

In the Audacity of Survival – *for World AIDS Day*

Still, he sat.

“Wasting time, wasting away” These close whispers heard.

Inside, feel so cold,

Can't go home now,

Maybe Monday.

And I'm tired.

Away, away inside.

Too far to go.

Can't go. Home.

Maybe.

.....*Shhhhhh*, listen:

Can you hear the cry of the savage din?

It's the sound of restless wrath staged

For the shut-in.

So, bring out your cardinals to lead in the hymn.

And still, he sat.

-john pietaro