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Poetry by Amy Uyematsu



Lunes During This Pandemic

Cloudless blue sky
with no evidence of virus —
a beguiling view

A senior checklist —
mask, gloves, glasses, wipes for
everything you touch

Are you okay?
we ask over and over
unable to hug

Lunes During This Pandemic

Published on Talking Writing (<https://www.talkingwriting.com>)

A heartless leader
and legions of nameless heroes
define this tragedy

Rice every night —
a bowl of white delight
pandemic comfort food

Butter and flour
paper napkins and disinfectant wipes
emptied grocery shelves

Photos of America —
the long 1930s food lines
resurging in 2020

A poet's comfort —
to grow something brand new
with mere words

No longer young
I still lean toward beauty —
rain-swept skies

Grief is boundless
though we still go on
our love's journey

The days blur
I've written you final letters
just in case

We cannot choose
the end of this story —
give thanks anyway

Bright orange poppies
cascades of lavender-blue wisteria
this undeniable spring



Note: A “lune” (also known as American haiku) is a three-line poem consisting of 3/5/3 words in each line.

Art Information

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Amy Uyematsu is a Sansei poet and teacher from Los Angeles. She has five published collections: *Basic Vocabulary* (Ren Hen Press, 2016), *The Yellow Door* (Ren Hen Press, 2015), *Stone Bow Prayer* (Copper Canyon Press, 2005), *Nights of Fire, Nights of Rain* (Story Line Press, 1997), and *30 Miles from J-Town* (Story Line Press, 1992). She was a public high school math instructor for 32 years. Amy currently leads a writing workshop at the Far East Lounge in LA's Little Tokyo.

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