

Thursday 7th May 2020

It always amazes me how little, insignificant things can seem earth-shatteringly important until something else puts them into perspective. Covid 19 has certainly done this for me. My GCSEs were cancelled because of the Coronavirus - I still can't quite believe that is true even though it very much is. It seemed as if my entire school career from the age of 4 playing with sand and asking my teacher how to spell my surname had been leading up to these exams - GCSEs!! In my school everything else was kind of inconsequential compared to those 4 capital letters. Then one day a man ate a bat who ate a snake or some nonsense and the world shifted slowly like someone rearranging a jigsaw puzzle. I went from thinking about trigonometry to asking myself big questions like - where do you actually go when you die? I know that sounds silly but I really have been thinking a lot more lately (which is slightly ironic). Being stuck at home has strangely opened everything up.

Spring has burst into life and I have loved photographing chirpy robins and shy grey wagtails around my house and on my once a day walks. That's another oddity to come out of this, trying to stay 2 metres apart from others when on a walk. I actually find it hilarious - of course I follow the rules but it always makes me chuckle on the inside when my mum spots four people waiting outside the bank and utters 'God, there's too many people around here, we'll have to cross'. Crossing the road is another funny thing; you spot someone way off in the distance and are already planning in your head if you should be the one to cross. Do they look like they're going to make the move? Oh, God! There's someone on the other side, what should I do!

It's all bonkers when you think about it! However, the danger is very real. I'm mostly worried about my grandparents. They are both in their 70s/80s. They are certainly not doing bad for their age though. I'm not particularly worried about them catching it - as I know they are predominantly staying at home - I'm more concerned they are going to get extremely bored. Usually they walk to their local Morrison's everyday but at the moment they can't. Morrisons is like their social group, I don't know what it is about that particular shop but they know everyone from the man selling lottery tickets to the lady who served them their lamb chop! Anyway, I phone them up regularly to check in and they seem okay. I'm not too bored yet, we have online school lessons which are a bit temperamental but mostly suffice. I miss my friends and going out. I swear there will be a stampede at the Mall when the shops reopen. As Nan keeps saying, this can't last forever so I'm gonna keep a stiff upper lip and enjoy the sun from my garden.

Lizzie - age 16