



# BROOKLYN\_BORN

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## Thinking about Sacrifice on this Sunday Morning

Sunday, November 22, 2020

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When I woke up yesterday I was shocked and dismayed to discover that my glasses had only ONE LENS. Somehow while on my night table, the plastic strip underneath had broken and now the lens was nowhere to be found. Obviously, when I reached for them, the loose lens had fallen on the floor.



To avoid stepping on it, I crawled around on hands and knees until I found it. Now what? My vision is terrible. Looking through one lens was dizzying. I taped the lens onto the top of the frame. Better but not great and only a temporary fix. The lens kept slipping and needed retaping. Now what?

DH & I have been hermits during the pandemic. I live in a covid denying, mask resistant area where our constantly rising numbers and the pleading of doctors have had little effect. On Friday there was a voice mail on my phone inviting me to a meeting to discuss organizing protests over mask requirements. Uh, no thank you.

I have a backup pair of glasses SOMEWHERE, but they are an older prescription. Finding them would still be a temporary solution. I would have to find a way to replace my current pair.

I really want to avoid the health risk of being in an indoor space among unmasked patrons unconcerned about anyone but themselves. After confrontations that ended in violence, employees are increasingly unwilling to insist on masks for entry. Several major chains have supported their employees in this. Then there are the people that comply to gain entry and take the mask off once inside. How much sacrifice do we expect from minimum wage employees?

YEA WALMART! That is a phrase I NEVER thought I would say. I called them and explained my dilemma and concerns. I am 73 and have family experience with this virus. My cousin is dead!

They found my records and ordered a replacement of my prescription in the same frames. But I do have


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to come in when they are ready. I wear progressive lenses that require precise measurements for them to work properly. They will call me when ready and admit me through a door to the eye center only. I will not have to run the gauntlet of mask resisting patrons at the main entrance nor traverse the entire sales area.

My last blog was about the sacrifice of reimagining how we will spend Thanksgiving. The response was quite unanimous about giving up short term happiness for long term goals – the health and safety of those we love.

My blog earlier this month just before Veterans Day was about the sacrifice made by so many for those they didn't even know. The young men on D-Day had no guarantee that that "Operation Overlord" would be successful. There is a quote at Normandy "They gave up their collective futures to ensure ours"

We have been in this difficult situation for 9 months now. I am extremely grateful to all those who have been following safety protocols and provided some "breathing room" to find a solution. At last vaccines look promising.

I am well aware that my sacrifice is minimal compared to those made by others.

I do not have to care for the sick. I do not have to go to work.

I am ordering items from our local businesses as much as possible.

(The puzzle that I've also blogged about, 2 new pair of running shoes and some workout gear from the local store that sponsors local events, kept up DH's gym membership at the 'Y' even though he hasn't been there in 9 months – a worthy donation) Still, very small sacrifices.

I do volunteer at our local Christian charity. As treasurer, I do not see clients but I do handle the paperwork of their situations. I have learned that while state restrictions were in place, those who lost their jobs were eligible for unemployment benefits. Without that, if they are afraid to go to an unsafe workplace and risk bringing disease home, they are not.

Surely, the sacrifices we are being asked to make now pale in comparison to those made by generations before us. We are not being asked to storm Omaha Beach.

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## Member Comments About This Blog Post



**MJZHERE**

Catching up on some blogs and just wanted to let you know, this one made me feel better. Husband and I are hermits also (9 months) and last night I was berated and yelled at by someone over the phone for wearing masks, staying home, etc. I have lost friends, have close family upset with me, etc, simply because we are staying home (with a husband who has some serious health issues) Nice to know there are others who also are like us.  
183 days ago



**SHAKERATTLEROLL**

Hope that your glasses come in soon. I use to use EYEBUYDIRECT for my glasses so much more cheaper delivers to my house and has many frames just like going to the optical shop.  
195 days ago



**THOMS1**

I enjoyed reading your blog. How good of Wal-Mart to be so accommodating. People that disregard the mask and distancing suggestions do not get it. I hope the new president can do something. I would hate for him to have to enact Marshall law if that's even possible in this country.  
197 days ago




**OVERWORKEDJANET**

You've good words!  
I'm glad for you that there is a work-around for getting your new glasses.  
As to those who deny, you're not going to change their attitudes one bit!  
197 days ago



**SUNNYCALIGIRL**

 Glad you found a workable solution. Today I expressed concern about the fact that we were parked in a lot and the numbers are rising and NO ONE is wearing a mask, yet climbing on their trucks etc. to fix antennae etc. THIS WAS HER REPLY: She believes the numbers are



exaggerated because hospitals are lying, saying that people who have died of a heart attack or are just old and were going to die anyways, lie and say these patients have died of COVID to make more money!!!

