

THE OFFICE

COVID-19 Special

Written by Rachel Kruglyak

Made in Highland

INT. MICHAEL'S OFFICE

Michael is in his office. On the desk is an extravagant masquerade mask. Michael admires it.

MICHAEL
{to the camera}
So Corporate said we have to wear masks to work now. I guess this Corona virus is kind of deadly. Well, anyway, I bought this gorgeous mask at some shop, and I told everyone to bring masks too.

INT. WORKSPACE OF DUNDER MIFFLIN

Enter Dwight, Toby, Jim, Pam, Meredith, Ryan, Kelly, Phyllis, Kevin, Stanley, Andy, Angela, and Oscar. Everyone but Dwight is wearing a cloth mask around their mouth and nose.

JIM
Dwight, why aren't you wearing a mask?

DWIGHT
Are you kidding me, Jim? I am strong enough to fight off this stupid disease. My Amish ancestors were exposed to much worse than this. Remember the plague?

JIM
{to the camera}
I don't know why Dwight is so ignorant as to the strength of this virus. He could get all of us infected.

Michael emerges from his office. He takes in the cloth masks and sighs.

MICHAEL
Where are your masks, everyone?

PHYLLIS
We're wearing them, Michael.

Michael lightly chuckles.

MICHAEL
You're not wearing masks, Phyllis.

Michael pulls out his own masquerade mask and puts it on.

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MICHAEL
This is a mask.

PAM
Oh, Michael.

KELLY
Oh my god, that is such a pretty
mask, Michael. Where'd you get it?

MICHAEL
That's for me to know and for you
to question.

TOBY
Michael, that sort of mask isn't
going to stop the virus.

MICHAEL
Party Pooper!

{Theme Song}

INT. MICHAEL'S OFFICE

Michael is swirling around in his chair.

MICHAEL
{to the camera}
I don't understand why everyone is
giving me such a hard time on this
lovely mask. It only cost me like
a hundred bucks. You know, I
actually got two masks, and I plan
on giving the other one to Ryan.

INT. WORKSPACE OF DUNDER MIFFLIN

Everyone is silently working. Kelly approaches Angela.

KELLY
Angela, didn't you just love
Michael's mask?

ANGELA
Kelly, I'm working.

KELLY
Oh, I know, but...

ANGELA
{cutting her off}
Leave me alone.

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Kelly peers at Angela's screen, which is showing cats playing.

KELLY
Oh my god, are those your cats?

ANGELA
They miss me so much. I should be there with them.

KELLY
{confused}
So you're FaceTiming them?

ANGELA
It's a monitored feed, Kelly.
They're cats. They can't accept a FaceTime call.

DWIGHT
Then those cats are useless. Every useful creature has to have opposable thumbs.

ANGELA
Shut it, Dwight.

DWIGHT
I'm a farmer, Angela. Anything that's not useful needs to be eliminated before the harvest.

ANGELA
I won't let you kill any more of my cats, Dwight.

PAM
Guys, please, some of us are trying to work.

STANLEY
{to the camera}
I sure hope we won't have to come in tomorrow. There's just so much drama.

Enter Michael.

MICHAEL
I need the party planning committee!

PHYLLIS
It's not a holiday, Michael.

MICHAEL
Who says it's not, Phyllis?

PHYLLIS
Well, the calendar.

MICHAEL
Well, I'm declaring a holiday.
Covid-19 Appreciation Day!

PAM
Some people are dying from the
disease, Michael. It's not meant
to be appreciated.

MICHAEL
Pam, this is a national epidemic.
It's a new thing for all of us. We
need to celebrate a new era.

Michael pulls out the second mask.

MICHAEL
Oh, Ryan!

RYAN
What, Michael? I'm working.

MICHAEL
I think you're going to love this
party. In fact, I got you a mask.

RYAN
I have a mask, Michael.

Michael approaches Ryan and places the mask on his face.

MICHAEL
Yeah, but this mask is of a much
higher quality. It was like, a
hundred dollars.

ANGELA
That's a very expensive mask.

MICHAEL
For the party, we need masks,
balloons, streamers, and alcohol.

TOBY
We can't serve alcohol, Michael.

MICHAEL
Blah, blah, blah, I can't hear anything.

MEREDITH
A little alcohol couldn't hurt.

Michael grins at her.

MICHAEL
See? That's the attitude I want everyone to have.

PAM
I guess we could pull something together.

MICHAEL
Then there's no time to delay.
Party Planning Committee,
assemble!

INT. CONFERENCE ROOM

Pam, Phyllis, Angela, and Oscar have a bunch of paper spread out before them.

