

Editors' Note

Welcome to the 22nd edition of the *Bryant Literary Review*! This very special edition of the BLR features emerging voices from across the globe. All the poems and short stories you will find here are from undergraduate and graduate students, each carefully selected by our editing team. The poems that the poetry editors and I chose speak to the importance of finding time for yourself and what this generation imagines as possibilities for the future. They speak to the realities and struggles of right now, but they also show the fascinating ways in which people are finding peace. You will find yourself on the beach looking out on a calming ocean, under a night sky filled with beaming stars, or on the subway surrounded by infinite possibilities for love. My hope is that the poems and stories in this edition of the *BLR* encourage you to watch out for those special little moments, stand up for something big, and if nothing else, take a moment to breathe in some fresh air.

This was my second, and final, year working on the *BLR*, and not an experience I will soon forget. I want to express how grateful I am to dr. drea brown, without whom I would have never been introduced to the wonderful world of the *BLR*; Nilsa Laine, my fellow student poetry editor; Professor Thomas Roach, the fiction and creative nonfiction editor; and Aidan Quilty and Megan Polun, the student fiction and creative nonfiction editors. The *BLR* editing staff would like to thank Becca Chandler for designing and laying out the issue; Aidan Powers for creating the cover art; Sam Simas, the Bryant librarian responsible for helping us launch the first ever digital edition of the *BLR*; and the Programming Council for Inclusive Excellence, which awarded us mini-grants to make this issue possible. I would also like to extend a thank you and congratulations to all the amazing authors in this year's *BLR*. Finally, thank you to our new and returning readers who make it possible for us to come back every year.

Nichole Page, Bryant University Class of 2021