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COVID-19 Journal | Bonae Barrs

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March 30th, 2020

Day 1, Week 2 of Online Learning & Coronavirus Pandemic:

Last week my state and hometown of Carrollton, Georgia was placed on a stay at home order by governor Brian Kemp. The United States is now in the lead for most coronavirus cases, the high schools in Georgia have been shut down for a month, more than likely the rest of the year. My mental health is deteriorating being in the house so much, I'm on day 16 of quarantine and this was supposed to be only 14 days and now it has been extended until April 30th. yay. I moved out of my college dorm Saturday, it was very emotional to have the rest of my freshman year ripped away from me, but I know gods plan is bigger than mine. It breaks my heart for the seniors in college and highschool who won't get to have a graduation. I can't focus on my school work, and I see my work ethic declining day by day. This all sucks but I do have sympathy for the people who are dying from this disease.

On a more happier note, I have seen my community come together and more ways than imaginable. Students who are out of school for the month are still being fed by pick up locations in the community. People are visiting their elders in nursing homes through window panes to practice social distancing. Jobs are hiring nationwide to combat the loss of jobs due to coronavirus. This is the most I have ever seen the world come together.

March 31st, 2020

Day 2, Week 2 of Online Learning & Coronavirus Pandemic:

Today the United States had the most deaths from Coronavirus in one day. The social distancing rules have been extended 30 days. This is all so frustrating, I'm losing my mind at home and I miss normal life and my friends! Everything is closed.. even churches. Where is there to go? I think mental health is being shadowed upon. Staying in the house is not helping.

I really need a job to be able to afford school in the fall and if I don't start working soon I will not be able to save up enough. which sucks. but I know gods plan is bigger than mine.

On a happier note, I have regained my hobby of up cycling clothes and even went viral on tik tok for it, which was pretty amazing. Me and my family are bonding pretty well! It's just been really hard trying to find things to fill the time and another 30 days... ugh.

April 1st, 2020

Day 3, Week 2 of Online Learning & Coronavirus Pandemic

Happy April fools day! In reality, nothing about the world is funny. In fact, the world is in shambles. Georgia hasn't even reached the peak of coronavirus, it is scheduled for April 24th.. yikes. In other words, the weather is great and it is sunny and cool. I went for a walk today, probably gonna paint a little and then see what else my day brings! My mental health is a little better today although I am still struggling to find a job. The president ordered stimulus checks but if you are a college student whose parents use you as a dependent, then you do not get one. This breaks my heart because college students are one of the poorest population and we are being singled out.

On a more happier note, like I said my day was great! I've caught up in some assignments and I am beginning to get the hang of this online thing, hopefully that continues. If not, I know I'll be fine in the end! Georgia governor brian kemp just ordered all k-12 schools to close.. my heart breaks for the seniors in highschool

April 2nd, 2020

Day 4, week 2 online learning & coronavirus pandemic

Got out today for the first time! Went to the grocery store and boy was it great! I do feel very overwhelmed with work today because all my professors are asking for so much, and honestly even giving more work than they did than we were in person. Also found out all my summer classes will now be online, I'm kinda hurt because it worries me that since the entire summer term is online... what's gonna happen in August? Will we still be online? God I'm hoping not.

Me and some friends have been playing games online and checking on each other. I enjoyed the weather today. Only weird part of today was when I went to Walmart, they made everyone stay six feet apart with stickers on the ground.. this is getting serious. The death numbers double in one day those with cancer. this virus is worse than cancer and it may be possibly airborne.. omg.

April 3rd, 2020

Day 5, Week 2 online learning & coronavirus pandemic

Well Georgia got placed on a stay at home order from April 3rd- April 13th, which means only essential travel. Today was a good day though, super sunny and I ate my fav cfa, of course by curbside pickup. My only negative thing about today is that I feel like my professors are expecting more work than we even did in actual school and it sucks. Like hey a world pandemic is going, people are dying around us and the world is in shambles but here's 15 exams, 4 timed quizzes and 20 lecture videos! Good luck! But I have seen my grades improve oddly. Still searching for a job, I've applied everywhere and I plan on making some calls tomorrow. I went to the post office this morning and they had us stay 6 feet apart in line but other than that no MAJOR updates other than the same ole same ole.

April 4th, 2020

Day 6, Week 2 online learning & coronavirus pandemic

It was a great day! I sat at home all day and caught up on some Netflix shows and painted a little. I'm way too overwhelmed with the stress of school to do any of it over the weekend so I have not. My theatre teacher posted an extra credit assignment to where we get to record our daily lives in quarantine so I recorded that which was pretty fun.