ANGELA
I don't think we should be having this party.

PAM
I don't think it will be too bad.

ANGELA
{to the camera}
Is Pam for real? Every party here ends in disaster. I just want to be home with my babies. They're not getting enough love. I need to comfort them.

PHYLLIS
Is there really going to be alcohol at this party?

OSCAR
I guess so.

PHYLLIS
That sounds like a really bad idea.

Michael pops his head in.

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MICHAEL
So how's it going?

PAM
Michael, I don't think we can go
to a store to get party
decorations.

MICHAEL
Of course you can, Pam!

PAM
It's just that, the corona virus
can spread really quickly.

MICHAEL
Then you'd better run like the
wind.

PHYLLIS
Where are we supposed to find
extravagant masks in such short
notice?

PAM
We could check costume shops, I
guess.

ANGELA
I refuse to look like a Superhero,
Pam.

PAM
I'm sure there will be other
masks.

ANGELA
I want the plainest mask there is.

PAM
Okay, that can be arranged.

ANGELA
I'm just not like you, Pam. I
can't wear some insane mask.

MICHAEL
Okay, it looks like you're on a
roll.

Michael exits. Angela, Oscar, Phyllis, and Pam work on some
signs. Angela takes one of Oscar's which says "COVID PARTY".

ANGELA
Oscar, you missed the I in Covid.

OSCAR
Sorry, Angela.

ANGELA
It looks terrible.
{under her breath}
I knew this party was a bad idea.

PAM
Angela, we can fix it.

ANGELA
Then it will look worse.

Phyllis takes a marker and adds a slim I to OSCAR's sign.

PHYLLIS
There. Fixed.

ANGELA
But the i is so much smaller than
the other letters.

PAM
I think it's fine, Angela.

OSCAR
I think I'm going to get the
masks.

ANGELA
Please, go. I can't look at you.

Oscar exits.

PHYLLIS
I can get the alcohol.

PAM
Do it discreetly, okay, Phyllis?

Phyllis exits.

ANGELA
I can get the rest of the stuff. I
only trust myself to make sure
they're right.

PAM
Okay.

INT. WORKSPACE OF DUNDER MIFFLIN SAME TIME

Ryan has taken his mask off. Kelly approaches him.

KELLY
Ryan, I need that mask.

RYAN
Take it.

Kelly takes the mask and then puts it on.

KELLY
Doesn't it look pretty on me?

RYAN
Sure, Kelly.

KELLY
You're not even looking.

Ryan sighs.

RYAN
I have no interest in the mask,
Kelly.

KELLY
You know, we could've been great,
you and I.

Michael enters.

MICHAEL
Kelly, why are you wearing Ryan's
mask?

KELLY
He gave it to me.

MICHAEL
Ryan, is that true?

RYAN
Yes, Michael.

MICHAEL
I spent a lot of money on that
mask, Ryan, and you just gave it
to Kelly? You should show better
values than that.

Ryan reluctantly takes the mask back from Kelly.

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MICHAEL

As soon as the party planning committee returns, we'll have a huge party.

ANDY

I've been waiting to have an audience, so I can play the new song I recorded. I sang all five parts of it.

KELLY

Oh my god, that's amazing.

JIM

{to the camera}
Oh, great, just what we need.
Another Andy original.

ANDY

Big Tuna, are you excited to hear it?

JIM

Um, yeah. Thrilled.

Enter Pam, Phyllis, Angela, and Oscar. Oscar starts handing out the masks.

DWIGHT

I will not take a mask. They're completely not utilitarian.

JIM

Lighten up, Dwight! It's a party.

DWIGHT

Pretty masks aren't useful.

KELLY

Angela, can I pretty please help with the decorations?

ANGELA

You're not on the party planning committee.

Angela starts hanging up the streamers and balloons. Phyllis starts pouring cups of alcohol.

MICHAEL

Now let the party begin!

Soon, everyone but Dwight and Toby are dancing around. Michael's phone rings.

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MICHAEL
Hello? What? I can't really hear
you. I'm going to go into my
office.

INT. MICHAEL'S OFFICE

Michael is in his office. He puts his phone on speaker mode.
David's voice is heard.

DAVID
Michael, is that a party I hear?

MICHAEL
What? Um, no. No party.

DAVID
I hope everyone was wearing masks
today.

MICHAEL
Don't worry, Dave! I've got
everything under control.

DAVID
Michael, here's the thing. You
need to send everyone home, and
then you can't come in tomorrow
morning.

MICHAEL
Excuse me?

DAVID
It turns out it's not good for
twenty people to be in a room
together.

