

Covid Essay Pt 2

Chapter 7- Big Change

A big change has been made Eau Claire decided that the 3 weeks between Thanksgiving and Christmas would be fully online, but students could still live on campus if wanted. I had made the decision pretty quickly to stay on campus as I had a job here and I focus better at school. I had also made the decision to stay in Eau Claire over winter break because my normal Para job I would have had in my hometown I would not be able to get as Minnesota went in full lockdown when Covid spiked. The lockdown included no schools in person, restaurants closed and workout centers are closed. My brother who lived in San Diego is thinking about canceling his flight for Christmas as the airports will be over busy and he doesn't feel safe.

Chapter 8- Quarantine.... Again

On Sunday November 15th I got a message from my boss, I was exposed to Covid-19 and was required to start my 14-day quarantine immediately. My roommate who works at the same daycare as I was not required to do the 14-day quarantine but did have to get a Covid test with me. We both got the test on Monday and got the negative results on Tuesday. She was able to go back to work, but I was still in quarantine. The first couple days were okay I spent a lot of time doing homework. When I was all done with homework the boredom set in. Luckily, I had a friend who was also in quarantine so whenever I was bored, I would call him and he would call me. On day 5 of quarantine, I was going crazy. I spent my whole day watching Netflix and went on a little walk outside to get some fresh air. My apartment window looks right over a Kwik Trip parking lot so when I'm really bored I will watch the people outside as some entertainment. Sadly my quarantine is up on Friday the 27th meaning I will miss thanksgiving. So, my plan is to

get another Covid test on the 27th hopefully It comes back negative and then I will go back home for the rest of the weekend to be with family. I think it will be really hard when everyone is spending time with family and I will be watching Netflix alone. On Friday November 20th I got really sad. I was tired of being alone, the only entertainment I had was my fish and the Kwik Trip parking lot. It was a mix of being bored and just lonely. I tend to be a very social person who likes an hour of being alone a day not 15 hours of alone time. I called my friends and mom which made me feel a little bit better but it was hard knowing I still had a week left. Friday went by pretty slow but a lot of Netflix helped to fix that. My quarantine favorite shows are Shameless, New Girl and the new season of Greys Anatomy. Saturday went by pretty quick and Saturday night was exciting. I had just showered and was getting ready for bed around midnight when I looked outside and saw a man getting arrested in the parking lot. He was put in to handcuffs for about 10 minutes by three cops when later they took off the cuffs and he walked free but clearly very mad. Now on to Sunday the 22nd. On Monday I was supposed to teach a lesson for my Kins 327 class but due to not being able to attend class I had to film it from my apartment. The lesson was on the basics of football and my plan was the teach the kids catching and throwing. My roommate helped me film my video but due to lack of supplies my football was a water bottle. It ended up pretty good under the given circumstances though. The hardest part of quarantine would have to be seeing everyone go to work or go to classes. You don't realize how much you count on those moments of socialization until it's taken away.

Chapter 9- Thanksgiving

On Friday November 27th I got released from quarantine. This works by you do the 14 days and then on day 15 you get a phone call from the city and you are released. I got my phone call around 9am. It was a 15-minute call where they go down a list of 20 plus possible Covid

symptoms and you have to verbally say yes or no to everyone. After that call you are free to go assuming you answer no to every symptom. I went to get a Covid test just to be safe even though they don't require it. I wasn't having any major symptoms but I had a little cough which I think is just due to weather change. Within 10 hours it came back negative and I was able to go home and spend some time with my family. My family and I celebrated thanksgiving on Friday so I was able to be there. It was small just one of my brothers, my Mom and Step-dad. My other brother and two step siblings live a plane ride away and didn't think It was safe to come home. We had a zoom call with everyone just to see how everyone was but zoom is never the same as being in person. Friday night we went over to my cousins house and had a bonfire outside just to be able to see everyone in a safe atmosphere. Black Friday wasn't really a thing this year, stores were still open and everything but due to state mandate you could have only 50% capacity and some only 25%. My mom and I went to two stores for only like an hour and that was all. Everything else we bought online. A lot of stores started their black Friday sales early in the week some even the week before.

Chapter 9- Back to work

I get to go back to work on Monday which is really exciting. When you are in quarantine you don't feel like your apart of the world. You're in your own little bubble. It honestly felt weird to be able to go out in public. When I was in quarantine I would go on walks outside and id wear my mask and all but you still just feel like you're doing something wrong. On Monday November 30th it was my first day back. It felt so good to be able to see the kids I've missed so much. At my work we have around 20 staff and eight of those 20 were out on quarantine the same time as me. Today is December 1st and I work in a few hours. It feels good to be back and in a routine. Most weeks I work four if not five days a week. I have to get an Antigen test twice a

week now so my roommate and I planned on going every Monday and Thursday morning. After our tests we then go to get lunch. The first week back at work was so much fun, I was in the classroom called "Rainforest" which is mostly three- and four-years old. It is so much to see the excitement in the kids eyes when they got to see me after a couple weeks off. The weekend of the 4-6th was fun but I also comes with the stress of the end of the semester.

Chapter 10- Last couple weeks

Today is Monday December 7th today marks only two weeks until the end of the semester. These next couple weeks will be busy. As a third year education major a lot of my finals are lesson plans. So, for finals this semester I have two exams, two lesson plans and two presentations. I like being able to have presentation or lesson plans because you get to work on things when you have time it's not a forced time. This week I have three major assignments due which is stressful but I keep on top of things pretty well so it should all work out hopefully stress free. I was able to get most of my work done last weekend as I work a lot this week and don't want to be stressed with timing. I would say that is one of my biggest strengths that I plan things out very well to avoid stress. Stress as a college student is unavoidable but I like to what I can to minimize it all. It is also hard not to stress when you see Covid all around you. My roommate just tested positive for Covid after being home for thanksgiving break. Luckily, she never came back to school so is during her quarantine at home. There is some in the future as they have two vaccines in the process. The issue with one of them is its two shots 6 weeks apart and after the shots you feel as though you have Covid for a few days. The CDC worries after people get the first shot and feel sick, they won't go back for the second shot and that then defeats the purpose of the vaccine. It is very frustrating when you go to a store or to get food and you see half the people going against state mandate and not wearing a mask or having it on but not over their

nose or mask. We are currently nine months in and sadly I wouldn't be surprised if we have another nine left.

Chapter 10- Plans

My plan for the upcoming weeks is to stay as stress free as possible. I work more hours these next couple weeks to make up for missing so much time over quarantine. It will be nice to work more but it does mean less time to focus on homework. My plan is to get most of my projects done today or tomorrow. Finish them up on Wednesday to be able to submit them by Friday. My two exams are on Monday for History 125 and Wednesday for CJ 201. My grade in CJ is really good and haven't struggled on the exams so am not worried about that exam. However, I am worried about my history final as I need it to boost my grade. After I submit all my project it will be 100% focus going to my history final. When finals are over I plan on going home Sunday the 20th. I was able to get two weeks off of work from the 21st to the 3rd. it will be nice to spend some time with my family. Over winter break I am taking a Sped 400 class which runs throughout January. I will be working full time at the daycare and living with two of my current three roommates. After that I have 3 semesters left until graduating. Its really exciting to be so close to the end but also so scary.