I have a huge urge to go to the beach, but that's definitely not going to happen for awhile. Me and a friend did a zoom video chat yesterday and we were talking about how the coronavirus pandemic thing is being blown out of proportion and how the media is using scare tactics by not reporting the positive that is going on. The survival rate is higher than the death rate, but of course nobody's reporting that.

April 5th, 2020

Day 7, week 2 online learning & coronavirus pandemic

Pretty chill day, went to Home Depot and Walmart. Everyone has a mask because the CDC recommends now that all Americans wear masks. I refuse to wear one, because honestly I don't think the virus is something you can run from. If coronavirus wants you, it will get you. My grandparents on the other hand have been all covered up and following all safety measures which I am very happy about! I'm going to do some theatre extra credit today and some English work and call it a day.

April 6th, 2020

Day 8, week 3 online learning & coronavirus pandemic

today was my breaking day. I live in a toxic household where I am constantly belittled and being forced to be back home has taken it's

control over me. I got some assignments done today, I'm still struggling with money and finding a job. Today was all around horrible, school is stressing me out and life. I just want to go back to my little four walled peaceful dorm. College was my escape. Now I can't escape

On to coronavirus news, this week is peak week and when we are supposed to see a surge in cases so that should be horrible. I just want life back normal again.. obviously that's too much to ask for. My mental health is taking a huge hit because of this.

April 7th, 2020

Day 9, week 3 of online learning & coronavirus pandemic

I've cried so much today I have a headache. I'm so tired of not having a job, and the expenses keep adding up. There has been a decline in deaths, so maybe this will all be over soon. Today I realized that I do need to get back into counseling so I took the initiative to apply for health insurance and gonna set up an appointment to get on some antidepressants!

As far as politics goes, there was not anything major about today. We are in peak week, nothing too bad so far. Jsu finally got a new grading policy, but we don't even get it until after the semester is over, which kinda doesn't make sense bc we are still going to be stressed out because we still have to take our classes! ugh!

April 8th, 2020

Day 10, week 3 of online learning & corona

I've never been so overwhelmed in my life. I found out I may not be able to afford school in the fall, I can't find a job, I keep getting migraines. I have two whole projects due next week that I can't even focus on. Things keep piling up. Georgia Governor Brian Kemp extended staying at home until April 30th. This all sucks.

I will never take normal life for granted. I miss it. I just wanna be able to go to the beach and feel the waves and the heat against my skin. Scrolling through social media is getting really boring, I'm losing my mind. I live in a very toxic household and that don't help either

April 10th, 2020

Day 12, week 3 of online learning & corona.

So I decided to take a "mental health" day and that is why I missed yesterday's journaling. It definitely helped going away from assignments and the expectations of life for just a entire day. I did some bible journaling and prayed for healing of the world. I'm still looking for a job, but I have faith that god will provide me with the rest of the money I need for fall semester so I'm putting it in his hands.

So far, the coronavirus is apparently targeting African American people at alarming rates which is pretty odd to hear. It breaks my heart that it is hurting all people, but it definitely hurts to see it affect a population that has already been through so much .

April 11th, 2020

Day 13, week 3 online learning & corona

Today was great! I started on the numerous projects I have to do, which kind of sucks that the workload is getting heavier during a world pandemic. The CDC is now recommending we wear masks, but it's Georgia law that a mask is a misdemeanor but they are freezing that law for now.

I haven't been out the house in a couple of days, right now I'm focusing on finding a job and saving up for the fall semester. There is a lot of many unanswered questions but I know everything is chaotic and answers will be rolling in soon!

April 12th, 2020

Day 14, week 3 online learning & corona

Wow, I have been doing this for two weeks now haha. This upcoming week is the last full week of classes yay, then I get about a week break until summer classes start. Luckily, I am only taking two and they are pretty simple and I'm sure the coronavirus will be dying down by then .. or atleast I hope.

It's really weird not being in church on Easter, but I have been watching sermons and such on the television screen. It's funny how there used to be this huge debate about how technology is ruining our brains but look at us now .. all relying on technology .

April 13th, 2020

Day 15, week 3 online learning & corona

Today was great, This time off has really given me some time to grow closer to god and closer to my family and friends. I have had a lot of reflection time and for that I am thankful. Last night we had tornadoes which brought some damage across the south. Which sucks we are in the middle of a pandemic and now we are getting tornadoes!

Other than that, life is great and I'm very happy with life. I'm still looking for a job but I have faith I will get one soon! Can't rush things that aren't in gods plan for me.

April 14th, 2020

I officially don't know what week or day it is

Yesterday Brian kemp announced he has zero plans to lift the stay at home order that was scheduled to end April 30th. Great more time at home, and that's so exciting. As a introvert, this is pretty easy and my only worry right now is getting a job because I really need the money for the fall semesters

But, life is good at the moment and I just want all this to be over sooner than later and hopefully the hotter it gets outside the more it goes away.

