**IT’S NOT A MASQUERADE BALL**

Our song this month comes from the timely pen of our editor, Cehlena Solus, and is published here with her permission. This song’s back story is pretty self-evident. One of the things I like about it is the uncommon way it begins on the IV chord. Many Celtic songs do that – not surprising, considering that Cehlena is the leader of a Celtic band called ***Wylde Meade.*** You can hear this song performed at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=erzFAD_4F1k> or on the HFMS Audio Archive page at <http://www.houstonfolkmusic.org/HFS_Audio_Archive.html>.

**PANDEMIC SHADOWS**

by Cehlena Solus ©2021

### F G C Am

Wearin’ a mask but it’s not a masquerade ball

### F G C Am

Just keep your distance; don’t **t**ouch me at all

### F G C Am

Stand on the X don’t move **up** until you’re called

### F G

And the news has got me down, self destruction all around

Hangin’ with my vaccinated friends

Wonderin’ if this craziness ever ends

It’s a different world than the one I grew up in

But we’re trying really hard, if everyone would their part

### F G F

***REFRAIN*** Put on my makeup, have my coffee, and log in to Zoom

### C Am

Find a meeting room...

Cat on my lap and fu-u-uzzy slippers

Working from home and ord’ring groc’ry delivery

Drinking gin and squirt and losing at cyber monopoly

My house has never been so clean and if I want to I can scream

Trudging through the haze of Pandemic Shadows

Dodging the hailstorm-like arrows of information

Sorting the science and fact from the ugly fiction

And whatever life intends, safe with music, drinks and friends! ***REFRAIN***

What will the world be like when this is over?

Will we go back to the way things really were before?

Is there a magic time machine to take us there?

Will we forgive those who disagreed? Can we find some unity

***REFRAIN***