Covid’s a cliché,  
Don’t complain;  
Faces on a screen mean  
Anonymity  
Even when they read your name.

Voices on mute  
Say more than  
Faces behind masks.  
Personality  
Was never part of the plan

At law school.  
Write your decision; the  
Faces of your brain are  
Objectivity  
And legal precision.

Learn the paradigm,  
Lose the human.  
Faces hold nothing, no  
Synecdoche.  
Hone your legal acumen.

But then there’s a joke,  
The start of a smile, a wave of  
Faces showing life, turning into  
Humanity,  
Digging you out of the cave

You built to keep  
The world outside.  
Faces looking back at you,  
Breaking the pattern in  
Solidarity:

Letting you in,  
Letting you grieve,  
Faces of humans, of  
Dignity,  
Letting you believe

There’s an end.  
Time will show  
Faces waiting for you,  
Finality,  
The sunset glow

Of law school.  
The future will hold  
Faces leaving the meeting  
Endlessly,  
Becoming faces in the real world.