

# The Virus who Stopped the Pantomime

Narrator:

Every Who down in Who-Ville, liked the panto a lot  
And Virus Corona thought...

Virus: This is my shot!

Narrator:

Corona loved pantos! And crowds in all seasons.  
To spread illness. But why? No one quite knows the reason.  
It could be his head wasn't screwed on quite right.  
It could be perhaps that his shoes were too tight.  
But I think that the most likely reason of all  
Was he hadn't a heart, he was microscopically small.  
But whatever the reason, his shoes, or his size  
When auditions should have been , he started his rise.  
Staring out from the air, with his virussy crown  
At the warm lighted windows throughout the whole town.  
For he knew every Who in the wider Who-Ville region  
Was hoping to try for a part this Pantomime season.

Virus: And they're warming up their voices!

Narrator: he snarled with a sneer.

Virus: Its time for auditions! Its practically here!

Narrator: Then he laughed – oh he thought that he was pretty slick.

Virus: I must find some way to make every Who sick.

Narrator:

For, over the winter, he knew... all the Whos would gather.  
They'd meet late and early. There's nothing they'd rather.  
And then! Once together, he'd get all those Whos

They'd be coughing and sneezing and crying "boo hoo".  
When the Whos, young and old, would practice their lines  
And they'd practice and practice. And they would think they were fine.  
They would dance their panto dances and get out of breath  
Which is something Virus Corona thought was the BEST.  
And then they'd do something he liked most of all.  
Every Who across Who-Ville, the tall and the small  
Would stand close together at the show's beginning.  
They'd stand hand-in-hand. And the Whos would start singing.  
And they'd sing! And they'd sing!  
And they'd sing and dance and dance and sing!  
And the more Virus thought of this Who-panto-sing  
The more Virus thought,  
Virus: It's my year! I will win.  
And for 53 years the Whos have put on a show  
They MUST stop Virus Corona... but HOW?  
Then he had an idea! An awful idea!  
Virus got a wonderful, awful, idea!  
Virus: I know just what to do.  
Narrator: Virus laughed in his throat.  
And he made a quick costume – a hat and a coat.  
And he chuckled and clucked  
Virus: What a great virus trick  
I'll fit right in with the cast and get everyone sick.  
All I need is a script...  
Narrator: Corona looked around  
But good scripts are scarce. There was none to be found.  
Did that stop Virus? No! Virus simply said...  
Virus: If I can't find a script, I'll write one instead.

Narrator: So he pulled out his laptop and started to write.

He typed a few pages and said

Virus: "it's alright."

Narrator:

THEN he loaded up Tik Tok and practiced his moves.

He wasn't very good but sure got in the groove.

Virus said

Virus: "ta da"

Narrator: and started on his way.

Toward the Capitol where the Whos should be meeting that day.

All the windows were dark. Quiet snow filled the air.

All the Whos were at home. There was nobody there.

So he ventured out further, but the streets were all bare.

Virus: Where is everyone

Narrator: Corona Virus hissed.

He looked left and right and then shook his fist.

He marched along Baker where some Whos had been.

But no one was gathered so he couldn't blend in.

He slipped into a shop and gasped with a start.

All of the Whos were six feet apart

As they waited in line, all in a row

Virus suspected there would be no show.

What's worse, Virus noted as they went about their tasks

Every Who in Who-Ville was wearing a mask!

Checkered! And Striped! Disposable! Plain!

N95s

Virus: This is insane!

Narrator:

And he looked all around. Virus gave a shrug.

For he noticed the Whos did not even hug.

Then he slunk to a window to watch the Whos feast  
With plexy between them, they ate their roast-beast.

He saw that the windows posted hearts of thanks.

And he started to feel sure that this wasn't a prank.

Virus: They must have known I was coming

Narrator: He realized with dread

But he smiled as an evil thought crossed through his head.

Virus:

Maybe I can't make all the Whos sick, not even one

But the panto is cancelled and so is all fun.

Narrator:

He heard a small noise, turned, and saw a small Who!

Little Cindy-Lou Who, who was not more than two.

Virus had been heard by this tiny Who kid

Who stayed socially distanced, cause everyone did.

She stared at Corona and said

Cindy-Lou Who: Yes, its sad.

No panto this year.

Narrator: and Virus felt glad.

But he'd been practicing acting and got into character fast

He pretended, he frowned

Virus: I'd hoped to be cast.

Why, my sweet little tot

Narrator: the big faker lied

Virus: I bet you wanted to go, maybe sit on the side.

I suppose you thought that you'd yell, and you'd boo

Poor little Who – this must be hard for you too.

Narrator:

And his fib made her sigh, she shook her small head.

Virus Corona smiled about what he had said.

And Cindy-Lou Who walked away with her pup.

Virus: NO one knows what to say that might cheer HER up!

Narrator: He felt pretty smug, that nasty germ.

Virus: The Whos are all miserable

Narrator: On THAT he felt firm.

As he moved around town, no one got sick

But the virus was sure he'd spread sadness on thick.

Virus:

They can't get together to dance or to sing

They can't get together, well... for anything!

The panto performers from all the years ago

Will have nothing to do and no where to go.

No one in Who-Vile will enjoy ANY show.

Oh, THAT silence...

Narrator: he grinned

Virus: That I simply must hear.

Narrator:

So he paused. Virus Corona put his had to his ear.

But he DID hear a sound rising over the snow.

It started in low. Then it started to grow...

And the sound wasn't sad! Why the sound sounded merry!

It couldn't be so! But it WAS merry! Very!

He looked around Who-Ville! Virus popped his eyes!

Then he shook! What he saw was a shocking surprise!

Every Who across Who-Ville, the tall and the small,

Was singing! Safe at home each and all!

The panto was stopped but the fun, it still came!

Somehow or other, it came just the same!

The Whos all stayed home. No one sent to the show.

But they booed and they yelled and had fun even so.

They watched on their tvs shows from years' past.

Not gathered, but separate and still had a blast.

Maybe they missed being together in the same room.

But they could still get together if only on Zoom.

And if you've heard a story a little like this before,

You know this is the part where our villain learns –

Virus: It means a little bit more (*trying it out, but then rejecting it*)

Narrator:

But unfortunately, as I said from the start

The Corona Virus, he doesn't HAVE a heart.

So, instead, I'll end by saying – Keep love in your heart.

Try not to get down and try to do your part.

Cover your face when moistly speaking.

Offer compassion instead of critiquing.

We'll get through this us Whos. We'll be okay.

And next year's panto isn't so far away.

The End.