

## « War diary »

We are at war.

That is what the president Emmanuel Macron said.

Enemy? Covid 19, he has already killed 180 000 person on this planet.

The expedition at the market is one of the most dangerous one.

Obligation to wear a surgical mask, don't touch people, just take what you need. And the most important after coming back home wash your hands for a long time.

We are at war.

Schools are closed.

Teachers take the advantage of it and assault us with an amount of homework every weeks. The parents should deal with their kids and the kids should deal with their parents.

That's hard.

An unexpected thing? My 3 brothers and I get along very well.

We are ally in this war.

We are at war.

I can't think straight anymore.

This lockdown drives me crazy.

What I'm doing right now? Sipping my tea.

What is the Coronavirus doing right now? Killing people.

That's not for nothing that we are in quarantine, WE ARE AT WAR.

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DAY ??? (I have long since forgotten)

We are at War. Since this damn disease has been spread in the world, the number of death doesn't stop to increase. Hospitals are overwhelmed, governments are in crisis and do not know how to fight against this plague touching the whole World. Scientists are searching for a way to fight the disease but till now they have not succeeded. We all know anyway that this will take time and mainly money.

The containment imposed by the government is impacting on my everyday mood. Day after day locked out in the locker room that I call home. Maybe I should be selfish thinking that way and should consider doctors and nurses, being in the front line, putting themselves in danger, fighting the disease body and soul, days and nights without stumbling. I should consider myself lucky not being in their position.

« Wash your hands, wear a mask and move out only if it is strictly necessary » these are the government's instructions. Instructions yet so simple, yet so hard for some people. « Show good citizenship » they say « let's fight this evil together »; « STAY at home », speeches without any sense for some people I can see, walking on the street, from my window.

Suddenly I have a thought. Isn't it ironic? I'm just a hermit staying daylong at home. To give a dramatic dimension to my story I will say « The Hermite, I am, spends the days avoiding contact with anyone in the darkness of his tiny home ». Anyway, what I am writing now should be kind of useless as I will be the only one to read it. I say it is ironic because I usually go out a couple times a year only. Isn't it a typical human reaction to prefer things they don't have?

I am becoming insane. Days are moving on and my mind is moving down. Let's just dream. If somebody reads about the state of mind of the hermit I am, this could help me to become a well known writer just like Lewis Carol... no, just thinking about that proves my insanity...

If... if... and if again..., are this only words that we can't hear from the government, medias and scientists. If the containment..., if the Chloroquine, if... and if... again and always if... without any valid answers. I'm tired of the media repeating the same thing again and again just to raise their popularity.

They are always trying to dig out precious nuggets of information. The truth is that nothing new has been said by them.

My only hobby lately is to write and this makes me feel good... so, here I am, alone, talking to my diary, just like a little girl talking about her boring life to the only things willing to listen to her. Anyway this poor dairy has no choice.

To end my daily report, I will say that in reality, I know that I don't know anything and I don't pretend. To quote Sartre « I know that I know nothing ». One thing I know is that no one knows what tomorrow will bring.

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**March 16th 2020.** “We are at war”. That’s the word of our president. War. But a war like no others. A war against an invisible enemy. A war without weapons. Except if hydroalcoholic gel and social distancing are considered as weapons... In January, we discovered the existence of a new virus, the “Coronavirus”, or Covid-19. It appeared in Wuhan, China. I think we underestimated its power. That’s a simple virus. It will not come to France. A simple virus can’t block an entire country. But the virus came closer and closer, extend larger and larger. And with him, the virus spread fear. Italy. And now France. The number of people affected by the virus grow. On Thursday 12th of march, Emmanuel Macron announced the closing of all schools, high schools and universities starting today. On Saturday, the Prime minister announced the closing of all restaurants, bars and all non- essential shops. And things started to feel more concrete, more real. But even with the recommendations of the government, people continue to live a normal life: going out together in the park, shake hands, go in crowded markets... I think we don’t realize, including me, the impact that can have this Covid-19. Today, the president made a speech and announced the quarantine. From tomorrow at 12am, we can’t leave our house except for doing essential shopping, for those who can’t work from home, for sanitary reason, for a family urgency, and individual physical activity. Let’s see how it will work.

