

## Saved

Covid-19 is the first pandemic I've experienced. The transition from in-person classes to online was a major change. Part of me was happy to no longer go to school, and all I thought was "yes! This will be so easy". But I was wrong. Schools, stores, malls, and theme parks were closing down. There was a curfew set to avoid socializing. I was never one to socialize anyways, so I had no issue with it. As Covid began to spread and mortality rates were rising, that's when reality began to hit. No one I knew personally died from Covid. However, seeing and hearing the sadness from families around the world, was heartbreaking. My local mosque and funeral home were full of bodies. There were freezer trucks outside of the mosque to temporarily store bodies as there was no more space inside the funeral home. It was even more difficult during this time to bury bodies as soon as possible, as graveyards were daily preparing for multiple burials. Being confronted with all of this, it's a constant reminder that death can happen at any time and life is only a journey. For those who were affected by Covid-19 and were saved, just like me, it's a true blessing to be alive. This experience strengthened my faith as a Muslim, and it most definitely brought me closer to God. Instead of being excited to stay at home for the wrong reasons, such as not going to school, I learned to appreciate all that I have, including my loved ones. Life is precious and we must do good and spread kindness.