

Short Story

By: Andy Xiong

I woke up at 6:00 AM as I thought it would be just another normal day at school as I started my freshman year in high school. My teacher in 4th hour said we might have to switch to online classes due to the cases of covid increasing in Eau Claire. The first person with covid symptoms lives near our school and I didn't think it would be a big deal, but it was. School soon ended and now it was the start of June 2020 and the news stated that people should be staying six-feet apart to prevent the spread of covid-19. My aunt who is a nurse gave everyone in the family face masks to wear in public to be safe and to prevent us from catching the virus. My mom and I went to the grocery store one day to buy food and there weren't that many cars as usual because of quarantine. The very first viral thing that happened in the beginning of the pandemic were people buying and hoarding toilet paper. I still question as to why people needed it that many to this day when food should be the number one necessity to survival.

2020 was a bad year for everyone and people thought that it was the end of the world. I, on the other hand didn't think it was that bad if I stayed inside all day. Every day became repetitive, and it got boring. Me and the homies played call of duty everyday trash talking and screaming in our mics at people who also screamed at us, it was funny. We made good memories playing video games together. I also started working at McDonalds and it got so bad, but I had to make money somehow. It didn't matter however because my friends and I got let go. In the end of October my mom caught covid without knowing she had it. It passed on to me and soon we both started to developed symptoms. We went to a covid testing site and they swap our nose with q-tips. I didn't like the feelings of it because they stuck the q-tip deep into my nose. I sneezed and tears started to roll down my eyes lol. A few days passed and it turns out we were tested positive for covid. We were in quarantine for 2 weeks and by the time of Halloween, I started to feel like myself again. We went and got retested after feeling better and getting our taste and smell back. The result came back negative this time, we were both thankful and happy. Christmas was around the corner and my aunt held a family gathering to celebrate it. My mom and I didn't go, and I was glad we made the choice to stay home because we found out later that my aunt how host the party caught covid from her workplace. She didn't show any signs until a day after the party that she went and get tested. Turns out she was positive and all my family member who went to the gathering got as well. I don't know how it would turn out for us if we caught the virus again for the second time. I think it would be worse for us.

As we start the new year of 2021, we have to stay positive and be hopefully that this year will be better and to be honest I think it'll be better than 2020. Because I'm changing now, I'm maturing into an adult and soon I'll be living my life, but covid is still here so I need to be careful at keeping myself and others safe by wearing a mask, distancing myself and wash my hands often to stop the spread of covid. I'm also glad that there are vaccines now. Hopefully, the world can go back to normal, and we can live normal lives again.