

The Poetics of Pandemic COVID-19

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شعرية الجائحة كوفيد ١٩

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Abstract

The poetics of disease is a genre of literature that explores the impact of diseases on individuals, communities, and society as a whole. This genre helps to understand the human experience of illness and to develop more compassionate and effective responses to disease. The COVID-19 pandemic has had a profound impact on the world, affecting every aspect of humans lives. From the way they work and socialize to the way they think about their health and mortality. The pandemic has forced man to confront new realities and grapple with difficult questions. One of the ways in which people have responded to the pandemic is through poetry. This study will explore the poetics of pandemic, examining how poets have dealt with the crisis and what their work can convey about the human experience of this unprecedented moment in history. The poetics of pandemic can be seen as a response to the uncertainty and fear that the pandemic has brought about. The present study tackles the reaction of certain poets to the pandemic, especially those who have posted poems online. Many poets have used their work to explore themes of isolation, loss, and mortality. The study deals with the poet's role in documenting and shaping public discourse and understanding of the pandemic. It also focuses on the therapeutic value of pandemic poetry for individuals and communities. In addition to its ability to inspire social change and action. Through close readings of selected texts, the study argues that the poetics of pandemic offer a unique lens through which to understand the human experience of crisis and to explore the ways in which poetry can provide solace, connection, and meaning in times of uncertainty.

Key words: pandemic, COVID19, spread, disease, virus, community.

مستخلص الدراسة

شعرية المرض هي نوع من الأدب يستكشف تأثير الأمراض على الأفراد والمجتمعات والمجتمع برمته. يساعد هذا النوع من الشعر على فهم التجربة الإنسانية للمرض وتطوير استجابات أكثر تعاطفاً وفعالية للمرض. كان لجائحة كوفيد ١٩ تأثير عميق على العالم ، حيث أثر على كل جانب من جوانب حياة البشر. من طريقة عملهم وتواصلهم الاجتماعي إلى طريقة تفكيرهم في صحتهم وموتهم. لقد أجبر الوباء الإنسان على مواجهة حقائق جديدة والتصدي لأسئلة صعبة. الشعر هو إحدى الوسائل التي استجاب بها الناس للجائحة . تتناول هذه الدراسة شعرية الوباء ، وتبحث في كيفية تعامل الشعراء مع الأزمة وما يمكن أن ينقله عملهم عن التجربة الإنسانية لهذه اللحظة غير المسبوقة في التاريخ. يمكن النظر إلى شعرية الوباء على أنها رد فعل على عدم اليقين والخوف اللذين أحدثهما الوباء. تتناول الدراسة الحالية رد فعل بعض الشعراء على الوباء ، وخاصة أولئك الذين نشروا قصائدهم على الإنترنت. استخدم العديد من الشعراء أعمالهم لاستكشاف موضوعات العزلة والفقدان والوفاة. تتناول الدراسة دور الشاعر في توثيق وتشكيل الخطاب العام وفهم الجائحة. كما يركز على القيمة العلاجية للشعر الوبائي للأفراد والمجتمعات، بالإضافة إلى قدرته على إلهام التغيير الاجتماعي والتصرف المناسب. تبين القراءات الدقيقة لنصوص مختارة ، بأن شعرية الجائحة تقدم عدسة فريدة يمكن

من خلالها فهم التجربة الإنسانية للأزمة واستكشاف الطرق التي يمكن أن يوفر بها الشعر العزاء والتواصل والمعنى في أوقات صعبة من عدم اليقين واليأس. الكلمات المفتاحية : pandemic, COVID19, spread, disease, virus, community

1.Introduction

The poetics of pandemic refers to the artistic expression and exploration of the human experience during times of widespread disease outbreaks, such as the COVID-19 pandemic. It involves the exploration of poetry, literature, and various creative writings that capture the experiences, emotions, and societal effects of such crisis. The connection between pandemics and literature dates back to the earliest days of human existence. Throughout history, pandemics have had a profound impact on society and have often found their way into various forms of artistic expression, including poetry. Depicting the interrelationship between humans and viruses, Judy D. Cummings states, "From the earliest days of recorded history, bacteria and viruses have stalked humans. Lurking in dirty corners and sewage-filled streets, stowing away on ships and airplanes, they waited for their chance to attack" (Cummings, 2018, p. 3). Hence, resemblance can be found between the recent coronavirus and "the historical outbreaks of plague and cholera." Such similarities between the pandemics lie not only in the common nature of germs and viruses, but also in human beings' initial response (Pamuk, 2020, p. 2).

