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Summer 2021

Capturing Quarantine: Student Pandemic Experience Journal

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- March 2020
 - March 11th
 - The world health organization declares the Coronavirus an official Pandemic
 - This is important because it was the first time that it felt real on another level. Prior to this all the information revolving around Covid was not cohesive. This was a day of fear and confusion.
 - March 12th(I believe)
 - Columbia college announces that it won't be having anymore in person classes
 - This was crazy and felt like an early spring break. We all thought we would just have a week or two off.
 - March 14th
 - My friends start all leaving the city
 - This is important because we were all unsure of what the city would turn into. My mom freaked out and thought all the grocery stores were going to close.
 - March 15th
 - My family picks me up from the city to go back to Michigan. I was at work when my mom called and said she was coming to get me. I was angry and cried because I didn't want to go home. I had to pack in 30 minutes then she was there.
 - This is important because what originally thought of was just a few weeks turned into being home for two months.
 - My mom and I stopped at the grocery store on the way home and wore masks for the first time. We stocked up on everything so we wouldn't need to leave the house again for a long time.
 - My mom made me take a shower the minute I got home just incase covid somehow got on me on my way home.
- April
 - April 6th(I believe)
 - Online zoom classes start
 - I had to do classes online for the first time. It's important because who would have thought it would be two years of classes online from that point.
 - April 8th
 - My moms best friends cancer got worse. We moved in with her to help her out.
 - This is important because my mom stopped her lease and moved out of her place and into her friends. I had only met her one time prior to moving there. It was a hard time for me mentally. I felt hopeless and i missed my friends and life so much.
 - April 10th
 - I adopted my emotional support cat Theo.

- This is important because she is my best friend hehe.
- May
 - May 11th
 - Still living with my moms friend. Finishing up finals and feeling really lost and depressed still
 - My mom and I were fighting a lot, I wanted to go back to my own place. She was afraid for me to leave.
 - May 18th
 - I moved back to my apartment in chicago
 - It's a little sad but her friend was dying and it wasn't healthy to be there any longer. I didn't feel emotionally okay to be around that anymore.
 - I got back to my apartment and quarantined alone with my cat for 3 weeks. We went a little crazy.
 - May 25th
 - George Floyd was murdered.
 - I went to a bunch of protests and my building was looted which was a bit scary.
- June
 - June 1st
 - I started working again at do rite donuts.
 - This is important because I was so afraid of covid still at this point. I needed the money but it was scary going back to work.
 - June 5th
 - My roommate came back to our apartment
 - This was the best feeling in the world. I wasn't living alone anymore and I was able to be with my best friend again.
 - June 5th-June 30th
 - I worked a lot and hung out with my roommate. We had so much fun riding bikes and eating lots of good food
 - June 16th
 - Had to go to the doctors. Found out I have heart problems.
 - This was scary because I felt like I was dying. I had to get a bunch of tests done.
- July
 - July 11th
 - I went on my first date. I met my current girlfriend. We've been together for almost a year now. She's my best friend:)
 - July 11th-current
 - I've barely spent a day without my girlfriend since then haha.
 - July 15tg
 - Things seemed to be opening up a bit more.
 - I felt more comfortable getting food for takeout and seeing a few friends outside while distancing

- August
 - August 1st
 - Found and signed a lease for a new apartment with two new roommates.
 - Was very excited to be in a new neighborhood, and live closer to my girlfriend
 - I was riding my bike to and from work everyday, it was nice to be outside so much.
 - August 11th
 - I officially started dating my girlfriend
 - This is very important! She's wonderful and it made life feel like it was turning up again.
 - August 17th
 - I got the keys and moved into my new apartment
 - This was important because it was my first time living outside out the south loop in Chicago. I was able to be by more parks and more friends
- September
 - September 7th
 - Started zoom classes again
 - I was happy to be with my too roommates all doing online school instead of being all alone.
 - September 23rd
 - My mom came and visited.
 - This was so important because I missed her so so much.
 - September 26th
 - I met my girlfriends family for the first time
 - This was terrifying and really fun. We went on a trip back to Michigan(we got tested and all that)
- October
 - October 14th
 - I started working for Columbia's space team again. I was able to quit working at the donut shop. My anxiety got better.
 - October 24tg
 - Found out what was wrong with my heart.
 - October 27th
 - Went to my roommates girlfriends house for Halloween.
 - This is important because it was the night I got covid from someone there.
- November
 - November 1st
 - My 21st birthday
 - I had covid and was really sick. I couldn't leave my bed. Lol
 - November 25th
 - Was able to go home with my girlfriend for thansgiving

- This was our first big holiday together
- December
 - December 3rd
 - Was feeling really burnt out on school
 - This was important because my mental health was not so good. I finished my finals but was struggling
 - December 19th
 - Went to visit my mom
 - I was able to go home for two weeks and see her puppy. Very good time.
- January 2021
 - January 1st
 - I got a hair cut
 - This is important because it's the first time I've cut my hair short. It was liberating
 - January 15th
 - I took my first dance class since the pandemic started
 - This was such a great feeling. Being able to be back into the dance studio was awesome.
- February
 - February 1st
 - Got into my second semester online
 - This was good and bad. I felt like I was getting the hang of online school.
 - February 8th
 - I started choreographing a dance for the dance group I'm in
 - This is a big deal because it's the first dance project I've been the director of.
 - February 11th
 - My girlfriend and I's 6month anniversary
 - We went out to a fancy diner for the first time together.
- March
 - March 3rd
 - Started looking for a new place
 - This was exciting because my girlfriend and I were moving in together
 - March 4th
 - Babysat my girlfriends sister dog for a week
 - My cats got to play with a new friend hehe
 - March 20th
 - Did set design for a project
 - First job doing set design and in real life! It was lots of fun
- April
 - April 3rd

- We found an apartment
 - We signed the lease and got approved
 - April 10th
 - Went on vacation with my girlfriends family
 - We went to Florida
 - April 20th
 - Got vaccinated!!
 - A weight was lifted off my shoulders
- May
 - May 1st
 - We moved into our apartment!
 - This was so exciting because I got to live with my partner.
 - May 5th
 - Finished up finals
 - This was so hard to do while moving. It was a chaotic time.
 - May 13th
 - My partners bday
 - We went out for a dinner and got to spend a great day together
- June
 - June 10th
 - Went to my partners families house
 - We got to spend time with family and swim in their pool. Felt like summer!
 - June 13th
 - Went wedding dress shopping for my partners sister
 - She found a dress!!
 - June 15th
 - Started a painting class
 - This is important because it took over much of my time this summer. It was great to be able to be creative. It was my first in person class!
- July
 - July 2nd
 - Went to a park nearby my house
 - It was just a great day outside. Felt like summer
 - July 4th
 - Got to celebrate with my friends
 - The summer before we couldn't do that.
 - July 7th
 - Started history!
 - Very fun and educational experience so far.