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Pandemic Reflections: Write With Aphra in 2021

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Abstract

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In 2020, the *ABO* editorial board and our feminist colleagues hosted the #WritewithAphra summer writing and support group, [detailed in the fall 2020 issue](#) by Laura Runge and Tonya Howe. The last six months have not alleviated the challenges for summer writing program participants, and submissions to the journal continue to be down as a direct result of this reality. Rather than skip an issue or have an incomplete one, we are using this space for those affected to tell their stories in their own words. These reflections are a catalogue of living, writing, mothering, teaching, researching, and surviving. They contain pain and hope, optimism, and a stark call to action in response to how inequity in academia is leaving behind too many of our community. They detail how students, teachers, researchers, and writers must continue this work during the ongoing trauma of grief, loss, and confinement in a global pandemic that simultaneously overlaps with political turmoil and racialized violence that continues to be an everyday reality for people of color. The future demanded and imagined by these writers deserves our attention, and we cannot imagine a more important contribution to the scholarly conversation on the state of the field during this time.