Many literary works describe how People have been taking great caution during the pandemic, adhering to safety protocols such as maintaining distance during meetings, refraining from visiting others' homes, and gathering on public roads. They have also shown an interest in learning about the situation in their communities, seeking information and stories, and understanding the broader impact of the pandemic. These practices appear to be widely adopted by individuals during the Covid-19 pandemic. (Pamuk, 2)

In the midst of the harrowing Covid-19 pandemic, humanity finds itself trapped in the grip of a merciless crisis. The staggering loss of life and widespread devastation have left people feeling lost and desperate, seeking solace and purpose as they grapple with the irreparable void caused by this deadly outbreak. In these exceptionally hard times, it becomes crucial to examine poetic works that shed light on how humanity has responded to the pandemic. By studying such texts, we can identify the themes and experiences that emerge in pandemic poetry, offering a glimpse into our collective journey through these challenging times.

During times of crisis, poets have used their craft to reflect on the human experience, express emotions, and provide social commentary. In this context, artists and writers delve into themes like isolation, fear, resilience, and the fragility of human existence. They capture the collective emotions and struggles faced by individuals and societies during a pandemic, often reflecting on the impact on health, social dynamics, and the search for hope. Through their artistic endeavors, the poets strive to stimulate thought and provide solace, or simply document the unique moments in history. The poetics of pandemic allows us to find meaning and connection amidst chaos, reminding us of the power of human expression even in the darkest of times.

The internet has played a crucial role in making pandemic poetry accessible to a wider audience. With social distancing measures and lockdowns in place, physical gatherings and poetry readings became limited. However, poets turned to digital platforms, such as websites, blogs, social media, and online poetry communities, to share their work. This allowed their poems to reach a global audience, fostering connection and solidarity during a time of isolation. The pandemic verses captured the collective emotions and experiences of people during the pandemic, often becoming a source of comfort and reflection.

2. Pandemic Covid-19 Poetry

During the initial stages of the COVID pandemic, individuals in the UK expressed an increase in their reading habits and turned to reading as a means to navigate the anxieties arising from the abrupt alterations in their daily lives. (Giovanell, 2022, p. 3) Claire Shaw, a poet, says that during the pandemic, "we discovered we needed poetry more than ever before – its ability to console and connect, to express sorrow, to find beauty, to create meaning." (Shaw, 2021, p. 179) Thus Poetry Generation, an online platform, for example, shared videos featuring elderly individuals who were experiencing feelings of isolation, reciting poetry. Esteemed poets also contributed to the literary landscape by publishing their own lockdown poems, offering unique insights into the transformative nature of poetry in understanding and coping with the catastrophic events. Gradually, many poems centered around the pandemic emerged, showcasing the profound influence of this global crisis on artistic expression. (Giovanell, p. 3)

2.1 A Viral Composition

"A Viral Composition" by Renata Starbird traces the history of diseases and their impact on communities. The poem also deals with the achievements of human creativity and recognizes the crucial role that vaccines play in protecting man's health and overall well-being. For Starbird, viruses exert significant influence on the course of human history, "They are shapers and shakers of mankind's own history." (9) (qtd. in Hua, 2020) She suggests that diseases have played a crucial role in shaping the course of human events. By emphasizing their influence as "shapers and shakers," the lines imply that diseases have had a profound and transformative effect on societies. The poet highlights the historical context when diseases were poorly understood and represented a great mystery to humanity:

Preceding discovery, they were gigantic mystery

Killing off whole royal lines was Smallpox, the devil

pustules on eyes, skin, and lungs, truly testing our mettle. (10-12)

Exploring the history of the diseases, the poet states that before scientific advancements and medical discoveries, diseases posed significant challenges and were surrounded by fear and uncertainty. The mention of Smallpox as "the devil" and its ability to "kill off whole royal lines" emphasizes the devastating consequences of this particular disease. Smallpox is described as a malevolent force, causing pustules on the eyes, skin, and lungs, thereby severely testing the resilience and fortitude of those affected. This vivid imagery underscores the immense suffering and mortality caused by Smallpox throughout history.

The common cold is portrayed as both a familiar and formidable adversary, identifying the difficulties and unpleasantness associated with handling it:

The cold, oh so common, is beastly to tackle,

over two hundred strains leave us to grapple.

