

*"The Quarantine"*  
*By Tevonte Ammons*

The COVID-19 pandemic was the largest economic crash in history since the Great Depression. Sounds terrible to me; I'm not sure how you all feel about it. I got through the indubitably boring quarantine thanks to both people and places.

One wise person who supported and informed me during the pandemic period is my dear mother. She taught me the ways of the pandemic, such as wearing a mask and maintaining social distance. She also made me feel secure and safe during quarantine. While I was initially scared, I soon grew accustomed to this new world. She would reassure me whenever I felt scared that the pandemic would eventually pass. Though it's hard to not be able to do everything I used to do. I always saw my mom going out and working and I just thought "If she can do it, I can too!" I'm glad my mom helped me stay sane during quarantine. Who knows what I would've done if she wasn't there?

One of my most appalling memories from the pandemic is the time when my grandma contracted the virus herself. I was petrified. I didn't know what would happen and if she would be okay. It was a big shock to the family. My grandmother has always been the one to spoil me and make me happier even during my saddest times. Not seeing her was hard and it worried me. Every day I would just sit there and wonder "Will she make it? I called numerous times to check up on her. She was sick for about 2 weeks and she finally got better. Relief spread through the family as we were glad she was okay. Thankfully, she lived to see 2021.

The top-secret place I've been sustained by is... well, I can't tell you it's a secret. Fine, if you must know, I'll tell you. It's a secret grotto in which I do everything, my room. It sustained me because I have everything I need in there. I have my bed, tv, and all my school supplies. I rarely leave my room unless it's to eat! For example, have you ever wanted a snack but can't eat in your room? Well, I can't imagine how you feel because I even have snacks in my room. My room gives me a sense of security and freedom from responsibilities such as noisy siblings who can be demanding. My room is truly amazing and it has and will sustain me through the pandemic. I bet you all are bursting with jealousy by now.

I was also sustained by my amazing kitchen during the pandemic. Yes, the kitchen. Because it has fed me through these tough times and I am eternally grateful for it. My dad would supply it with riches such as rice, chicken, macaroni, salami, and my favorite: ramen noodles. Being the only place I go besides my room, it's special to me in its own way. I always cherish the ramen I was able to whip up in the kitchen. It was very delectable if I do say so myself.

To conclude this tale, I leave you this. The connection and bonds between people are unbreakable. Especially during these kinds of times, they will never wane. Places need to be appreciated too; enjoying hideaways are a great way to experience life and be yourself. That will conclude this tale. *For now.*