My sympathies on the death of your cousin.

197 days ago

Comment edited on: 11/23/2020 5:16:36 PM



**NANCY-**

So glad you found a solution for your glasses. We are having a downsized Thanksgiving dinner. Just the household. We are planning the same for Christmas. Just hope things are better by Easter.



Love the quote... yes giving now for the greater good is my plan this way I can be around for the long haul.



197 days ago



**SUSIEMT**

A really good blog! Stay safe! (((HUGS))) All virtual no germs involved;

198 days ago



**SCDALYNCH**

Glasses are a necessity. I used to wear them. This year I had my cataracts removed and have good vision. I do need readers for close work.

We live in a community that requires masks everywhere. People have been good about wearing them. Our numbers are still high but the university students brought back the virus when they came back from their home areas.

Stay safe.



198 days ago



**AZMOMXTWO**

I agree that some people are just rude about the mask I wear it in public because I care about others

198 days ago



**LIS193**

Walmart Vision Center has been wonderful to us on several occasions.

Glad you can get a replacement quickly!

198 days ago



**CORRIEC2**

I too have been a hermit. The only times I have been out of the house to go and get my prescriptions. I can't do mail order because my mail carrier is constantly putting mail in the wrong lot numbers for years and complaints have fallen on deaf ears and going to the Doctor office. I have gone over to my parents house to check in on my dad while my mom is constantly out running around everyday for the majority of the day. My dad is 88 and has dementia or alzheimers he hasn't been officially diagnosed for either because my mom avoids it he is also getting dialysis. Keeping myself in the hermit state did me no good I have Covid thanks to my mom who is 76. She got a positive test as well as my dad a couple of days of my diagnosis. I have symptoms and so far neither of my parents have any symptoms I pray that my dad doesn't get symptoms.

198 days ago



**MARYJEANSL**

Glad you are able to get your new glasses. :-)

198 days ago



**PAULALALALA**

Very good points. I don't understand what those who object to wearing masks are thinking. It is very entitled and selfish behavior. We should all be pulling together and gladly doing such a simple thing as wearing a mask. The idea of not wearing one as a matter of personal freedom is so disingenuous. My son works in a grocery store where wearing a mask is required. When this all first started, he was asked to remind customers politely they needed one. Now, the manager has told them that is not their job to be enforcers. Some people will pull them down immediately after walking into the store, and I've observed them -- seems like they're almost waiting for someone to come up and say something so they can start a ruckus. Why do they think their "personal freedom" is so much more important than the freedom of all those around them to shop in a reasonably safe environment? It's beyond me. So many things going on now that have me shaking my head in

disbelief....



Good for Walmart for working with you!  
198 days ago



**ALEXSGIRL1**

glad you found a solution for your glasses, the arm on mine was loosing alot noticed a teeny tiny screw was loose. all set to go to see if eye doctors office could fix it but i did it myself with my finger nail. cant understand how wearing masks hurt anyone's feelings. be as safe you can Hugs  
198 days ago



**NASFKAB**

Wise post. Cant understand you citizens of US, what is the freedom in harming others? Things I see & read makes me wonder about the sanity for some. Sotty if I step on any toes BUT  
198 days ago



**DOVESEYES**

Wonderful blog ... great outcome for the glasses and agree with all you said.  
198 days ago



**WATERMELLEN**

So glad you found a good way of dealing with your broken glasses . . . and were shown courtesy and compassion.

And yes, I think very often that I am not being called upon to make the sacrifices my parents deal with -- the Depression, WWII in a bomber -- or there parents before them. I can do my part.  
198 days ago



**SHAWFAN**

So glad the glasses situation is worked out for the better. Like you, I hate having to go ANYWHERE and have to wear masks. I do. Don't get me wrong. I will and do wear masks when I need to go anywhere, but I'd rather not be put into that situation. Yes, people have been behaving irresponsibly since this whole thing began. Thinking that it's a myth is a sure way to get it! Frankly, both my husband and I think we've already had it. Some of the people he works with have had to leave work due to getting it. His job is "Necessary" though so he's not been sent home due to them getting it. We both agree what we've had has been more flu like than anything. And we've quarantined ourselves from anyone otherwise. As for the vaccine, I truly hope it/they work to get rid of this scourge once and for all. One way or another, our lives have been changed forever.  
198 days ago



**DARLENEK04**

We try to stay in as much as possible....if necessary, since I am Veterans' caregiver as well as wife,  
I cover up and dash in to walmart on the least busy day flying thru, grabbing needed items and self checking to get in and out as fast as possible.....

