

Loss in the Time of Pandemic A'Lelia Bundles

The damage, corruption, ineptitude and evil already apparent from this administration have increased exponentially during the pandemic. It is permanent and it is pervasive in ways we can't yet comprehend. Our grandchildren will still be grappling with the consequences.

But these last few months also have hit me in a very personal way. Last year, my father and both brothers died within 18 weeks of each other. All three situations were different, but I was able to say my goodbyes during their illnesses and in the case of my brother, Lance, to be with him at crucial moments during nine months of chemo and to be in his room at the home of dear friends during his hospice care and his last hours.

My heart breaks for all the families who have lost loved ones this spring and who have had to say their goodbyes via iPads, Facetime and Skype. I weep when I think of the fear a person must feel when dying alone and of children, parents, spouses and friends having to relinquish the gift of being able to offer comfort in those final hours and minutes.