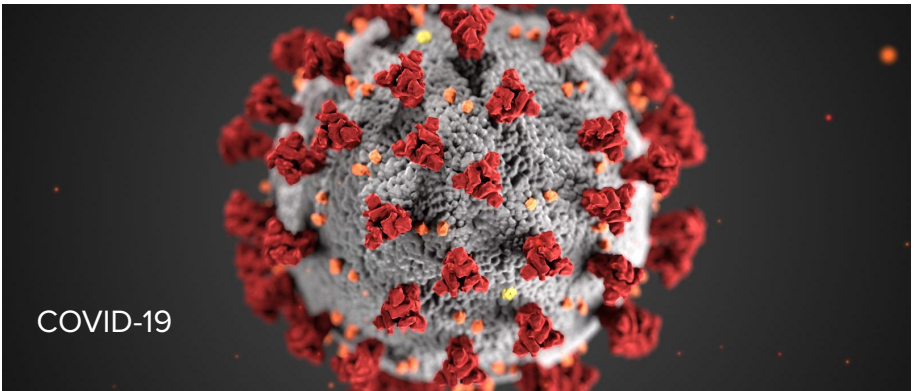


# **COVID-19: THE INSANE UNTOLD STORY OF SURVIVING A PANDEMIC**

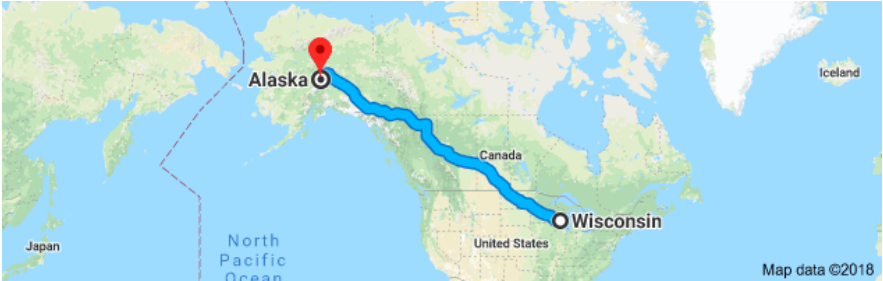
**BY RYAN GREEN**

**HOW TO:**

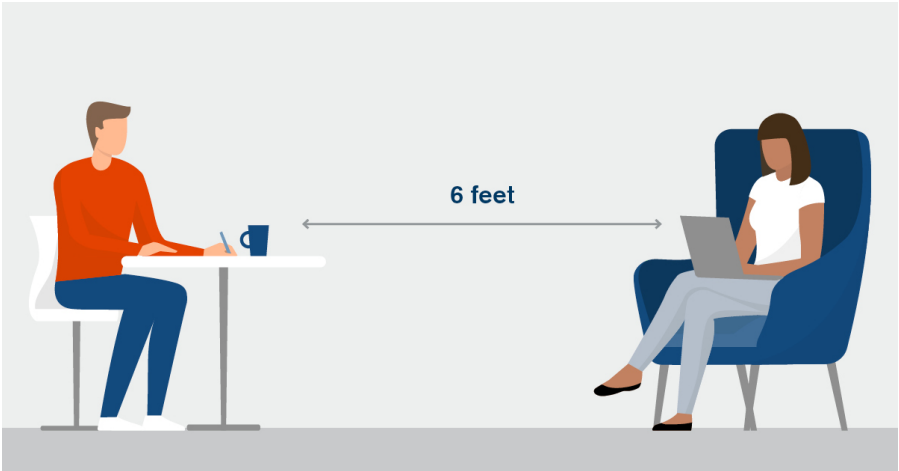
# **COPE WITH BEING IN THE MIDDLE OF A PANDEMIC**



There is no ideal place or situation to be when a worldwide pandemic hits...however 3,425 miles away from home and my family was not where I expected my journey to take place.



A disease taking thousands of lives across the U.S. since February of 2020 has put people in a situation they have never seen before.



For myself.. Getting back home would be a start, and then something many have never heard or done before..  
Quarantine! The process lasted 14 days, which involved me attending school online, and not leaving the house one time.



There is nothing like seeing and experiencing a pandemic happen rather than being in the middle of it yourself. Going out to eat, going to work, seeing your friends, traveling, and going to the store all of the sudden became restricted.



My job consisted of working by myself on a 500 acre farm...8 hours a day with my thoughts and a cat named Rusty. Let me tell you, it does not take long for 90 degree work days all alone to get old really quick.



As COVID escalated around the world it had a huge impact on people and places everywhere, personally it affected me going into my freshman year of college. Changing my experience drastically, not being able to play hockey, attending all my classes online, and really just not being able to get a regular college experience.



Each week I get tested for COVID by going to a center at the university. The process takes about 10 minutes; in the event I get asked a series of questions about how I am feeling and once I clear the questions a nurse/doctor will come over and stick what looks like a large cotton Q-Tip in my nose for roughly five seconds.



COVID has affected a lot of people from all over, by now half of my family has had it, nearly all my friends have tested positive at some point, yet somehow I have never had it, seemed to have, and will hopefully not have it in the future. And yet, the virus has only been around for 10 months.



The virus has been devastating for families across the globe, it has been something people could have never imagined before happening to the world and the huge impact it has had on lives. Each day businesses decide they may finally open their doors, or they have seen enough and need to close them for a while. It has been a very unpredictable time, with no particular ending of the virus in sight. Life will go on, but it has been affected, possibly for a very long time.





## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

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Ryan Green is currently a student at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire where he is studying computer information systems as well as playing on the men's hockey team.