



### World Literature in and for Pandemic Times

Essays are invited for a forthcoming special issue of the *Journal of World Literature* on the theme of World Literature in and for Pandemic Times. Essays can discuss works that are set in plagues or epidemics (whether Covid-19 or earlier epidemics, real or fictional), or can discuss how we ourselves read under our current circumstances of lockdowns, widespread mortality, and the resulting social and economic disruptions. Essays can have a comparative or international focus or can take up a single work seen in its particular historical and cultural context; this special issue will begin with a discussion with Orhan Pamuk at last summer's Institute for World Literature session, centered on his forthcoming novel *Nights of Plague*, which is set in Istanbul in the late Ottoman era. Collectively, the issue will present a range of local or transregional responses to the social and psychological impacts of epidemics and on the ways we are reading today.

Abstracts should be sent to David Damrosch ([ddamrosch@fas.harvard.edu](mailto:ddamrosch@fas.harvard.edu)) by **March 1**; accepted essays, of 6,000-8,000 words, should be received by **June 1**.