

Title: COVID-19: The Bad, The Good, and The Heroic
Author: Chris Pappas

Zine Printing Details: Digital printing on paper
4 pages, 8.5 inches by 11 inches
2020

Texture: This zine is printed on one page that is folded in half to create four pages. The paper is glossy, and smooth and flexible to the touch.

General Description: This zine is a three-page colourful digital collage assembled from photographs and other images during the first year of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Page 1: The Bad

Clockwise around the edges of the page are images from the time of the COVID-19 lockdown: a hazard street sign that says “TRUMP,” a photo of Trump, a bag of groceries crossed out by X marks, a crowded protest in a park with people holding Trump signs, a person in a hazmat suit spraying a sidewalk, a sign on chalkboard that reads “WARNING: School Closed,” and students wearing masks sitting distanced in a classroom. In the centre of the page is a dark human silhouette against a purple haze background.

Page 2: The Good

At the top of the page are painted blue letters reading “Home” with a wooden heart over top. Below are three photos of birds: Rainy, a fluffy green conure, looks away from the camera; Sunny, a yellow cockatiel with orange cheeks and tuft of tall feathers atop her head; and Halle, a parrotlet with the classic “pirate pal” colouring of a green body, light yellow belly, and brown head. Below is an image of a syringe that reads, “Vaccines as global public goods” and a photograph of US President Joe Biden at a podium waving in front of American flags.

Page 3: The Heroic!

The first of three images on this page is taken from The Flash TV show, with an array of colourful superhero side characters standing beside the titular character. Flash wears skin-tight, red leather superhero garb that conceals most of his face. The second image is taken from the TV show Supergirl. Supergirl wears a thick, blue superhero suit with a shiny gold belt and red cape. A faded array of side characters (some human, some alien) surround her. The final image is a photograph of a homemade Infinity Gauntlet (superhero glove) that Chris Pappas made.

Back Cover: Artist’s Statement

Text Reads: Chris Pappas is a student at George Brown College. He enjoys creating random crafts, building all types of Lego, and watching Marvel, Star Wars, and DC movies and TV shows. Chris loves animals, and that's why his birds are presented in his submission.

My experience of COVID-19 as an Autistic person has been challenging. In making this work, I wanted to convey that COVID-19 has made me feel uncomfortable. Going for a walk or to the store makes me feel unsafe. I created this piece using Canva to let others know how I feel.

Page 1: The pictures in this zine page represent everything that I believe is bad right now. They show a number of changes in the world that are bad, like the school changes, difficulty getting food, and how politics have affected everything as well.

Page 2: I added pictures of my birds, Sunny the Cockatiel and Rainy the conure to Canva because I have known them ever since I was in private school years ago and I have loved them ever since then. They are helping me get through this crisis. Sunny likes to sing and Rainy likes to stay quiet and snuggle.

I added the picture of my third bird, the parrotlet named Halle because I have had her since junior school and I love her. She has helped me stay calm through this crisis too. She is a funny, bossy, loud bird. Don't let her size fool you. She has a big personality.

I also added pictures of the vaccine and Biden because they represent everything that I believe will be right in the world.

Page 3: The Flash and Supergirl and one of my Infinity gauntlets (I made) because all of them distract me from the bad things in the world right now, and keep me positive.