

VIDEO TRANSCRIPT

Sarah: Okay. So we're recording.

Text: March 19, 2020.

Sarah: It is March 19th, 2020. In the middle of the coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic.

The current recommendations from our county health department *Laughter* shhhh, are to, are to practice social distancing, so that's what we're all attempting to do.

The stores are very, very low on things, uh, particularly toilet paper. So we'll see how that plays out.

Text: March 27, 2020

Sarah: So today is Friday, March 27th, 2020.

Lylah: 2020. 2020.

Sarah: Yeah, and we're still in the midst of the COVID-19, uh, pandemic.

Umm, so we wanted to talk a little bit about the timeline under which things have operated, yeah? *Phone ringing* Ope. It's grandma. Pause that. Just kidding.

Kevin: Okay, did we start over, or are we resuming?

Sarah: We're resuming.

Kevin: Okay.

Sarah: And we're back. That was a phone call from Kevin's parents, who are in need of human contact.

Kevin: *Laughter*

Sarah: Well, I've still been working, um, like normal, except that my college is now fully online. *Laughter* And they've also now, shhh, they've also now really encouraged people to stay away from the campus, and so I've been attempting to do most of my work at *Laughter* at home. And you can see about how successful that's been.

Text: April 6, 2020

Sarah: We are here sans child. But if you listen, you can hear her in the background, because it's bedtime, and she is resistant to this process.

Kevin: We're on, we're finishing up Day 23 of our, uh, shelter in place or stay at home or or whatever.

Sarah: We're not lonely.

Kevin: Well, that's true.

Sarah: No, I never, I have not felt lonely throughout any of this, because I have you. But also like we have her, we have Lylah, on a constant, never-ending basis. *Laughter*

Speaking of which, we can pause and check on her if you want to.

Kevin: Sure. We probably should.

Sarah: We will return.

Ironically, the next question I was going to ask is: What is it like to parent during a pandemic?

I was trying to decide: Is this a particularly tough age, two-and-a-half, or is this really an ideal age for your child to be during this time?

Kevin: I have no idea.

Sarah: *Laughter*

I appreciate the fact that she's small enough that we don't have to constantly reassure her about the state of the world.

Like we can tell her, and this is the phrase we've been using, "People are a little sick." And she's like, yeah. And like, she'll just go on with her day.

Umm, I think if you had an older child, this could be a really really scary time. You don't know when you're going to see your friends again.

I wanted to ask: What are your top three, oh man, worries right now?

Kevin: I mean, I guess, my, my biggest worry is that she will get the virus.

Lastly, I worry about this changing my career forever. Which is similar to what you said about it impact, like, it having a long-term negative effect on our livelihoods.

Text: May 21, 2020

Sarah: Alright, let's make a video. What is your name?

Lylah: I want to use that.

Sarah: You want to use what? The mouse?

Lylah: Yeah.

Sarah: Okay. We're making a video. So is there anything you want to say?

Okay. Is there anything you want to say on the computer?

Lylah: No.

Sarah: No?

Do you want to show them your thing? You have to lift it up like this and say, "This is my thing."

Lylah: This is my thing.

Sarah: This is your thing.

Lylah: Yeah, he's not pretty anymore.

Sarah: He's not? Oh, he's not pretty anymore. How do you make him pretty again?

Hold that up so they can see it. Now, now lift him up. Oh, you made him pretty. Nice.

Can you turn this way so we can see your ponytail? Turn, turn, turn. Turn over here. You turn.

There's her ponytail. Cute, cute. You have curly hair, don't you?

Lylah: I do.

Sarah: I do.

Lylah: I want to make him pretty again.

Sarah: Okey-dokey.

Lylah: Hey, I want to use that one.

Sarah: Mmm. Mommy uses the mouse. Are you gonna lift it up one more time?

Up, up, up. Say, "I made this."

Lylah: I made this.

Sarah: Okay. Then we'll turn it off. Say bye bye.

Lylah: Bye bye.

Text: January 7, 2021

Sarah: Uhh, I'm afraid we have not kept up very well with this video log, um, documenting the COVID-19 pandemic. Um. But I'm here now.

And, uh, I kinda felt like it was important to do this particular, this particular video log because of what happened yesterday, um, so January 6th, 2021.

I worry about this kind of thing, especially having a child. Lylah is three. She'll be three-and-a-half at the end of this month. And I just, I don't know what kind of world she's going to grow up in.

Text: March 12, 2021

Sarah: We are really bad at video logs. Um. We went a large, large chunk of the COVID-19 pandemic without making any more videos.

But um, in my mind, that's kind of reflective of how the whole thing has felt. Like, there was kind of those initial like just insanity, and then months and months of, like, stress.

Kevin: We are five weeks from being immunized.

Sarah: We're gonna take a quick pause to go check on our child, who is currently supposed to be going to sleep.

Good news. She's asleep. *Laughter*

So comparatively, not lost much. Certainly there are people who have lost so, so much more than us.

It's just been really, really disappointing.

Just to see, like, people totally unwilling to change their behavior. Or seeing folks in the community refusing to wear masks.

2020 was very much a year of, kind of reckoning in terms of racial justice. And certainly things are not solved by any stretch of the imagination.

People that you thought you shared a belief system with, not responding to those things in, in ways that, that feel aligned with empathy. And it's just, it's really disheartening.

But what I worry about.

Kevin: That history is written by.

Sarah: What I worry about, yeah, is the larger public memory of the pandemic. Yeah.

Kevin: Because, um, yeah, who, history is written by the winners.

Sarah: Who writes the history books.

I mentioned this in the video I wrote, or that I did right after the insurrection that, um, I don't know how people are going to perceive that in their history books in the future, and I hope that it's an accurate perception. Umm. And I feel the same about the pandemic.

Kevin: Predictions for going forward?

Sarah: Predictions, predictions. I, I'm gonna, like, put some positive energy out there and say that we're gonna get to do some fun stuff this summer as a family.

We've got a kid who will be turning four this summer, and I really just wanna take her to the zoo.

So I'm gonna go ahead and say that we have a nice summer, we go to the zoo, maybe we go swimming, maybe we send her to Grandma's house for, like, a while.

Kevin: Like a year?

Sarah: Alright with that, we'll go ahead and, and be done and, uh, who knows? Maybe this will actually be our last video.