

COVID-19

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ENGL 1100 Foundations of College Writing

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Fall 2020

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A worldwide pandemic that we never saw coming, that changed the lives of so many, took the lives of many, and feels like it will never end. Never in a million years did I think that I would live through a pandemic, I've learned about pandemics in history, but didn't know that it could actually happen to me. At the start of the pandemic I didn't know how big of an impact that it would have on my life and those around me. I know that it's not over yet, but I can say that it has been one of the worst and best times of my life.

Covid-19 took my high school graduation from me, the one event that I have been waiting for and worked for the past thirteen years. You see all your older friends graduate, hear your parents tell you about their graduation and how exciting it was and just wait anxiously for your day to come and all that hard work to have paid-off. My last day of high school I didn't know that would be my last, I didn't tell my friends goodbye the right way, I didn't get my senior picnic or senior anything.

This time has been especially hard on my grandparents being that they have to stay apart from us for a while. My nana had lung surgery in April, removing a quarter of her lung, and couldn't have anyone with her in the hospital which was emotionally hard on her because she is very social and loves to interact with people. After her surgery, we couldn't go visit her because she was at very high risk and if she got Covid-19 she wasn't sure if she would make it considering she was still learning how to breathe properly. Seeing my grandparents go through this has been hard because they have been sad that they can't see and hug their grandchildren who they adore more than anything.

These past six months have given me a lot of time to reflect on myself as a person which has been the best part of all of this. With all of the time on my hands I had to find something to

keep myself busy. I took time to reflect on myself and what I want in life and how to achieve it. I have grown in my relationship with Christ and gotten closer to him. I have spent time with him, asking questions as to what he wants me to do, how he wants to work through me, and what I need to work on as a person. Trying to put all my trust in him and that he will cure us of this crazy world that we are living in.

The state of the unknown has been hard, not knowing what's happening, what's coming next, or when this will all end. Making sure I take every precaution that I can to keep myself and my family safe and healthy. I know that when this pandemic ends that we will all be so much more grateful for what we have. We have to look at the positive through all of this bad because if we don't try to find the good, we would drive ourselves insane.