

# LETTER FROM THE EDITORS

There is nothing new  
under the sun,  
but there are new suns.”  
- Octavia E. Butler

On February 18, 2021, the *Perseverance* rover landed in a Martian crater on a site now called the Octavia E. Butler Landing site. The posthumous dues to the great writer are nothing compared to the legacy she has left us — one we will continue to reckon with for decades if not centuries to come. Many have labeled Butler’s science fiction work as uncannily prophetic, but her insight has more to do with her understanding of the skeleton that has come to shape our world rather than individual events. In *Parable of the Sower*, she writes: “All that you touch You Change. / All that you Change Changes you. / The only lasting truth Is Change.” In more ways than one, Octavia Butler was the ultimate Voyager.

When discussing possible themes for this year’s issue, the one that resonated the most with us was “Voyages” because we realized that it encompassed many of the discussions we were already having or wanted to initiate, conversations about race and racism after the murder of George Floyd, conversations about gender and sexuality amidst the attacks on reproductive rights and the rise of transphobia, conversations around able-bodiedness, mental health and social responsibility amidst the pandemic. “Voyages” allows us to reflect on the voyage itself and not pretend like we had reached the final destination or that an end point is even possible. It is up to every one of us to reflect on the different voyages we find ourselves a part of.

In this issue, Northeastern writers engage in different genres and conversations and allow us to join in, if just for a moment, on some of the voyages they have been a part of or witness to. You will find spatial voyages as well as temporal ones, personal voyages as well as communal ones, and the internal voyage of the self as well as the external voyage of our world. We invite you to join us on all of these journeys that our wonderful writers have presented us with as well as reflect on the voyages you find yourself a part of and to join in on the conversations.