

# Sanctuary 2020

by Carol Bloom Levin

On Yom Kippur, we read how Jonah  
was swallowed alive by a whale.  
For some, it's a frightful tale  
about facing fears alone.

But during this pandemic year  
the message for me is hope.  
Isolation offers Jonah  
opportunity to atone.

Sheltered within the dark, his  
prayers of thanksgiving bring  
him light and a resolve  
to own responsibilities.

Like Jonah, my lockdown  
awakens a call to action.  
Chaos invites a reckoning  
of existential realities.

Light streams into my sanctuary  
and I stretch far into its core.  
What gives my day meaning?  
Today and going forward.



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