

AGE 9-12 WINNING ENTRY
WEIGHT OF THE WORLD
BY LYRA L. AGE 12



Businessman

Why? Why did the corona virus just happen to come along? Why did my business have to be in the tourist industry? Why do I have three young children to feed and clothe? Why does my partner have such a low paid job? Why does this apartment cost so much to live in? All questions that trouble me. Questions that I never thought I'd be asking, but now that I have no income, become questions I ask myself every day. But I'm going to work as hard as I possibly can, so my family and I survive this.

Prime Minister/President

I know others say they know how hard it must be to run a country, but do they really know? No. I don't think they do. Having to make big decisions that affect the country. Keeping on the good side of the country's people, politics and media. Then do all that during a pandemic! Whatever you do, people complain. I try so hard. But no. They still complain. People buying all the toilet paper in a panic - isn't that the silliest thing you've ever heard? It's not like there isn't any food. Even though I sometimes feel like giving up, I know I can't since the country's fate is in my hands. So, I will keep working as hard as I can until this is all over.

Stay at home parent

I wish I could just sleep, then wake to find my children have been magically whisked away for the day, and there are maids and servants doing all the cooking and housework, and one comes in with a cup of coffee in a china cup just for me and all day I could just do what I wanted to do. But those are only wishes.

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Instead I'm stuck at home by myself with a crying baby, two primary school aged children and a grumpy teenager. Remote learning is very hard. Very. I have to sit with my primary schoolers and help them with everything. Keep my teen motivated (which includes confiscating the phone which causes great upset and more grumpiness). And still have to keep an eye on the baby, cook and do housework. I just feel like collapsing, but that's not an option during Covid19.

Me

When I first heard of the coronavirus in China, I had no clue that it would end up in Australia and become a global pandemic. It's been difficult. Sometimes money is a problem, but it's much more of a problem for others. I struggle to make decisions sometimes, but I know some people have much harder decisions to make. I get overwhelmed now and then, but it's much more overwhelming for others. It's been the craziest world event that's happened in years. But we have got to stay stoic. Stay strong. Take things as they come. Maintain hope. And remember that nothing lasts forever.

The End.



BECAUSE OF COVID
BY JASPER L. AGE 9



Now the fires are out,
The air grows cold.
Sitting at home on a device,
Doing your school work.
Because of Covid.

Slowly and lonely,
Swinging on a swing.
No more playdates,
Playing Solitaire.
Because of Covid.

Looking out the window,
Watching the clouds roll past.
No planes in sight,
The air is clean.
Because of Covid.

Behind the couch,
Full of soft toys.
Building cubbies with your sisters,
Reconnected.
Because of Covid.



BECAUSE OF COVID
BY JASPER L. AGE 9



Out come the family,
Monopoly in their hands.
As you sit round the table,
You feel happy.
Because of Covid.

In the morning,
Your mum comes in.
Rise and shine,
It's time for school again.
Because of Covid.

Back at school,
With all your friends.
Washing your hands,
A million times a day.
Because of Covid.

Wearing masks,
When not at home.
The numbers go up,
Remote Learning again,
Because of Covid.

Wondering how long,
Until the virus has gone.



A DISEASE IN A FAIRYTALE

BY IRENE J. AGE 11



Five months ago, in a distant and magical land. Filled with dragons, witches, fairies and gnomes. A very terror striking disease spread. Everyone failed their courage to go outside their home, children didn't play in the streets anymore. Panic stricken citizens refused to work for the king. The royal doctors and healers didn't know a cure. Magical potions seemed to be wrong, a flick of a wand and an enchantment spoken didn't do any good. Everyone was in pain, suffering souls cried in agony.

The illness spread out from kingdom to kingdom. The magicians across the world were mystified, no one could solve this problem. Soon everyone in the world stayed close to their homes, no one went to shows or circuses anymore. The few who were seen were there for essential requirements, they covered their faces and kept distances. The towns, market places and theatres were abandoned. Word was sent from the king that citizens are not be seen in public without covering their faces. The bakers, florists and librarians lost their jobs. No fairy born, young witch or wizard went to school anymore. Their noble teachers sent scrolls guarded by protection spells to homes of the children. The children could still continue their learning, only in an unfamiliar way. Religious ceremonies were cancelled. Grandparents couldn't hug their beloved grandchildren anymore.



A DISEASE IN A FAIRYTALE
BY IRENE J. AGE 11



Washing hands with magical water and going outside wearing safety guaranteed shawls, were the routine. No one dared break these rules for fear of the virus. Children sent letters guarded by safety charms, trying to stay in contact with their friends.

On one gloomy day as the cases increased, the king decided to make a royal announcement. "Loyal citizens, on these very tragic days as disaster strikes, let us stay together and fight against this."

One day a witch from the Southern Hills ran from her cottage in the woods all the way to the royal palace. The guards were too slow to the happy witch with a victorious smile on her face. You would be pleased to know that she didn't huff or puff or pant, as she reached the wide and tall doors of the castle. "Your wonderful and kind Majesties," bowed the witch. "Yes, Grace the Great of the Gnome Woods," replied the king. "I am pleased to tell you that I think I might have just found the right potion for this world wide dilemma," Grace announced.

The king and queen were more than glad to hear this news, it was music to their ears. Grace showed them her invention, it sputtered and hissed like an active volcano. They made no haste to try out this potion. It was tested, but not with even results. Grace was shocked, she snapped her fingers and returned to her cottage to work on her potion again. The kingdom and the world waited for Grace. And they still continue to, hoping to this day for a medicine to cure them all.

The End.



MY CHANGING WORLD

BY JOE K. AGE 10



What a weird time! It was a real roller-coaster ride living in such a small space with the four of us. I am grateful that I have a place to live in while my house is being built. However, this also brought in many challenges. When someone comes to my house, we always joke about if they want a tour of it because it's so small. It was a juggling act trying to find our own space in our house. It was very hard because we needed a place to work, eat, play and relax.

I had to battle with my brother to get space and privacy and it was a real challenge with him being two years older than me. My learning space was a small coffee table next to the couch and my brothers was on our extremely small dining table. Every day during home school, I would wake up early and go straight to the laptop that I was working on and start the work assigned for me. I would try to get all my work done quickly enough to catch up with friends later in the day.

My private space to do my own things were my bed, a quarter of the couch and outside on my bicycle. The big advantage of lockdown was that it brought my family closer together. We went on many more walks and bike rides as a family. We also really enjoyed the fact that our favourite restaurants home delivered. I absolutely love watching movies at the cinemas because it is such a great experience. Unfortunately for me, the theatres were all shut down! I even have some movie tickets from Christmas and my birthday still just sitting around, waiting to be used. Luckily, all the new movies coming out are on Stan, Netflix and Disney+, which are all streaming services that I have at my house.

My world has changed quite a lot during the COVID crisis. Despite the ups and downs, I've been able to find many positives in the whole experience. Hopefully we will all be out of this soon.