

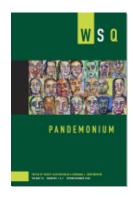
Isolation

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Sim Gill, isolation, 2021. Photograph.

This photograph captures Kensington Park Gardens, London, during the third national lockdown in the United Kingdom. On March 23, 2020, the U.K.'s prime minister issued a stark directive: "You must stay at home." Within a mere twenty-four hours, our daily routines and rituals were cast into uncertainty, our usual distractions temporarily vanished, leaving us with existential queries about what lay ahead, the duration of this new reality, and when normalcy might return. For numerous individuals, this marked their first encounter with a paradigm-shifting global event, encompassing remote work and social distancing, as well as upending familiar habitual practices. On reflection, it is important that our narratives surrounding this period respect and reflect a framework that honestly captures the incompleteness and tensions of this *unprecedented* moment.