



Story From

Behind

The Mask

Mask

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March 2020 - August 2020

At the beginning of the pandemic, I wasn't nervous. I was pretty excited because I got to go to North Carolina with my grandparents for a week. A song that made me even more excited was *Ophelia* by The Lumineers. But a week turned into a month, and a month turned into half a year. And the worst part was my parents were back in New York. So I was apart from both my parents for half a year which I hated. My mom also works at Upstate hospital and treated people with COVID so I had to worry about her getting COVID and my dad's a cop so I had to worry about him getting COVID. A song I listened to that helped comfort me was *Magic* by Yung Gravy. (Some swear words). I was terrified and anxious. I was experiencing not being able to leave the house for anything, watching the news and wondering how many people died and how much are diagnosed every day. It hurt watching people one by one slowly grow weaker and weaker. If I had to be honest, I thought my mom was going to get very sick and get too weak. I was positive she was going to die due to how fast COVID was spreading and her being exposed to it every single day. But thank god, she didn't. My whole family is all safe and no one has gotten diagnosed with COVID yet! A song I listened to a lot is called *Nothin' On You* by B.o.B and Bruno Mars.

September 2020 - May 2021

For school, I was pretty excited to be going back to school. I was listening to *Homesick* by Kane Brown quite a lot cause I could relate to it a little. I was really excited to see all my friends. We did three days home and two days at school but I was pretty happy with online schooling because I got to sleep in. I just missed seeing my friends in person. I was pretty anxious that the school was going to get shut down again though. When I was feeling anxious I listened to *Bones* by Galantis and One Republic. I didn't want to have to go back to being scared that my mom or dad was going to get COVID. Once I got further into the school year, I started getting bored of school again and wanted summer to come. I didn't like waking up early or having to communicate with my teachers through a computer screen. I am pretty hopeful that we are going to end the school year with a high note. I just hope I don't get quarantined before it. The school year was a little messed up but everyone worked through it. I got switched classes few times but I met more people and I like change. When I was sad, the song *Astronaut in the Ocean* by Masked Wolf helped me feel better.

June 2021 - September 2020

Right now there are only a few more weeks until school ends. Once it ends I am going to go camping with friends and family. Mask guidelines are starting to get lifted and slowly everything is going back to normal. A song I've listened to a lot is *Good 4 U* by Olivia Rodrigo.

The more people who get the vaccine the more normal the world is. I hope the Corona virus is gone by next year so I can move up to eighth grade without wearing masks. Some more songs I listen to a lot are *Pumped up kicks* by Foster the People and *Look What God Gave Her* by Thomas Rhett. It is so hard to breathe in the masks and its worse when it get humid out. I am hopeful coronavirus will be gone by next year. Im worried that coronavirus is going to rapidly spread again and we are going to have to do all the quarantine stuff all over again.