More ominous yet, our dear friend influenza,

With quick RNA changes, she cares not for agenda. (17-20)

As a biologist, Starbird introduces the idea of there being over two hundred strains, indicating the vast variety of cold viruses that exist. This emphasizes the difficulty in finding effective treatments or vaccines that can address all these different strains. Then, she shifts the focus to influenza, personifying it as a "dear friend." This personification adds a touch of irony, as influenza is not a friendly presence. It highlights the familiarity and recurring nature of influenza outbreaks. Additionally, the poet describes influenza's ability to rapidly change its RNA, which refers to its genetic material. This emphasizes the adaptability and unpredictability of the influenza virus. The phrase "she cares not for agenda" suggests that influenza is indifferent to the consequences of its actions, disregarding any plans or agendas humans may have.

However, Starbird reveals man's ability to defeat such viruses by celebrating the accomplishments of human ingenuity and acknowledge the pivotal role vaccines play in safeguarding humanity's well-being: but

vaccines(!), they must submit mankind's great

successes They've transformed and disposed of so many diseases,

now I need not be scared every time someone sneezes. (22-24)

Vaccines have indeed transformed the world by preventing and eradicating numerous diseases. They have saved countless lives and brought relief from the fear of illness. The line "now I need not be scared every time someone sneezes" shows the sense of security and protection that vaccines provide.

There is a strong connection between human societies and the study of diseases. Sociologists have shown that the transmission of diseases is significantly impacted by factors such as "socioeconomic status, cultural beliefs, and ethnic traditions." (Crossman, 2019) While medical research focuses on collecting data about a disease, a sociological approach to understanding an illness offers valuable insights into the external influences that contribute to certain demographics being affected by the disease. (Crossman) This is reflected in "Viral Composition:"

Anthropological insight may also be gained.

Conversation 'cross cultures renders a virus contained.

It takes research and business, compassion and sharing,

with bright minds invested, much better we'll be faring. (25-28)

Studying diseases from an anthropological perspective can provide valuable understanding. By examining how diseases impact different cultures and societies, we can gain insights into the social, cultural, and behavioral aspects that influence disease transmission, prevention, and response. The poet highlights the importance of considering the broader context of human societies when studying diseases. Diseases have the potential to spread

rapidly within communities, focusing on the interconnectedness of individuals and the vulnerability of societies as a whole. The transmission of diseases often transcends geographical and cultural boundaries, emphasizing the interdependence of human populations. Additionally, the study of diseases within human societies sheds light on the social, economic, and cultural factors that contribute to their spread and impact. (Colizza,2006) Factors such as population density, living conditions, healthcare systems, and socio-economic disparities play a crucial role in determining the vulnerability of different communities to diseases.(More, 2021)

The poet emphasizes the significance of cross-cultural communication and collaboration in controlling the spread of viruses. By engaging in open dialogue and sharing knowledge across different cultures, communities can work together to develop effective strategies for containing and managing diseases. Starbird underscores the importance of global cooperation and the exchange of information in combating infectious diseases. She explains that progress in disease management and prevention relies on the dedication and involvement of talented individuals. By investing in "bright minds" and supporting scientific research, there is an expectation of improved outcomes in dealing with diseases. The poet conveys optimism and emphasizes the potential for advancements when talented individuals are committed to addressing the challenges posed by diseases.

"A Viral Composition" displays the intricate relationship between viruses and human beings, "What intricate beings, these expert cell hijackers." (41) This line acknowledges the remarkable intricacy of viruses as they infiltrate and manipulate man's cells. Viruses have evolved sophisticated mechanisms to exploit host cells for their own replication and survival. Describing them as "intricate beings" highlights their ability to navigate and manipulate the complex machinery of cellular systems. viruses intricately interact with man's proteins and biological systems. Viruses have evolved to recognize specific receptors on host cells, hijack cellular machinery, and exploit various signaling pathways. (Alberts,2002) By studying viruses, scientists gain valuable insights into the intricate workings of humans' own bodies for "of our proteins and systems, they are detailed mappers." (42)

Hence, Starbird adheres the study of viruses, "By studying viruses, we study ourselves" (43) This line encapsulates the concept that viruses provide a unique window into understanding human biology. Viruses exploit the same cellular processes and pathways that are essential for man's normal functioning. Therefore, studying viruses sheds light on humans' own vulnerabilities, immune responses, and biological intricacies. The poet recognizes the viral influence on humans' genetic makeup, "viral footprints in our chromosomes." (48) She introduces the idea that viruses have left their mark in our genetic material. This asserts the concept of viral integration into our DNA and the potential long-term effects they may have had on human evolution.(Wessner,2010)

By using the medium of poetry, Starbird aims to capture and share her interest in viruses with the reader. The poet finds viruses intriguing or captivating in some way, "And with this brief poem I hope to convey/the fascination for viruses that I have today. (49-50) She announces despite the popular saying that "man's best friend may be dog,"(51) the true long-standing companions of humans are actually the "microbes" (52) that live within them. This line indicates the symbiotic relationship between humans and the microorganisms that inhabit their bodies. It emphasizes the long history and close connection between humans and the microbes that play a vital role in their health and well-being.

