

Writing | Symposium 2022

Alexis Doyle, *Illusion in Pandemic*

Our prejudice can spread us farther apart than any social distancing.
Our mindset of scarcity can immobilize us more than any shelter-in-place order.
Our fear can imprison us more than any lockdown.
And the guns we buy to protect ourselves can kill us faster than any virus.

Yet,

Our care for each other is more meaningful in times of crisis,
Our listening ear more needed when there is more to say.
Our presence of mind is more transformative in moments of profound stress,
And our belief in the resilience of the human spirit more powerful when much has been lost.

Our illusion of independence will usher in the next pandemic.
And our embrace of our profoundly interconnected lives will allow us to carry on.