

Anonymous
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My Personal Covid-19 Experience

Prior to Covid-19 I was living a completely normal life. It was junior year of high school; my cheerleading team and I were preparing for the Cheerleading High School Nationals which takes place in early February. This is one of the biggest high school cheerleading competitions ever. It is held in Orlando Florida and my team had the honor of getting to travel there. Before jumping on the plane my coach handed each one of us a *goodie* bag with a mask, gloves, hand sanitizer, wipes, and more. We found it almost comical that our coach handed us these things, but just laughed and thought “we thought Corona-Virus will never end up here.” We were so wrong. We wore masks on the plane, sanitized everything and attempted to stay as safe as possible. Some of us came home feeling super sick, we of course, just thought it was a cold but after living through the pandemic, the doctor telling me I have an “unidentifiable respiratory infection” I was almost certain I came home with Covid. Shortly after coming home from nationals with my mysterious illness & fully recovering. In March of 2020 lives will change forever. Doors shut all around us, restaurants closed, small businesses boarded up, unemployment, and masks became just as important as a winter coat on a snowy day. We were officially in lock down and covid took over our lives. Everything on the news was about the rise in Covid cases, the closure of school for longer, and ultimately school closing for the rest of that year, major events cancelled, and of course the terrifying death rate. My days in the pandemic or as I like to call them “groundhogs' day” were the same. Every. Single. Day. I would wake up, around noon like most teens, hop on the computer and get my online assignments done, after this I would usually work out, when it was nice, I would go on an outdoor run and on not-so-

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nice days I would stay in and complete a serious of workout videos, shower, dinner, and stay up late (like most teens), fall asleep and repeat this day. The days are all a blur, and they all just seem the same. Even when restrictions began to lift people were still cautious and some more than others. I still struggle with believing that we all lived by these incredibly strict rules. Covid-19 took other our lives and quickly became our world.