E-NOTE

Too often the invisible is what we just don't care to see.

Before the coronavirus there was always racism and its ism cousins.

We closed our eyes and shut our ears

instead of wearing masks. Still droplets of hatred we all inhaled.

We are no more sicker than we've always

been. We now fear each other as much as we fear death.

Welcome to hell if we can no longer touch. We are now forced

to hide our tenderness behind fabric. It doesn't matter what color

it is. Hand wash if you want to be romantic. Our government

is now just another number runner. What number of deaths will

we suddenly become comfortable with? The poor, the blacks,

the migrant workers, the elderly have always been invisible when it comes to our caring.

Social distancing is

simply the turning of the cheek for an air kiss or virtual embrace.

We have always lived this way. For too long

we have been afraid of the truth. Now we are afraid of honesty.

E. Ethelbert Miller, Washington, D.C.