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"Tell Me a Story, Tell Me the World"

Wang, Jamie



The Flower Dome and the Cloud Forest, two conservatories in the Gardens by the Bay, Singapore.

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Amid an unprecedented socioenvironmental crisis, we continue to invent new words and concepts in an effort to respond to geological transformation and environmental destruction. In his proposition of "slow violence" Rob Nixon refers to gradually unfolding, attritional, unevenly

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distributed environmental catastrophes such as climate change, pollution, and deforestation. Such forms of "pervasive but elusive" violence and their insidious effects, as Nixon notes, pose a profound representational challenge and therefore often fail to capture much-needed attention. Meanwhile, scholars have worked on lexicon projects to collect a new vocabulary that helps to imagine ecological futures—describing a transformed world that is still livable. Yet, how might we take on the seemingly impossible task of making sense of climate change and contemporary environmental crises? In this time of myriad losses, there is an imperative need for renewed, multiplicitous stories and narrative forms. (From the article)

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