**March 17th 2020.** The containment starts today. Since the president’s speech, a lot of Parisians left their flat to join their family or go in their secondary house to pass a better quarantine. To be honest, I would do the same if I was studying in Paris, but I would have left during the week end. Because now, the train stations are overcrowded, which is perfect for coronavirus expansion. If we want to go out, we have to fill a travel certificate with the date and the reason of our exit. If not we will be fined.

**March 24th 2020.** It’s been one week since the beginning of the quarantine. I think that the majority of french people respect the rules. But in every media, we see unbelievable scenes. A crowded street of joggers, people kissing and shaking hands... And in front of that, all the medical staff is submerged by the entrance of too many patients. For my part, the quarantine is doing well. I spend my time by working from home, read, watching movies and series.

**April 2nd 2020.** 4 billions of people are confined in the world. This whole situation is unbelievable. France, Europe, World are in pause. Submerged by the situation. Covid-19 have the advantage on this sanitary war. This virus is not only about health crisis, he caused an economical crisis and impacted everything. Every industry, every company, every life. But there are good points about this. People are developing their creative side. I found myself watching new funny or innovative concepts on Instagram or Youtube. Also, I think that we realize the hard work of the medical staff, when we applaud them at 8 pm every day.

**April 25th 2020.** It’s been more than 1 month since the beginning of the quarantine. I’m not very regular in writing on this diary but I guess that’s because the days look like each other. About the situation in France, the number of coronavirus cases give us hope. The end of the containment is planned for may 11. I almost never get bored, I have always something to do. Homework, reading, going out in the garden, I even started drawing and writing a little! The only things I miss are my friend and family. If someone told me one day that I will miss high school... But now that’s true! I miss human relations in real life. Hopefully, we have Internet and smart phones so we can call each others!

**May 7th 2020.** Today the prime minister confirmed some points about the end of quarantine. Monday 11th of May, we can go outside and shops will open again. But we have to be careful and wear a mask. For me, the “after quarantine” is more stressful than the quarantine. I think it’s going to be really weird to see again our friends and family with a lot of precautions. But, during quarantine, we discovered, more than ever, how to share love by Facetime and chatting. Now, we will learn how to share love behind mask and with social distancing! It make me a little bit anxious but let’s see how it will works! I hope there will not be a “second wave” of the virus, and that we will get back to a “normal life” soon enough. It will take a lot of time and energy and we are not at the end of this crisis. But we have to keep hoping, supporting each other and being careful. That’s all we can do for now. Hope, support, be careful. That’s our only weapons.

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"We are at war." This is what he said. "We are at war". It was exactly on March 16, 2020. "We are at war." Are we ? It does not look like war. At least, it does not look like all the past wars. There are no battlefields, no confrontations, no blood, no terrific noises or an apocalyptic atmosphere which make all of us feel like if we were at the end of the time. I always thought that if I would live a war this one would not last more than three days because our technologies are so powerful that the Earth would burst. But we are at war, and nothing of this kind happened. It may be because we are not fighting other humans. We are fighting something invisible, something we never fought by the past. So, necessarily, we do not use the same strategy as before. But if we think about it we find resemblance. There are leaders who tell us what to do, the politicians helped by the health professionals. There are soldiers which are fighting on the front line, the health care personnel. There are some factories adapting their productions, to produce masks or hand sanitizers. There are the civilians who can't fight but try to help the best they can, by staying home. And there are a lot of deaths. It is a war.

It is kind of crazy to think about it, because where I am I do not feel the war. I am well, my family too. I have quiet and calm days. I enjoy the time to study, of course, but also to do things that I did not have the time to do before. And I thought that it can be interesting to make a quarantine diary. However not a diary which would contain only what I do of my days given that they are almost all the same. But a diary in which I will tell my feelings, my reflection and why not my reflections on my feelings. Because it is what is the most impacted in this event. Sooo, let's go !

Today I feel good, like the most of the days. Sometimes I feel a bit sad, but it is principally when I do not do something special and I just lose myself in my thinking about what it is happening, or when we are watching something about it like news or beautiful songs. And it does not last a long time because the songs are about three minutes. And I do not really pay attention to the news because it is painful to hear them, so I often do something else at the same time, like playing games or do puzzles. It softens the fall.

