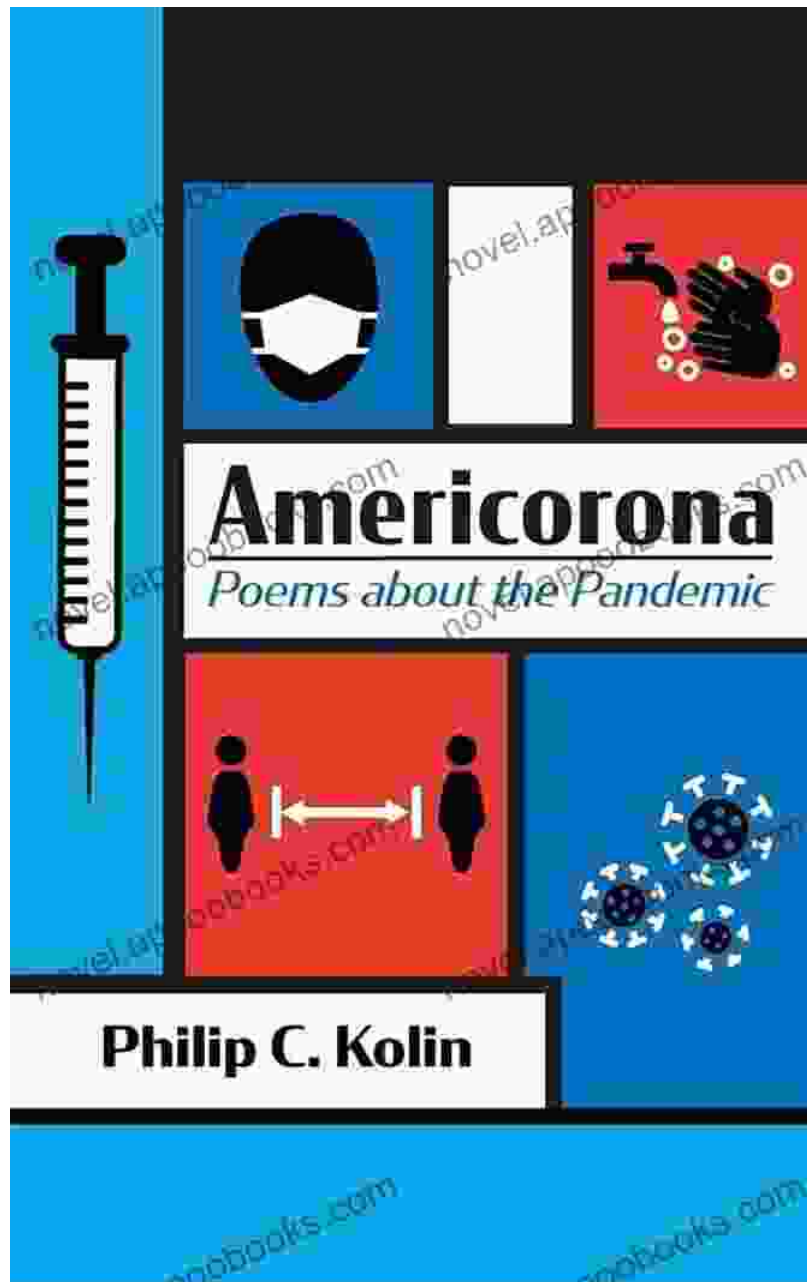


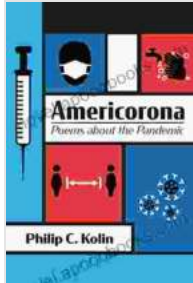
Americorona: Poetic Reflections on a Pandemic's Impact

Unveiling the Profound Emotional Landscape of a Historic Crisis



In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, the global literary landscape has witnessed a surge of works that grapple with the profound emotional toll of

this extraordinary event. Among them stands out "Americorona: Poems About The Pandemic," an anthology that captures the complexities and contradictions of our collective experience.



Americorona: Poems about the Pandemic by Philip C. Kolin

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ 5 out of 5
Language : English
File size : 993 KB
Screen Reader : Supported
Print length : 88 pages
Lending : Enabled
Paperback : 140 pages
Item Weight : 5.1 ounces
Dimensions : 5 x 0.32 x 8 inches



A Tapestry of Voices

"Americorona" brings together the voices of over 50 poets, each offering a unique perspective on the myriad ways the pandemic has touched our lives. From frontline healthcare workers to parents juggling work and childcare, from the isolated to the bereaved, the anthology weaves a rich tapestry of emotions, experiences, and insights.

Themes of Isolation and Connection

One of the most striking themes in "Americorona" is the tension between isolation and connection. The pandemic has forced us into physical separation, but it has also sparked an outpouring of virtual communication and community outreach. Poets explore these paradoxes, capturing both the loneliness and the unexpected moments of solidarity.

In her poem "Quarantined," Carolyn Kizer writes:

*"We are islands now, each in our own sea,/ Swept by the same storm,
divided by the waves."*

Yet, in "Social Distancing," Mary Oliver offers a hopeful counterpoint:

*"Let me keep my distance, always,/ But let me also love—/ From this
distance:/ The voices, the music."*

The Power of Resilience

In the face of loss, grief, and uncertainty, "Americorona" also celebrates the resilience of the human spirit. Poets find moments of grace, beauty, and even humor amid the chaos.

In her poem "The Plague Year," Sharon Olds reflects on the fragility and tenacity of life:

"The days flare and are gone;/ The nights burn and are cold."

"But my heart is a tree that buds/ In the same wind, the same rain."

And in "Ode to the N95 Mask," Billy Collins finds a symbol of both protection and connection:

*"Oh, N95 Mask, my closest friend,/ You hug my face and shield me from
the end."*

*"You keep us safe, you give us hope,/ In this pandemic's cruel and
relentless scope."*

Formal and Stylistic Diversity

"Americorona" showcases a wide range of poetic styles and forms, from free verse to sonnets, from haikus to elegies. This stylistic diversity reflects the multifaceted nature of the pandemic and the myriad ways poets have sought to capture its impact.

Some poets employ traditional forms to explore timeless themes of mortality and suffering. In his "Sonnet of the Plague," John Ashbery writes:

"In this plague year, where all things come to rest,/ I seek solace in words that soothe the soul."

Others break from conventional forms to create experimental and innovative works that mirror the disruptions of the pandemic itself. In her poem "Covid Calligraphy," Kathleen Flenniken uses fragmented text and typography to convey the chaos and disorientation of lockdown:

"I write in code, in half-remembered script,/ Fragments of a language lost."

A Legacy of Empathy and Hope

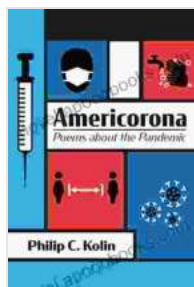
"Americorona: Poems About The Pandemic" is not merely a collection of poems; it is a testament to the power of words to process trauma, foster empathy, and instill hope. As we navigate the ongoing challenges of the pandemic and its aftermath, this anthology will serve as a reminder of the resilience and compassion that have marked this extraordinary time.

About the Book

"Americorona: Poems About The Pandemic" is edited by Rita Dove, a Pulitzer Prize-winning poet and former U.S. Poet Laureate. The anthology features poems by a diverse group of established and emerging writers, including:

* Carolyn Kizer * Mary Oliver * Sharon Olds * Billy Collins * John Ashbery * Kathleen Flenniken * Reginald Dwayne Betts * Louise Glück

"Americorona" is published by W.W. Norton & Company and is available in hardcover, paperback, and e-book formats.



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