



Mariposa READ
(Read, Enjoy, And Discover)

Thursday, June 9, 2022 at 7:30 PM
Sunday, June 12, 2022 at 2:30 PM

All That is Essential 3

To listen, tune in to KRYZ Radio or log onto www.kryzradio.org
For Transcripts:

- Go to the event on our Facebook Page: Mariposa Adult & Family Literacy
- Go to our website: www.mariposalibrary.org under the Adult Literacy tab, Mariposa READ
- Pick up a print copy from the Adult Literacy cart in front of the Mariposa Library, M-F, 9-4



All That is Essential

The California Library Literacy Services created a book titled, “All That is Essential” and has made the book available for California libraries and literacy programs. Participants in California literacy programs were asked to submit writings about the feelings and reflections that the authors have experienced during the COVID-19 pandemic. Through the COVID Diaries, authors were invited to share their experiences and emotions of hope, joy, and endurance during that time of tragedy and turmoil. The book is full of essays, poems, and six-word stories. The book is meant to inspire thoughts and conversations as well as encourage reading and writing, or even drawing. Each entry contains the name of the author and the library from which they submitted their writing. Let’s read some of them here together.

(Note that when anyone reads aloud, they do their best to pronounce the words that they see. Often names are pronounced very differently than the reader says aloud. I will do my best to read the names, but they may not be accurate. This is a challenge for any reader, and it is 100% okay. Also please note that our transcripts do not contain editing for grammar or punctuation but have adapted the way some of these read to fit them in this format.)

Poem for Consuelo – This poem was written for my 96 year-old great-grandmother who died in July from COVID-19 complications that she contracted at her nursing home. Her name was Consuelo Alvarez Aguirre... Connie is now an ancestor, and her life and love will be remembered. Your name means comfort and consolation – that’s who you were to me. My mother’s mother’s mother, A great and grand one. Daughter of Faustino and Aurora. Sitting in the front yard, listening to the birds, watching the flowers sway in the breeze, all their colors. When the memories got blurry, and the stories remained the same, I always tried to listen. All the questions I wanted to ask you, I’d gotten to know you too late, but also just in time. Caring for you was a gift and you always offered me whatever you had, and that was love, and I miss you. Your humility, your strength, your stubbornness, your sense of humor,

your sweet tooth, your sadness, your joy, and your songs – all your songs. These are what I carry with me. You will always be with me. Thank you Grandma Connie.

Anonymous from Livermore Public Library – BAD for people, GOOD for nature.

Nina Park from Sonoma County Library – I try to jog every day a little longer.

Anonymous from Alameda County Library – Due to COVID-19, everyone needed to shelter at home. It has changed society, and domestic violence started growing. We have to reconsider the value of the family. The trust and the relationships between people need to be re-evaluated.

Eri Kukuta from Santa Clara City Library – If I had a time machine to go back to the past in January or December, I would go to Monument Valley. My family planned to travel around Arizona and an Indian reservation, which is located in Monument Valley. I was so excited to go there to see American desert scenic land. I spent a lot of time making an itinerary and making reservations at hotels. I was full of excitement. However, my plan was put out due to The COVID-19. Who can expect the situation? Therefore I would have told myself to go on the trip before COVID-19 spread.

Group Submission by Statewide Writers' Workshop – The first thing I'm going to do when this is over is: go to an art museum, go to the busiest restaurant I can find, travel somewhere. Go to a Giants game! (Say yay!) Go and see my grown children and grandson. (Say aww.) Hug my friends. (Do hugging motion.) Go see live music. (Tap the table on each syllable.) Go browse in a bookstore – in person! (Sound excited!)

Martha Zamora from Azusa City Library – Before the pandemic we did whatever we wanted but now we stay at home to be safe. We need to use masks in the store and distance ourselves from other people. Now I prefer to stay home. I'm spending less time with people. I'm now spending more time with my daughter because there is no school. I would tell myself to visit my family more. No one knows what the future will hold. I would tell myself to be a better person and help people more.

Lauren Choi from Newport Beach Public Library – I tried to look on the bright side and found myself feeling relaxed, unoccupied, and healthy. This quarantine enables my family to have a healthier way of living. I have more time to prepare ingredients and to cook them at home without haste. My family doesn't need to hurry to go to school or work, so my kids can eat regular oranges rather than processed orange juice. I heard that the air quality in big cities around the world has improved a lot and people can see the blue sky again. Sea turtles are less disoriented by artificial lights and survive more because most beaches are locked down. This quarantine gave rest not only to people but also the planet.

Kyuhyun (Ellen) Kim from Newport Beach Public Library – Before COVID-19, usually my family had only breakfast together. But these days, we spend all days together. The first time I had difficulty because I couldn't have my private time and I needed to prepare three times meal and snack. But now we share the housework. My husband washes breakfast dishes and my daughter washes dinner dishes. And I vacuum and my daughter mops the floor. As I cook more and more, my cooking skills are better and better and I get to enjoy the cooking. And my family goes for a walk together every day and we can have more conversation.

Group Submission from Statewide Writers' Workshop... MEMORIES – Overcoming, Longing, Rejoicing, Melancholy, Boundless, Connected, LOVE

Suji Lim from Newport Beach Public Library – My boys learned about real life.

Clara Auyon from Camarena Memorial Public Library – I am very happy to share more time with my husband.

What would you say to your pre-pandemic self?

What is less important to you now because of the pandemic?

What is a silver lining to come from the pandemic?

What has surprised you most about the pandemic?

What role has technology played in your life during the pandemic?

What do you remember from the first days of the lockdown?

What new habits from the pandemic will you keep?

What happened to your hair during quarantine?