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S P E C I A L I S S U E

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NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC MAGAZINE

A WORLD GONE VIRAL

How the pandemic is changing our lives

NEXT GENERATION Young adults fight back, again

DISCOVERY Scientists become our new superheroes

SOCIETY A virus and social unrest test our humanity

NATURE Let's use this moment to help planet Earth

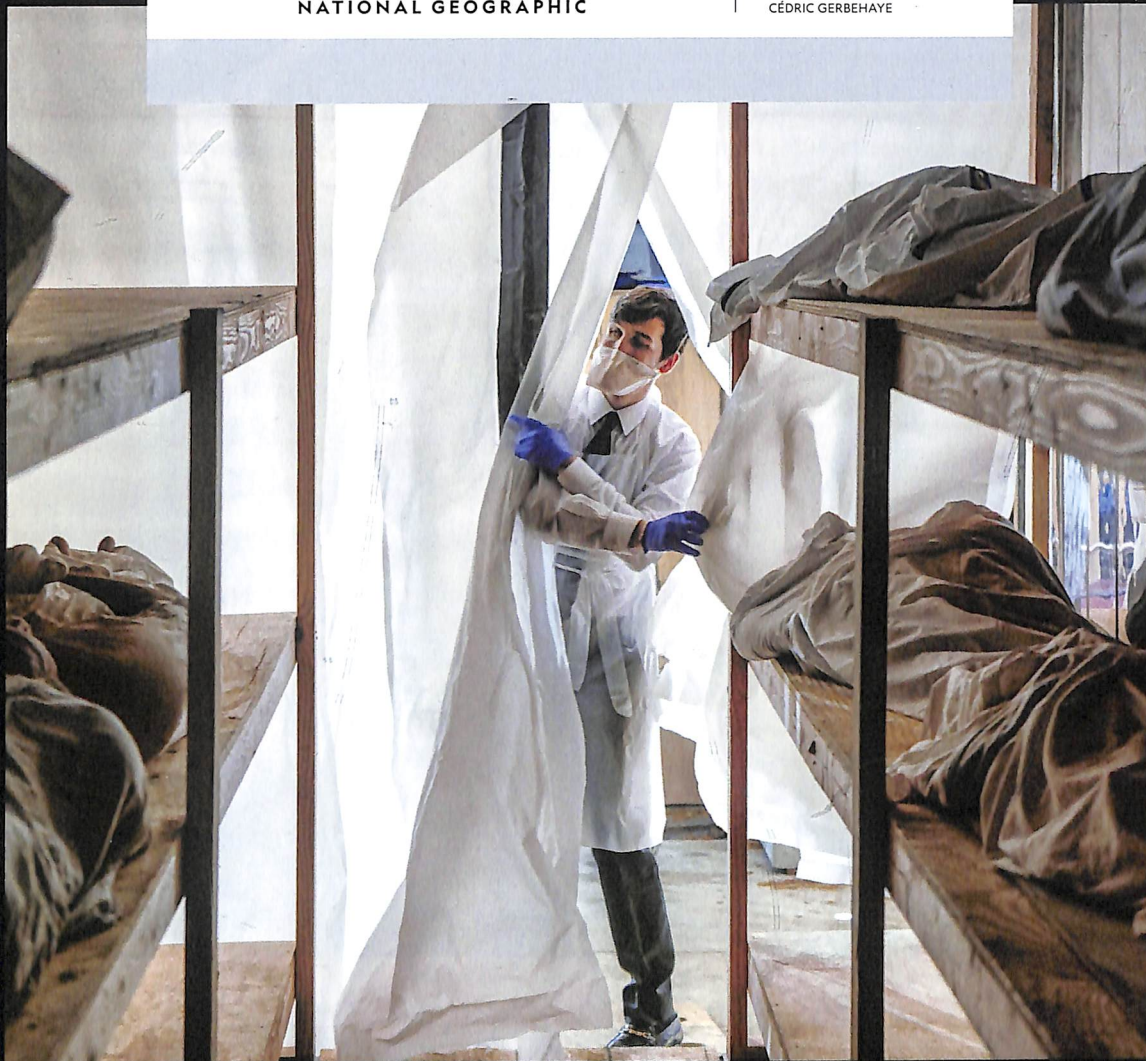
CONTENTS

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

ON THE COVER

From a hospital in La Louvière, Belgium, this image shows a CT scan of the chest area and lungs of a 69-year-old patient with COVID-19.

CÉDRIC GERBEHAYE



PROOF

LIFE WITH COVID-19

The novel coronavirus has changed how we come into the world, live in it, and leave it.

..... P. 8

INTRODUCTION

THIS DEVASTATING YEAR

COVID-19 dominated life in 2020 and left many wondering, What will recovery look like?

BY CYNTHIA GORNEY
..... P. 18

DECODER

CORONAVIRUS, EXPLAINED

How the virus attacks the human body.

BY MANUEL CANALES AND
ALEXANDER STEGMAIER
..... P. 22

ESSAY

LETTER TO MY GENERATION

The pandemic has hit 18- to 25-year-olds hard. But don't dismiss us as Generation Screwed.

BY JORDAN SALAMA
..... P. 25

THROUGH THE LENS

WHAT A COMMUNITY LOST

Larry Hammond's death resounds within the organizations he loved.

BY WILL SUTTON; PHOTO BY
MAX AGUILERA-HELLWEG
..... P. 28

At the Leo F. Kearns Funeral Home in Queens, New York, where he is a resident funeral director, Francisco James enters a refrigerated container filled with bodies—mostly of casualties of the COVID-19 pandemic—awaiting embalming or burial.

PETER VAN AGTMAEL,
MAGNUM PHOTOS

DISPATCH

32

A CARE CRISIS: BELGIUM

Overextended medical teams care for COVID-19 patients and listen to their fears. "If I don't do this," one nurse asks, "who will?"

PHOTOGRAPHS BY
CÉDRIC GERBEHAYE

ESSAY

44

IN SCIENCE WE MUST TRUST

After watching scientists debate, restate, and learn on the fly how to battle COVID-19, we should trust their work even more.

BY
ROBIN MARANTZ HENIG

DISPATCH

54

LIVES UPENDED: INDONESIA

The pandemic that filled graveyards also emptied streets. Still, people ventured out for essentials: religious observances and food.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY
MUHAMMAD FADLI

ESSAY

64

LET'S NOT WASTE THIS MOMENT

Will the pandemic have a lasting effect on how we treat planet Earth? It could—if it changes our thinking.

BY
ROBERT KUNZIG

DISPATCH

78

LOCKDOWN PAIN: JORDAN

Strict isolation measures held down the COVID-19 death toll but heightened joblessness and hardship, especially for refugees.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY
MOISES SAMAN

DATA SHEET

90

IMPOVERISHED BY COVID-19

The pandemic has hit the poor extremely hard and is projected to put 100 million more in extreme poverty by the end of 2020.

BY
ALBERTO LUCAS LÓPEZ

DISPATCH

96

A WEALTH GAP: KENYA

In Nairobi the virus looks very different to the affluent in spacious compounds than it does to the impoverished in crowded settlements.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY
NICHOLE SOBECKI

ESSAY

108

THE TIMES TEST OUR HUMANITY

We are reminded—by the pandemic and by social justice demonstrations—of the global ills and inequities that need our attention.

BY
PHILLIP MORRIS

DISPATCH

118

LOPSIDED LOSS: UNITED STATES

In three hard-hit areas, a photographer hears bereaved people's stories of losing their loved ones to COVID-19 or its complications.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY
WAYNE LAWRENCE