I carry hand sanitizer 24/7.

I do as much as I can to protect him.....  
198 days ago



**QUARTERMASTER3**

198 days ago



**CD4114015**

Beautiful blog, thanks for sharing it!  
198 days ago



**WOOFERCOALBOY**

My next-door neighbor got covid, his wife didn't - weird, as they had been together just about 24/7 since February. He had to quarantine in their unit for a month & had the fever for over 3 weeks. I don't know whether he had lasting effects.  
198 days ago



**WHYNOTTRY45**

Well  
Said!

198 days ago



**HARRIETT14**

I truly understand where you are coming from. The children of my town had an hour in the





morning with their masks on to play. There is a group of religious people who do not follow the rules of safety. They went to several park by the bus load of them and their children without masks so that they can play. Because of what they have done my town has closed off the park. These people go to the stores also not obeying the rules that we were asked to follow. What makes them think that they are safer than the rest of us is beyond me.  
198 days ago



#### MTN\_KITTEN

Our individual sacrifices ... added to every one else's ... collectively is what is needed.

It's not about me ... it's about US.

The Golden Rule is soooooo needed right now ... and every day.



198 days ago



#### BJAEGER307

Glad to read that you got your glasses replaced. Hope all this turns out well for you.  
198 days ago



#### MONAMAC1

Thank you for your very insightful writings! Pray all goes safely for you!  
198 days ago



#### ONEKIDSMOM

I'm with you. The sacrifices we retirees are making are small, and I so appreciate that most local businesses are catering to those of us who are more "at risk". I've learned to take advantage of drive thru prescription pick up, or groceries. I have adopted the mask and hand sanitizer, and I've been lucky in that medical / dental and eyewear places around here are "pretty good" at providing spacing, hand sanitizers, and wearing PPE themselves and enforcing masks. Even the anti maskers don't seem to mind them at doctor's offices.

As for the REST of places, we have our share of rebellious folk. But fortunately, not places I'd choose to go anyhow, for the most part.

Be safe. Hope it goes smoothly when your glasses are ready! It did for mine.  
198 days ago



#### CD18090386

There have been people about to die of COVID state "this can't be happening, the virus is a myth". How's that for being in denial? Just hafta do what you know to be the right thing. Stay safe and hold on until the vaccine begins to do its work to immunize the populace.  
198 days ago



#### NANASUEH

Good luck with getting the new glasses.



198 days ago



#### MOLLIEMAC

Our society has become "all about me and damn the other person". Masks are mandatory here and if one has a medical reason for not wearing one they must have a declaration from their doctor that they carry. Cases are creeping up, albeit slowly so tomorrow the central region of Nova Scotia will be restricted to gatherings of no more than 5 people and family gatherings are also restricted to the home members only. Having worked in healthcare for many years I know all too well the stress that healthcare workers are under; they are at the end of their endurance. As for your previous blog; my family has been spread far and wide for many years, we celebrate when we are able to be together so Christmas in July is the norm most years.  
199 days ago



#### 75HEALTHYME

Maybe they (give me liberty or give me death)

1. think they are invincible ..

AND

2. have no one in their life more important than themselves.

Thus , they are to pitied for such shallow lives  
and pray their lives acquire loved ones they would do anything for.  
like wear a mask and do the other health recommendations, too.

199 days ago

**HAYBURNER1969**

Excellent blog, filled with wisdom, as always.  
199 days ago

**SPEDED2**

A post filled with wisdom. Historically, situations filled with danger and adversity have brought the people of our nation together as one. Compassion and the milk of human kindness seem to have departed for destinations unknown. It is beyond comprehension that the wearing of a mask, in order to save the lives of family and friends, is even a topic for conversation, much less an argument.

Kudos to Walmart.



