

Ted Austin:

Hi all-

We're currently processing, in AEDP's own inimitable style, how the present situation presents a fundamental paradox - how we need to be connected through all of this present difficulty, but physical connectedness is, to say the least, problematic. So, we look for whatever shards of connection we can, and hope that it's enough to soothe our pain, our grief, and our considerable fear. Virtual connectedness is a distant proxy of physical, face-to-face presence, but it will have to do, for now, and perhaps for a while.

As such, we turn to something that we all know offers a sense of connection and, at the same time, provides a conduit for affective expression. Specifically, song. My people - the Italians, have been doing this in droves recently, as you've likely seen.

I offer the following, an old Crosby, Stills, and Nash song, sung by the youth of Italy - specifically, high school students from Rome - to offer a bit of respite in this terrible, frightening time. I hope it offers you some peace in the same way it did for me.

Please, stay connected, and I hope all of you can find some peace during what is, for sure, the scariest time of my 49 years.

The song is "Helplessly Hoping" by CS&N. It's sung here *il coro che non c'è* ("the chorus that is not there," kind of translated as "alone acapella") by the youth of Italy and Spain.

Be well.