

open submission window now closed

b y a s t e r o l s e n

Did you hear Executive Literary Review is open for submissions? You have four seconds to submit your best work that speaks to these unprecedented times. Do not write anything profane or upsetting to the editors or it's an automatic rejection. They'll get back to you in four years.

While you wait, watch Transportation Passages collapse like a bridge, concrete support staffing structures hollowed out to increase efficiency and deliver cost savings. Wait while the Environmental Review editor drowns under a rising tide of petrochemicals. Wait as the automated voicemail of your local literary magazine's representative tells you that they receive a high volume of submissions and can't respond personally to each one. Your submission is important.

Wait as you see news stories about others' rejection and remind yourself that they did not submit as well as you. Wait and debate what should be done with the ever-expanding number of rejections and do not worry that most of those rejected aren't even writers and never submitted to begin with. Wait and do not cause a disturbance that would upset an editor. Wait in silence because you are one of the lucky ones whose submission will be rewarded. Wait while three species of insect go extinct and no one writes about it. Wait while you forget that you submitted in the first place. Wait for the right time to remind the editor about your submission. Wait until, finally, a group of heavily illiterate men knock down your door and throw in a flash bang with the editor's decision: *Thank you for your submission. We enjoyed it immensely. But we cannot accept everyone.*