I made the most of the quarantine to do things I did not have time to do before. So I am playing music an hour everyday (and I am singing all days long:). I am doing puzzles at the moment of the breakfast and at the tea-time sometimes. I read and play games more than I could do before. I watch almost one movie every night, whereas I used to watch two movies in a month on average. And the new things is that I am drawing Disney characters thanks to tutorials made by the Disney's animators. It is really fun, I am having good days.

I think there is a link between my feelings and my days (and maybe the weather too but we are in Normandy so I will not match my feelings on the weather...). I am good because during all the day I am losing myself in an imaginary world. To quote the Cheshire's Cat, of [Alice in Wonderland](#) by Lewis Carroll : "Imagination is the only weapon in the war against reality". To me, this citation has more sense than ever.

But no matter the weather, there is a weird sensation which is a kind of fear or anxiety. To me, it is because we are living something we do not know. It means that we do not have control over it. And it scares me to know that we are going somewhere, but we do not know where. I fear the unknown, and I think I am not the only one. And you know, when something bad happens, we principally consider all the apocalyptic possibilities and forget that things can end well, even if happy endings do not exist as in fairy tales.

I'm not completely losing hope that the world can get better. Meanwhile, I am waiting. I am waiting to see how thing will go on. And I try to do my best to get things better, at my scale.

It is a crazy situation when we think about it. So I will stop to think about it too much. As we say, we have to get by as best we can. And I want to enjoy every day the life gives me :)

## « War diary »

March 16 / D - 1 of lockdown: "We are at war" said the president Emmanuel Macron during his speech. Today is officially the first day of the "war" against the Covid-19/Coronavirus. As of tomorrow, at 12 we will be restricted in our movements outside of our homes. We'll must have a derogatory travel certificate when we'll move and will have to be in ones of these following cases (these following informations are taken on the French government website): brief trips, within the limit of one hour daily and within a maximum radius of one kilometer around the home for the physical activity (like jogging, walking, street workout...) or the needs of pets; consultations and care that cannot be provided remotely; travel for family reasons; assistance to vulnerable people or childcare; judicial or administrative summons; participation in missions of general interest at the request of the administrative authority; travel between the home and the place of the professional activity, when they are essential for the exercise of activities which cannot be organized in the form of telework; travel to purchase supplies necessary for professional activity or to purchase basic necessities (food or medications). Moreover, every students and teachers from primary school to college will must telework.

March 17 / D 0 of lockdown: It is officially the beginning of the quarantine. Everything is setting up : students start working at home, people are emptying stores (especially pasta's shelves). Today I started working at home like every other student but I also prepared myself to the "war". Therefore, I went to my garage to take my airsoft rifles, reload them and be ready (we never know).

March 23 / D 7 of lockdown: Borders are locked. The number of deaths due to the Coronavirus is still increasing. The elderly people are the ones who are the weakest against this disease, so sadly there are a lot of deaths in retirement homes.

March 30 / D 14 of lockdown: I have a lot of free time and I realized that I could use it to improve myself, so I started to work out at home three times a week and I also started eating better.

April 6 / D 21 of lockdown: After three weeks of lockdown there are still more deaths every day. The news are endlessly repeating the same things every day, even if it is important I don't always want to hear sad things.

April 13 / D 28 of lockdown: I still had too much time to spend so I started to learn a new language. Today at 8 p.m., our president spoke. He said that the lockdown had to continue until the 11<sup>th</sup> of May. Moreover, United States have become the country the most affected by the Covid-19 with tens of thousands of deaths per day. New York city became a ghost city. Big Apple is unrecognizable. The footage of the town are really impressive, very famous touristic spots as Times Square, Chinatown are empty.

April 20 / D 35 of lockdown: France is going bad. People are afraid of an economic crisis. The debt of the France is getting bigger very fast and we hit record rates of unemployment.

April 26 / D 41 of lockdown: Today the Minister of National Education said that the French written exam will not happen. It kind of make me happy because I was very bad in French. The same day a viral video was posted. It is a video where you can see people dancing on a square. I think that people are really getting bored of the lockdown.

May 1<sup>st</sup> / D 46 of lockdown: After 46 days of lockdown, I have eat my last pasta. I can't go to the supermarket. I don't know what I am gonna do...

May 8<sup>th</sup> / D 53 of lockdown: I don't know what is happening to me. I think that I am starting to have some hallucinations because of the lack of food.