Enjoy your Sunday! Stay safe. Be well.  
199 days ago

**MORTICIAADDAMS**

I am totally with you on this. I need tests and doctor visits and glasses but can't afford to risk hubby's compromised health to do these things. So am eager for the vaccine. I am very disappointed in selfish people who don't care about their fellow man. I do believe we reap what we sow though.  
199 days ago

**PHEBESS**

Absolutely agree with you - and so glad you're able to get another pair of glasses in a safe manner!

When we were in NJ, people in general were much more mask compliant. Here in FL, not so much - and when we drove down, the mask wearing was less and less as we got further south.

I truly don't understand it - and I personally would rather wear a mask than get this virus, being over age 60 as well as having moderate asthma. (I wear two masks now!)

Like you, I also lost a cousin to Covid, as well as an acquaintance who was the father of a former student (and everyone's favorite postal worker on St. Thomas). Like you, I know the threat is real.

Hugs to you - and continue doing what you do to stay safe!  
199 days ago

**AKA\_TROUBLE**

Glad you are able to get new glasses without having to risk yourself.



199 days ago

**HOLLYM48**

I am glad you have found a solution for your glasses. I am always amazed at people who are unwilling to wear a mask. Honestly, if someone can wear it for their entire shift at work, a few hours for the average person who is out in public should not be such an issue but obviously it is. Stay safe and keep on doing your best to stay away from inconsiderate ignorant people who don't care about the safety of others!  
199 days ago

**RAZZOOLE**

199 days ago

**2BDYNAMIC**

So glad the glasses situation is working out for you--I would be so lost w/out mine too!  
...As for the mask wearing, and social distancing and safety measures---I do not think it is 'asking too much.' After all, how long do the resisters want to keep this virus going?? ... (Hate to say, but I have family in another state---who defied all the rules---therefore they both got Covid---and once recovered, did not stop them. Still traveling all over the globe WITHOUT a mask and seen in pictures hugging their friends!! .. I am literally dumbfounded at such irresponsibility---and for "adults" into their 70's!! .. Good points you make!!  
199 days ago

**JOYNEW**

So glad Walmart is making this a little easier for you. Sorry to hear you live in a mask-resistant area. So, so, so dumb and selfish..... There's just no convincing the ignorant, and unfortunately their choices affect us. So sad.  
199 days ago



**WHILLSW**

I didn't throw away old glasses for many years...always bought 2 pair when ordered new ones. After cataract surgery, I've limited my collection to just a few. Now I have a big assortment of "readers"...every room or place I might need them as well as around my neck most of the time. Changes of aging. And sacrifices, mine are so small compared to many. I applaud those who serve & make it better for others.



199 days ago

**INCH\_BY\_INCH**

199 days ago

**IFDEEVARUNS2**

Stay safe!

I do walk with some friends, but only ones I know to be cautious and observe precautions. And yes, one can walk and even run with a mask on.

I never thought I'd use a shopping service, but it's been a blessing over the last eight months.

199 days ago

**1CRAZYDOG**

\*\*SIGH\*\* I live in another area of mask resistance, and selfishness. It's sad. DH and I are staying put.

Wishing you luck w/your glasses. That's good that the employee will admit you through the eye-glass store entrance so you don't have to walk the mall.

My DD had Covid, too (CNA) and has residual lung issues that will be with her forever now.

\*\*SIGH\*\* Sad.

I take this virus very seriously.

199 days ago

**SANDYH7057**

Such a conflicting and confusing time we live in. I know people that believe they are right on both ends on this pandemic and I know people that have gotten this virus with different results. I prefer to be cautious and follow the guidelines.

199 days ago

**MJREIMERS**

Hugs! Stay safe and here's to seeing clearly, in more than one way!

199 days ago

**MAMIEALLIE**

Me neither. Here in Canada the numbers are climbing once more but our community is very good at wearing masks and keeping distant for which I am grateful. My mother is still at her own home which is keeping her safe. She is still able to care for herself even with her short term memory being a bit wonky at times. My MIL was in a home and the lady she shared the room with had Covid and died from it. MIL came down with it as it she shared that room for so long with the sick woman. She couldn't fight it and died this week. No funeral but just cremation and burial.



I don't understand why people don't want to be helpful to others anymore. It isn't for ourselves we do this, it is for those we love.

199 days ago

**POLSKARENIA**

Wise blog. I too do not understand those who flout the rules, as they will be shouting loudest for care when they succumb to the virus... my stepson had just had a positive test, in Hungary, he is 29 and a pro table tennis player, but has been in a lot of muscle pain. This is not a discerning virus!

199 days ago

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