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## "The Destroyer : Covid"

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Jasmine Noriega  
Covid Journal  
11/29/2020

## The destroyer : Covid-19

Surviving a pandemic for my very first time was something that I never thought would happen to me . I never thought that I would be graduating in my car while there was a pandemic going on in the world. When I heard the announcement in school that we were going to go on spring break I was

really happy but when I heard that we were going on another break because of Covid I got sad. My district told us that we were going to come back by the beginning of April and when April got



here, it turned into the beginning of May. I really wanted to get the chance to walk for my graduation from high school but they extended the date. I was so bummed out to hear that we couldn't walk on the stadium but I tried to be positive and say at least I'm graduating with my family in the car. One day I'm gonna tell my grandkids that I graduated in my car. I'm also going to tell them that I survived the pandemic even though I didn't go outside at all.

Before we went on spring break, I wish I could have said goodbye to my teachers and all my classmates. I never thought the day before spring break was going to be the last time I ever saw them. I went to homecoming with my boyfriend for the very first time and it was amazing so I was even more excited for prom because I wanted to experience that type of joy but that was ruined by covid. I wanted to go to grad nite as well and experience the last breakfast with seniors but none of that was possible. I was so bummed out that I didn't even do anything not even school work and yet I still passed. It was so hard to stay positive but I told myself better things are coming...

My grandma had come down from Mexico before covid even got announced in the U.S. and she got stuck in the state because of covid. The borders had closed down so she couldn't leave. I felt really bad because I felt like in a way it was my fault that she couldn't go back to her hometown because of how ignorant I was towards covid. We found out that you can only leave the state but not come back so we took her to the border and let me tell you it was a disaster. My mom was just so over protective with her which I understand why but my mom took it too far.

I didn't take Covid seriously but my mother took it too far with Covid. She was constantly mopping the floor with Clorox and vinegar, making my nose get stuffy and my head

hurt. She would make us take off our shoes before we enter the house and immediately take a shower with hot water. After we got out of the shower she would make hot soup for us to eat . She would even boil dollar bills with hot boiling water ”to prevent Covid from entering the house”. I don’t judge her because I know she's only trying to protect us but she didn't have to mop everyday with clorox and vinegar. My hands were literally peeling from all the vinegar and rubbing alcohol I would put on myself to prevent covid. The rubbing alcohol would make my nail polish remove and the vinegar would cause the cuts to get even worse. The rubbing alcohol would heal my little cuts but it burned!



Quarantine made strict orders to not go anywhere so I felt so trapped in my house. Especially since we live in a small apartment and all my siblings share a room, with six people living in the house, what a disaster. This was affecting me physically and mentally because I couldn't go outside or anything so I started stress eating because that's all I could do. I felt so trapped and I did my best to self care. One thing I could say is that I got closer to my family but there was no money coming in so we had to work. We also got the news that a very close member passed away and it was something so hard to cope with. We couldn’t hug our other outter family members or go to the funeral or even make a funeral so it was a hard turning point for us. Anyone reading this who lost a member or close friend due to covid... you are not alone at this and yes it might seem like the end of the world but better things are to come. After that turning point I decided to do something for my life and move even though covid was here. I wasn’t going to let covid push me into a little hole so I applied for college and I got my first job at the 99 cent store. I'm gonna say I'm very proud of myself for doing both work and school. Not everyone can do that and I don't blame them cause it is hard.

At my job I was very cautious and I would sanitize myself all the time. On my third week we got the news that three of my coworkers got covid and I only thought to myself, I hope they get better. Covid isn't a joke and many are taking it as a joke. I was just scared that I would end up getting it at work and passing it on to my family members or my boyfriend. My only hope was God. I wouldn't go anywhere so my cousin and I decided to go to Dairy queen. We spent all afternoon together and when I got home I showered and sanitized myself again. The next week my cousin had told me that she got covid and I immediately went to a covid testing . It was a drive thru behind a sears that didn't work and it was something horrible. They put this long stick into my nose and I had the urge to



throw up because they were touching the back of the nose, like the back of my upper throat. It felt horrible but I didn't feel any symptoms of covid but I still quarantined myself. When my results came in they came out negative. Till this day I haven't gotten covid and I hope I never do. Remember to stay safe, always wear a mask no matter where you go because covid can be wherever you go and always apply hand sanitizer.

-Jasmine 11/29/2020