2.2 "My Corona"

"My Corona" is a poem written by Sally Morgan in which she describes the lovely appearance of the virus:

The coronavirus looks like a dog toy
or a child's Koosh ball
with its primary color
and fanciful shape. (1-4) (qtd. in Hua)

Here, the poet draws a comparison between the physical appearance of the coronavirus and objects like a dog toy or a child's Koosh ball. This comparison highlights the round shape and potentially bright colors associated with the virus. By using these playful and familiar references, the lines create a contrast between the whimsical nature of these objects and the seriousness of the virus itself. The mention of the virus's primary color and fanciful shape further emphasizes its visual characteristics. This description adds to the notion that the virus appears somewhat innocuous or even cute at first glance. Morgan then wonders, "How can something so whimsical/ be so insidious?" (5-6) Such question reflects on the paradoxical nature of the coronavirus. It points out the irony that something that appears playful and harmless can actually be dangerous and harmful to human health.

The experience of corona virus even if not physically infectious, can have a profound impact on an individual, leading to a complex and transformative evolution of their being. Therefore, Morgan states:

It hasn't infected me, mind you,
but it has changed me —
morphed into an
odd, complex chimera. (7-10)

The poet has not been affected by a literal disease or illness. However, the pandemic Covid 19 invasion of the world has a profound effect on her being. The use of the term "morphed into an odd, complex chimera" evokes a sense of transformation and hybridity. A chimera refers to a peculiar, mythical creature composed of different parts; (a lion's head, a goat's head mounted on its back, and a snake's head serving as its tail), symbolizing a fusion of disparate elements.(Rhys,2020) This implies that the experience has altered the poet's identity or perspective in a way that is intricate and perhaps even contradictory.

The pandemic brought with it a new and highly contagious virus, which led to a heightened awareness of personal health and hygiene. People became more conscious of the potential risks associated with the virus, leading to increased vigilance and precautionary measures. Thus Morgan has "developed a fly's eyes /to see danger on surfaces," (13-14) which suggests that the poet has improved a heightened sense of perception or awareness. By comparing herself to a fly, known for its compound eyes that allow it to detect small details, the poet implies that she has become more observant and attuned to potential dangers in her surroundings.

The rapid spread of COVID-19 and the lack of clear information about the virus initially created a sense of fear and uncertainty. In such situations, people tend to become more cautious and take proactive steps to protect themselves and their loved ones, including storing essential supplies like food. Such situation is reflected in "My Corona," when Morgan compares herself to a "squirrel, I bury food/ in nooks and crannies/for a distant time." (15-17) Squirrels are known for their habit of storing food for future use. This comparison implies that the poet has adopted a similar cautious and forward-thinking approach, taking precautions and making preparations for future needs or uncertainties. Here, Morgan conveys a sense of adaptability and survival instincts.

The pandemic brought about a significant health crisis, leading to fear and anxiety among individuals. The constant threat of contracting the virus and its potential consequences created a state of conflict within people, as they had to balance their daily activities with the need to protect their health as well as the well-being of others. Moreover, the pandemic resulted in widespread economic disruptions, including job losses, business closures, and financial instability. This financial strain caused conflicts related to livelihoods, as people struggled to meet their basic needs and maintain their standard of living. The lack of social interaction and support systems resulted in feelings of loneliness, depression, and frustration, contributing to conflicts within individuals and communities. All these are reasons to create a conflict within an individual. Therefore, Morgan portrays her own suffering and conflict when she identifies herself with "[...] Lady Macbeth at the sink," (23) which suggests a sense of guilt, ambition, and inner turmoil. She contemplates the intersection of extraordinary emotions or experiences with ordinary aspects of life.