April 15th, 2020

My day was good, no updates on the corona. Donald Trump announced today that states can start making plans as to when they want to open their states back up! Woohoo! I had a rush of energy today so I took that for mmy advantage and finished an ENTIRE project, I am so proud of myself.

I have gotten more productive with each passing day, and im so happy about that I am also loving life more than ever, I have had an urge to find a way to serve people in my community but that is still in the works.

April 16th, 2020

Wooohooo Donald trump announced today that he is beginning a reopening plan for America! We are going to test it out in phases and see what happens. This makes me happy because life as we know it, will be back soon. I found a job offer but I'm not sure because it is a lot of work but it will help me have the money I need for fall semester

Other than that, their is not much to report on the coronavirus other than that AMAZING news. I'm kind of sad the semester is coming to an end too, it was a crazy one, but one to remember.

April 17th, 2020

States started to reopen today, Florida opened some of their beaches. My county went viral for a racist tik tok video being made which is embarrassing because it does not mirror how my county is. It seems like all the coronavirus stuff is finally coming to an end!!

Of course my heart breaks for the almost millions of lives lost, but I know they are in a better place! America is so much stronger than COVID-19 and we are showing that with our daily fight.

April 19th, 2020

Hey y'all, So people are protesting the stay at home orders because of COVID. Oddly, trump calls them "great people" yet they are ignoring all social distancing protocols through protesting. NOW nursing homes are being required to report deaths of corona to the CDC, again oddly they were not in the first place.

In regards to life, I have joined a virtual girls community, and met 300 girls from around the world! We had our first online worship service today and that was great, through this quarantine I have learned to

become closer to the lord and avoid all temptations. In regards to my job search, I have applied at walmart so we will see where that goes!

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April 21st,2020

Georgia Governor announced today that hes going to begin reopening barbers, nail salons and tattoo shops beginning friday, this is completely crazy and restaurants are authorized to reopen dine in services on monday. This is so bizarre that the entire world is mad at our state and corporations have already announced plans to not reopen. Even Donald Trump announced that he did not agree with Brian Kemps plans, and thought it was too early which it is.

In regards to life, Walmart is having a mass job hiring event on friday so this is my chance to stop stressing about money and hopefully get a job. The bad part is that I will now be an essential worker, but it will help me with affording college in the fall. That is the reality of this whole COVID thing, people are sacrificing their lives to make a living.

April 23rd, 2020

24 hours until Georgia reopens, wow this is crazy. Trump recommended that we “ingest bleach or lysol” products to tackle the virus and has faced extreme backlash due to this. Even lysol had to release a statement saying not to do that, and how it was completely absurd. The deaths from COVID-19 continue to rise at an alarming rate. In recent weeks, trump has also tried to limit the number of immigrants coming into our state.

In regards to life, I got the job at walmart! So that will give me more time to save up and pay for fall and summer classes. I am really excited about getting to work in my community on the grocery side of the fight against COVID-19. Serving others has always been my passion and I have been wanting to find a way to help during the

pandemic, so here I am working in one of the most vulnerable places to be at right now, a grocery store.

April 25th, 2020

Well.. Georgia is open. Cases are rising. People are packed on the roads. Finals have begun, I passed them all so far so that's good! The news about coronavirus is kinda starting to die down so that's good news. Although the cases are rising, I think coronavirus is our new normal and something we are going to have to deal with.

As far as life goes, I have been training at Walmart and it's been fun. A little crazy and hectic considering we still are in a pandemic although it doesn't really feel like it.

April 27th, 2020

Well this past month has been a huge time of change for my life! Coronavirus has been crazy, and it still continues even past the date of this journal. I think you can definitely see my roller coaster of emotions throughout this journal and it has been fun having something to document my feelings through.

As far as life goes, I guess I can say I'm officially done with sophomore year!! finals are over and life is set towards going back in the fall! Hopefully we get a football season, and then we will be back together screaming : goooo gamecocks!!

April 28th, 2020

Last coronavirus journal! Well, Alabama decided to implement a "safer at home" order to protect the citizens of Alabama. The news is dying down about corona, and it's almost like the corona is becoming as common as the flu. Some business are of course, choosing not to open. I finished the

semester with all A's again, which is crazy considering how historic this semester has been. Spring 2020 will go down in history and is something I will tell my kids about. Something I will tell my students about. I can't wait.

Background Info:

My name is Bonae Barrs and I was a freshman secondary English education major during the COVID-19 pandemic of 2020. I spent most of my quarantine in Carrollton, GA. The things I discussed in my journal was a raw uncut whirlwind of my emotions going through the COVID-19 pandemic, I think this will serve as a eye opener to whoever reads this in the future.