

## A Mask

16 years old.

Hired during a pandemic

Hoping to afford college

She's told to wear **a mask.**

### **Bosses' orders:**

Sanitize, Serve, Smile

The sickness is running its course

Tell customers to wear **a mask.**

Government regulations, political views, people dying

Everyone has an opinion

It's our job to enforce

And hope they come in with **a mask.**

### **In the night:**

She works by herself

Seeing a customer in defiance

Safety is no longer a familiar feeling

Please put on a mask.

What did she do to deserve this?

Screaming, fighting, refusing

All over **a mask.**

When mandates were lifted

Customer conflicts resolved

She still wore **a mask.**

**Coughing**

**Sneezing**

**Spitting**

Customers lose boundaries

As they remove **their masks.**

This job she cannot lose

School is what she needs to pay for

A degree in saving lives

So we don't have to wear **a mask.**