Lady Macbeth's obsessive hand-washing symbolizes her guilt and the inability to wash away the stains of her actions. In a similar vein, the act of hand-washing has gained immense significance during the COVID-19 outbreak as a preventive measure to maintain personal hygiene and curb the spread of the virus. Lady Macbeth's constant fear of being discovered and her desperate attempts to cleanse her hands reflect the anxiety and fear that many individuals experience during the pandemic. The fear of contracting the virus or unknowingly spreading it to others has led to increased vigilance in practicing proper hand hygiene and sanitization.

Furthermore, Lady Macbeth's relentless pursuit of power and her disregard for the consequences mirror the initial skepticism and nonchalance exhibited by some individuals towards the severity of the coronavirus. However, as the consequences of the pandemic unfold, society as a whole is forced to confront the repercussions of man's actions and the importance of taking responsibility for his behaviors. In this context, Lady Macbeth's character serves as a cautionary tale, reminding the readers of the consequences of their choices and the need for personal accountability during the COVID-19 crisis.

"My Corona" is an incarnation of the poet's dreadful feelings. Despite not being personally affected by the illness, the poet portrays poignant emotions that mirror her anguish over the health restrictions, long wait, and apprehension about the future.

3. Nostalgia for Pre-Pandemic Life

Before COVID-19, routines were often taken for granted. People had the freedom to engage in familiar activities without the constant worry of health risks or the disruptions caused by lockdowns and social distancing measures. There was a certain comfort in the regularity of life, whether it was commuting to work, attending social gatherings, or pursuing hobbies and interests. The nostalgia people have for their early life before COVID-19 is often rooted in a longing for a sense of normalcy, freedom, and the familiar.

In "London Lockdown," by Angela Wigglesworth, the speaker presents the frustration, adaptation, and dark humor that has come to define humans' lives amidst the pandemic.

Now there are no pubs or bars left open, schools and gyms are closed,
Not just in the UK, but all around the globe
Our routines have all been changed, we work from home
with regular naps,
And Friday nights are spent indoors, on video
calling apps,
Girls dye their hair themselves, and boys
shave their heads. (7-11) (qtd. in Garner)

The poem reflects the collective experience of a global community facing unprecedented circumstances. It depicts the current state of affairs, where the pandemic has brought about significant changes to humans' routines and daily lives. "Pubs", "bars", "schools", and "gyms" have closed, creating a sense of isolation and confinement. The mention of this being a global issue emphasizes the widespread impact. The verse touches upon the changing appearance habits, with girls dyeing their hair at home and boys resorting to shaving their heads. This reflects the limitations imposed on personal grooming due to lockdown measures.

In "London Lockdown," Wigglesworth expresses her nostalgia and desire to enjoy the warmth and freedom typically associated with summer, "And pray this will all be over, in time for summer weather." (21) She encourages the act of reminiscing about fond memories with close friends who are currently separated due to the pandemic, "Reminisce about the good times With your missed best mate." (23) The speaker emphasizes the value of cherishing past experiences and maintaining connections even from a distance.

Furthermore, the longing for embraces and touches among friends is tackled by Kim Moore in "For My Daughter." The speaker intends to tell her little daughter, when the latter becomes older, about the hard days of the pandemic. She will tell her about the poet's past days and her feelings when she views images of her younger self, often captured in moments of physical connection with neighbors and friends:

[...]How we began to
look back at photos
of our younger selves
with our arms around a stranger
or leaning on the shoulders
of friends, and saw that touch
had always been a kind of holiness
a type of worship we were promised
I'll tell her that in some ways

Our days shrunk to nothing (7-16) (qtd. in Chloe)

As the pandemic unfolded, people's lives underwent a significant transformation. The simple act of physical touch became a potential risk, and the days, once filled with social interactions and shared experiences, seemed to shrink to nothing. The poem suggests that our perception of touch evolved during this time, recognizing it as a form of holiness and worship that we had previously overlooked. In the absence of touch, we began to understand its profound value. The act of embracing a stranger or finding solace in the support of friends became symbolic of our innate need for connection and belonging. Touch, once seen as ordinary, was now recognized as a sacred and cherished experience.

In the face of isolation and limited physical contact, our perception of time and our experiences shifted. The phrase "Our days shrunk to nothing" suggests a sense of confinement and the loss of the vibrant, expansive lives we once led. It reflects the impact of the pandemic on our daily routines and the profound change it brought to our sense of time and purpose.

