers?  
How many friends  
Have I known?  
Where are they now?

Distance.

Yes  
There's a distance  
Between you and me,  
As you sit there  
And stare,  
And I  
Try  
To make some sense.  
But you can't see ...  
I can't believe ...

That it's all been a trick,  
A joke that's been played on us ...  
Which has ended-up as ...  
Just another length to ...  
The Distance.

And the pain  
And the suffering?  
And the loss?  
Will not be in vain.  
One day it  
Will all just seem ...  
One day it  
Will all just be seen ...  
As another measure of...  
...Distance

Distance  
...In geography  
History  
Physics.  
Lessons to be learnt...  
...Distance.

If I reach out  
Far enough  
Will I touch  
Someone's hand?  
Will I touch you?  
Or will you be gone,  
Or going ...  
Fading...  
Into...  
...  
...The Distance?