Friends,

Back in May, we announced that we were pausing our Stories from a Pandemic audio series. Case numbers were falling in cities that were hit hard. States were optimistically starting to make plans to reopen. Summer was heating up. We yearned for a break from daily pandemic anxiety, and sensed that you did too.

Around the same time, the murder of George Floyd struck a national chord, and
called our team to launch a separate series highlighting Black Voices (listen here!)

But as we all know, the story of COVID-19 is far from over. The virus is still out there, with rising rates of infection in California, Arizona, Texas, and Florida, and devastating effects on communities of color and incarcerated people. With each passing day, the clinical picture of COVID-19 continues to evolve, as do the maps of its geographic spread, which has infected over 3 million Americans and killed over 100,000. Our economy is limping along. Parents are struggling to balance their professional responsibilities with child care. Schools are debating whether they should re-open.

During this time, our stories as healthcare workers continue to be of the utmost importance.

We want to announce that we are officially collecting audio for Part 2 of Stories from a Pandemic.

In other words: We want to hear from you.

How are you and your family?
What is your work environment like right now?
How is it interacting with patients or colleagues?
How are you weathering the financial and emotional fallout of this time?
What do you hope for?

We don’t yet have an air date for Part 2 of this series, but we will keep you posted as our plans unfold. We welcome your ideas. What do you need to be hearing?

If you have a Dropbox link from Part 1 of the project, please dig it up and upload your audio clips there! If not, let us know at thenocturnists@gmail.com and we will generate a Dropbox link for you.

Do you have friends, family, or colleagues in healthcare who are interested in sharing their stories about COVID-19? Please direct them to this link, so that they can join the project.

As this next phase evolves, remember that you are not alone. Stories unite us, and we look forward to continuing to weave our voices together, as a means of solidarity, connection, historical remembrance, and change.
With love,
Emily and The Nocturnists Team

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Black Voices in Healthcare

Episode 1 - AGAIN
We sit with the grief of the event that set this whole project into motion: the murder of George Floyd, a Black man, by a white police officer in Minneapolis. Listen here.

Episode 2 - JOY
We are so much more than Black pain. We are strong, we are exuberant, and we are doing great things. After taking a moment to honor our collective grief in last week’s episode, we focus on
what makes us come alive. Listen [here](#).

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**Episode 3 - HOME**

As healthcare workers, many of us have had to leave our home and go wherever our profession takes us. This week we asked you to reflect on what home means to you. Is it a place? A feeling? People? Food? Listen [here](#).

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**Episode 4 - HAIR**

The story of our Black hair speaks volumes about our lives. So much love and care is wrapped up in our curls. Alongside so much vulnerability and pain. This episode tells your stories. Listen [here](#).
Thank you to our sponsors

THE CALIFORNIA MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

The Nocturnists is made possible with the support of the California Medical Association, an organization that works tirelessly to make sure the doctor-patient relationship remains at the center of medicine. You can learn more about them at cmadocs.org.

THE CALIFORNIA HEALTH CARE FOUNDATION

Black Voices in Healthcare is made possible with the support of the California Health Care Foundation, an organization that is dedicated to advancing meaningful, measurable improvements in the way care is provided to the people of California, particularly those whose needs are not served by the status quo. Learn more about them at chcf.org.

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