4. The Pandemic As A Sign of Awakening

Nature, with its awe-inspiring forces, has the ability to humble even the mightiest of beings. If it were to assert itself and question the actions of every living soul, then it would be quite the wake-up call. If man envisions a realm where Mother Nature awakens, defying humanity's deeds and decisions. Perhaps he would be forced to confront the consequences of his actions, facing the harsh reality of his impact on the environment. Natural disasters might become more frequent and intense, reminding man of his vulnerability and the need for responsible management. Accordingly, Julie Sheldon in her poem "What if it's just Nature?" wonders,

What if it's just Nature
Taking back control
Questioning the actions
Of every living soul (1-4) (qtd.in Garner)

Nature serves as a powerful reminder of the delicate balance between humans and the natural world. It highlights the consequences of man's actions, such as environmental degradation, unsustainable practices, and the disregard for biodiversity. The pandemic could be seen as nature's way of asserting its dominance and bringing attention to the need for change. It forces man to question his behaviors, lifestyles, and priorities. It urges him to reflect on his consumption patterns, the exploitation of natural resources, and the impact of his actions on the planet. By experiencing the pandemic, man should reevaluate his relationship with nature and consider the long-term consequences of his choices.

The pandemic has undeniably forced humanity to confront the consequences of its actions and consider the state of its planet. The global lockdowns and travel restrictions have inadvertently reduced pollution levels and given nature a chance to breathe. Thus Sheldon asserts:

What if it's just Nature
Asking us to stop
To think about our planet
And treasure what we've got (5-8)

The pandemic has certainly served as a wake-up call, urging man to treasure and protect the precious resources and ecosystems that sustain him. It's his role to seize this moment and make positive changes for the well-being of both humanity and the planet.

For Sheldon, the pandemic has affirmed the importance of basic necessities like food and drink. It has exposed the vulnerabilities in our global food systems and emphasized the need for sustainable and resilient practices.

What if it's just Nature
Asking us to think
What is it that we really need?
Love, health and food and drink (13-16)

Nature's call for reflection on our needs can be seen as an opportunity for collective growth and transformation. It urges us to reevaluate our consumerist tendencies and focus on what truly sustains us. It encourages us to build resilient communities, prioritize well-being over material possessions, and foster a deeper connection with the natural world. The pandemic has also brought about immense suffering and loss. It has exposed inequalities and exacerbated existing social and economic disparities. Nature's call may be a stark reminder of the need for justice, equity, and compassion in our response to crises. COVID 19, which is a sign of awakening, has reminded us to think beyond ourselves and consider the well-being of those around us. In a time of social distancing and isolation, it has emphasized the significance of human connection and support.

For Sheldon, nature is "Setting us a test" (30) to "save our planet" (31) She asserts the need to learn from the COVID-19 crisis and apply those lessons to address broader environmental issues. In short, the poem is an encouragement to view the pandemic as an opportunity to reflect, change our ways, and strive towards a more sustainable and resilient future.

Conclusion

The poetics of pandemic is an attempt to explore the profound and often poignant artistic responses to our shared global experience. The poems examined in this study appear to serve as documentation of the virus's inception, its structure, the symptoms it presents, and its impact on humanity and various facets of life. They capture the pivotal moments experienced during the challenging period of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Poetry fulfills a purpose of providing catharsis and promoting healing. During times of crisis, poetry can provide comfort and emotional release. It enables individuals to express their own feelings and establish a bond with other persons who confront comparable struggles.

Poets have assumed the role of keen observers, capturing the intimate stories hidden beneath statistical data and compelling society to confront its imperfections. They identify the problem and endeavor to discover remedies for the betterment of society. In "A Viral Composition," for example, Starbird explores the significant impact of viruses on human existence. She affirms that studying the effects of diseases on various cultures and societies, enable scientists to acquire valuable knowledge about the social, cultural, and behavioral factors that affect the spread, prevention, and management of illnesses. Whereas Sheldon, in "What if it's just Nature?" suggests that the coronavirus is a consequence of humanity's disregard for the laws of nature. Thus in her plea to humanity, she urges, "Let's do our very best!" (32) to save the planet.

To sum up, poetry of pandemic COVID19 can be characterized as didactic, historical, and scientific poetry. It serves as a didactic medium by imparting important lessons and promoting awareness about the virus, its impact, and preventive measures. It also captures the historical significance of this unprecedented event, chronicling the experiences, emotions, and societal changes brought about by the pandemic. Furthermore, it delves into the scientific aspects, exploring the biology, epidemiology, and medical advancements related to the disease, providing a deeper understanding of the virus and its implications.

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