MICHAEL
Well, David, we're having fun.

DAVID
Isn't it a little past closing
time anyway?

MICHAEL
Um, what? Uh, no, I don't think it
is.

DAVID
Can you put Toby on the phone
please?

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MICHAEL
Why would you want to talk to
Toby?

DAVID
Just get him for me, please.

Michael sticks his head into the party area.

MICHAEL
Toby Flenderson, please report to
the principal's office for
cheating. Your dad is here and
he's not too happy.

Toby sighs and comes over.

DAVID
Toby?

TOBY
Hello, David.

DAVID
Can you tell Michael to send
everyone home?

TOBY
I can try.

David hangs up.

TOBY
Michael, it's not safe to keep
everyone here.

MICHAEL
You are such a party pooper.

Michael goes back into the fray.

MICHAEL
Attention, everyone! Quarantine
doesn't begin until midnight!
We're going to party until then.

KEVIN
Oh, boy.

STANLEY
{to camera}
We have to stay here until
midnight? Hell no. I have to get
back to my daughter.

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Stanley heads toward the exit.

MICHAEL
Stanley, where do you think you're going?

STANLEY
I'm going home, Michael.

MICHAEL
But there's a party going on.

STANLEY
I just don't want to be here.

Stanley exits.

MICHAEL
If anyone else wants to ruin the fun, you can follow Stanley.

EXT. BAR 1:00 AM

Ryan, Kelly, and Meredith are outside of a bar.

KELLY
Oh, hey, Meredith. Ryan and I were thinking of getting a few drinks.

MEREDITH
Yeah, I shouldn't.

KELLY
You're going to miss the party.

RYAN
We already had a party, Kelly.

KELLY
That was the party. This is the after party.

MEREDITH
Geez, I don't know.

KELLY
It will be fun.

MEREDITH
You know what? What the hell.

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INT. BAR DANCE FLOOR TEN MINUTES LATER

Meredith, Ryan, and Kelly are having the time of their lives. A guy in his late 50s, HUNTER BLAIR, joins them.

HUNTER
{to MEREDITH}
Hey, sexy.

MEREDITH
Uh, hi.

HUNTER
I haven't seen you before.

MEREDITH
It's my first time here.

HUNTER
How about I show you some real fun?

MEREDITH
Yeah, why not.

Meredith and Hunter go off together.

KELLY
Gosh, that was fast.

RYAN
Uh huh.

KELLY
So do you want to make out?

RYAN
Kelly, we broke up.

KELLY
So?

RYAN
The answer's no.

KELLY
I just don't understand what you don't see in me.

RYAN
You deserve someone better.

KELLY
I'll take that as a challenge.

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INT. HUNTER'S HOUSE MORNING

Meredith and Hunter are sprawled out on the bed. Meredith's phone dings. She sleepily reaches for it to see the words: DUNDER MIFFLIN ZOOM MEETING 9:00 AM. She glances at the clock, which reads 8:55.

MEREDITH

Oh, crap.

Meredith flings herself off the bed and hastily pulls clothes on. She finds a coat and ties it around herself before logging into the Zoom meeting. Everyone but Stanley has their cameras on and their mics off. Angela is with her cats.

PAM

Meredith, where are you?

MEREDITH

Um, my house.

HUNTER{O.S.}

Meredith! What's going on!

PHYLLIS

Who said that?

Hunter enters and is seen on the Zoom screen. He is wearing a towel around his waist.

MEREDITH

I'm, uh, at work.

HUNTER

Hello, Meredith's work friends.

Hunter's towel slips and everyone gasps. He reties it and then moves out of the frame.

PAM

Meredith, what happened last night?

MEREDITH

It was a small party.

ANGELA

You went out?

MEREDITH

Maybe.

ANGELA

That's just not safe.

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MEREDITH

Kelly and Ryan were there, too.

KELLY

Ryan and I totally almost hooked up.

RYAN

No, we didn't.

KELLY

Yes, we did.

RYAN

No.

TOBY

Why are you guys breaking quarantine?

KELLY

Chill, Toby, it was just one night.

TOBY

At a crowded bar.

DWIGHT

I would never think of leaving my house. Before, I'd only go out to come in to the office. I have everything I need right here.

Dwight holds up beets and a groundhog.

DWIGHT

It's organic living for me.

ANGELA

Eww, Dwight, is that a groundhog?

DWIGHT

Groundhogs provide nothing to the world.

KELLY

How did you catch it?

DWIGHT

A groundhog trap. Obviously.

MICHAEL

Well, I'm all alone. It's been very strange.

