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# "The Year of Covid-19"

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## The Year of COVID-19

In this document, there are months throughout the year of how I was feeling, my struggles, my accomplishments, and my overall feeling of the year. COVID-19 had limited impacts on my life directly but impacted greatly on mental health and judgements around coronavirus.

#### March 2020

It is the beginning of March and there has been an announcement of a new virus circulating it's way to America. So far, China was hit poorly with the new virus and has killed millions of people. Places are beginning to announce their closures due to the virus and I'm hoping it doesn't affect us as badly. My boyfriend and I just celebrated his birthday this past weekend at Disneyland. We had a blast. He was able to get his lightsaber and we had dinner with his brother, his girlfriend, and my mom. It has been about a week now and my brother just let me know Disneyland is closing. Newsom has also ordered everyone to Stay-At-Home unless you're a First Responder, Essential Worker, or Healthcare worker. My job gave me a letter to keep with me stating I am an essential worker and I am able to be out despite the Stay-At-Home order. Still hoping the virus isn't as serious as everyone is making it out to be.

## April 2020

Hello April, what do you have in store for us this month. It's my birthday month and I'm really hoping Disneyland will open up. A lot of people I know are working from home or have been let go because of the virus. It has been labeled as a Pandemic now. It has hit America hard as well. I have been checking the number of cases on a daily basis and they get higher everyday. Masks went into effect last month and people are still not wearing them. At work, they are walking in without masks and the company isn't enforcing it. I can understand all the publicity a lot of companies are getting because of the employees enforcing the masks, but it's endangering a lot of people. Easter's going to be different this year with families not being able to get together. Hopefully it'll settle down by July. My birthday is coming up and Disneyland is still closed. They're hoping to be open by May so hopefully I'll be able to still go for my annual birthday trip. Work has been crazy with everyone calling in trying to get their medications. Luckily we have a delivery through the post office to make it easier for them to receive their medications safely. I'm hoping they'll keep the delivery for a few months to help ease our patients of staying indoors. Well it's my birthday and everyone at work was so nice. They made me feel

really special on my big day. They got me a card, balloons, and money. I'm so lucky to have such amazing co-workers. Oh and there's something about Murder hornets? My goodness.

## May 2020

Well I found out Murder Hornets are real. There are deadly hornets coming from Asia which are potentially colonizing in the states. The Stay-At-Home has become more restrictive causing chaos at work right now. Patients are worried we're going to close down and they're not going to be able to receive their medications, doctors offices are closed, urgent cares are slammed with patients, and oh my gosh it's not ending, I'm starting to become stressed. I'm worried about visiting my aunt because I don't want to get her sick. I don't want to visit my boyfriend's mom because I'm worried i'm going to get her sick. Long days, long hours, long drives. This isn't as bad as it is, can it? I think people are just beginning to over-exaggerate and it's just the common cold or the flu? Protest. Protest. Protest. There are riots going on due to George Floyds' death in Minneapolis. Everything I'm seeing near me is being broken into, caught on fire, and people are looting. I'm scared and I don't know what to do. Hopefully, we'll be safe tonight.

### June 2020

We're still on lockdown. Everything is still closed. Work is chaotic. I can't find any time to myself or do anything. I need to destress and Disneyland is still closed. Protests are still occurring. There was a protest today that was going to happen in the Walmart parking lot across from my job. Unfortunately, we don't have security and my co-workers and I did not feel safe. We received confirmation to leave and evacuate if needed. We left. I did not feel safe and I still needed to drive home. I did not want to get stuck in the traffic. Work is still crazy busy but I guess it's better then not having a job. My brother is getting unemployment and having a difficult time finding a job. Everyone in my immediate family is safe and well. Thank goodness. I got a call from a preschool I applied to back in March and they want me to be a part time teacher. Woohoo. I'm excited and starting in 2 weeks.

## July/August 2020

Between these two months, I didn't have a lot of time to be writing down what was happening. I was focused on transitioning jobs and getting ready for the new semester to begin. I was going through a lot of stress.

## September 2020

It's been an easier few weeks. The last of August I was comfortable in my new job. School is going okay. I'm missing out on one of my classes though by not attending Zoom meetings. I'm hoping I'll find a way to make it up. I'm enjoying my job and I have not loved my job more than I have now. Journaling for my class has also made it easier to remember what has been going on. I'm stressing about my courses. My history class is easy to get behind in and I have to listen to lectures. Luckily, the professor is funny and isn't monotoned. These first 3 weeks of school have gone by so quick I can;t believe it. Soon I'll have finals. My aunt recently lost her sister in law due to COVID and her brother in law also has COVID. I'm hoping he'll recover soon. There are so many fires happening right now, the air is so bad. I can't believe how many fires there are. My preschoolers are sad because we can't go outside. They are going through so much right now and some are having a difficult time understanding what is going on. Luckily, there are so many activities and kid dancing songs to help them let loose some energy. I was able to see virtual learning in a kindergarten perspective the other day. Wow. I give these teachers praise for doing what they are doing. It is hard to keep minds that young engaged, especially at home. So much has changed. I had a hard time following along. There were 6 different kindergartners in 6 different classes across 3 different school districts. Amazing.

## October 2020

My favorite time of the year! Halloween! I'm so excited. I'm really hoping we'll be able to go out for Halloween and see all the trick or treaters. My boyfriend and I are starting to buy some candy to prepare, so fingers crossed. It's been a rough month for my mental health. With COVID still prominent and things still being closed, I haven't been able to find my zen. I just found out Halloween might be cancelled as well. I'm so over being stuck at home and not being able to go anywhere. I have the luxury of working, which I'm thankful for but I need to find some time for myself. There has been a lot going on with my family this month and I just can't take anymore. My class where I journal has helped relieve my mind, but it's still hard. I'm having a difficult time finding enjoyment from the things I was enjoying. I have been talking to my boyfriend and my best friend a lot to help with my mental state, it's been helping. I'm trying to take it easy and not let the disappointment of staying in for Halloween continue. I understand we are trying to "flatten the curve" but it's not working because of many factors. Stay at home orders are not helping flatten the

curve because everyone is wanting to go out. Places have opened but not major places. I really want Disneyland to open soon.

#### November 2020

The start of the holidays begins. It's already the end of the year and it's gone by fast. I can't believe how fast the months went by. We're reaching the end of the semester with reviews for finals coming in a few weeks and deadlines. I'll be excited when the year is over and hopefully things will begin to go back to normal. They are starting to slowly and hopefully we'll be able to get together for Thanksgiving. My kiddos are excited and thinking it's Christmas time and talking about Santa. We're going to be having all kinds of crafts for the kiddos to begin doing. Well of course, Newsom puts in another Stay-at-Home order beginning the 21st through December 21st. I also found out he had gone out dining himself indoors without a mask. Great to see how well our leaders are doing a global pandemic. Thanksgiving was a great day. I was able to spend time with my grandmother and my mom. I tried to help her make Thanksgiving dinner but she was enjoying doing it herself. We were safe and kept distance. Luckily, we didn't have a lot of people, only five people. Great way to end the month though, I tested positive for COVID. I have been lucky to be able to stay at home and recover. It sucks though because I know I wasn't around anyone who was positive. I was hopeful it was the common cold because that's how I'm feeling. I keep my mask on, wash my hands, and stay away from my loved ones for the next two weeks. Hopefully next year is better.