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DWIGHT
I could be there in twenty
minutes, Michael.

MICHAEL
You would do that?

DWIGHT
Of course I would.

MICHAEL
Okay, great!

TOBY
You can't have Dwight at your
house, Michael.

DWIGHT
And why the hell not?

TOBY
You need to be quarantined.

MICHAEL
What if I moved into Dwight's
farm?

DWIGHT
We have plenty of room.

PAM
Someone else is there with you?

DWIGHT
Yes, Pam. My cousin, Moe.

PHYLLIS
My husband, Bob Vance, Vance
Refrigeration had a great deal
with the frozen foods people, so
we are stocked for life.

PAM
All of my groceries are delivered
to my house.

ANGELA
Do you think cats can get corona?
Because Sparkles has been coughing
up hairballs for weeks.

PAM
Maybe you should get that checked
out.

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ANGELA

I can't just stay at home. I need to get my babies their specific foods and medicines.

KELLY

I didn't know you had babies.

ANGELA

Cats, Kelly.

KELLY

Oh. Right.

ANDY

I have the best song about masks.

Andy takes out his guitar and starts strumming.

ANDY

KEEP ON WEARING THEM ALL THE TIME
TAKE THEM EVERYWHERE THAT YOU
WANNA GO
CAUSE IT'S TRUE{WHAT I HATE ABOUT
MASKS}
THAT'S WHAT I HATE ABOUT
MASKS{THAT''S WHAT I HATE ABOUT
MASKS}
THAT'S WHAT I HATE ABOUT
MASKS{THAT''S WHAT I HATE ABOUT
MASKS}
THAT'S WHAT I HATE ABOUT
MASKS{THAT''S WHAT I HATE ABOUT
MASKS}
WOO

KELLY

You have to send me the lyrics.

KEVIN

I thought we're not supposed to go anywhere.

MEREDITH

I will have to go back to my house at some point.

Kevin chuckles.

ANGELA

You shouldn't have gone anywhere last night at all.

OSCAR
My pantry is stocked with lots of
non-perishable foods.

MICHAEL
Do you like all your things?

OSCAR
Uh, yeah.

MICHAEL
That's what he said.

PAM
{disapprovingly}
Michael.

OSCAR
{to the camera}
Yeah, let's just make fun of the
gay man. This joke is getting old.

TOBY
I am prepared to stay at my house
for as long as necessary.

DWIGHT
I don't need grocery stores. I'm
good where I am.

KELLY
What happens when you eat all the
animals?

DWIGHT
Well, before we run out, we'll
just have all the animals mate
with each other.

ANGELA
That's disgusting.

TOBY
Hey, Michael, did you remember to
include the warehouse guys on this
call?

MICHAEL
They must've slipped my mind.

TOBY
I'll text them the link.

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MICHAEL
But are they really part of the
Paper Company?

PHYLLIS
Of course they are, Michael.

The WAREHOUSE GUYS, including Darryl, are shown working.

MICHAEL
What are you guys doing?

DARRYL
We're working, Michael. Can't you
see that?

MICHAEL
But why are you working? You
should have a holiday like
everyone else.

DARRYL
We have to work if we want to get
paid.

MICHAEL
Just screw Corporate.

DARRYL
Some of us have families to take
care of.

MICHAEL
Right. Right.

PHYLLIS
You know, my husband, Bob Vance,
Vance Refrigeration, could
probably get you guys really good
deals with frozen meals.

DARRYL
That would be great.

The Warehouse Guys leave the call.

ANGELA
No one answered my question about
cats.

TOBY
I think it's very unlikely that
cats will get infected.

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PAM

Angela, is there any way you can order your cats' necessities?

ANGELA

But what if the brand name recipe isn't available? My babies would never get used to it. I just can't do that to them.

PHYLLIS

You know, my husband, Bob...

ANGELA

I don't think my cats need to be refrigerated.

DWIGHT

Well, if you ever get tired of attending to your cats' million ailments, freezing them might be a good solution.

ANGELA

I'm not murdering my cats, Dwight!

MICHAEL

Okay, everything's getting a little heated.

ANGELA

Dwight wants me to kill my cats.

MICHAEL

Okay, Dwight, that's not nice.

DWIGHT

Cats are a plague on this earth!

MICHAEL

Okay, I think that's enough for today.

The Zoom call ends.

INT. STANLEY'S HOUSE

Stanley is doing his crossword puzzle while staring at the camera.

STANLEY

{to the camera}

(MORE)

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STANLEY (CONT'D)
I hope to avoid going into work
for as long as possible.

THE END

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