

Berry's Level 3 Lockdown #3



*The diary of a little bear in Auckland
August, 2020*

Carol Mutch

Anonymous review: *Berry, Teddy and I think your charm and simplicity tap into the child in us, recalling that fleeting time of whimsy, wonder and innocence. That's a pretty special gift, not to be underestimated; some would say it's a superpower.*

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Chapter 2: Our last week in (this) lockdown





Ahhh, nothing like having your breakfast in the early morning sunshine. But now it's back to home learning. I watched Nanogirl do some science experiments. I think she is a science superhero. Then I wrote a letter to Nana. She doesn't have a computer so I am writing a real letter in my best printing. I hope she likes it.



When I was doing my exercises today, my human said I looked very flexible and I might like to try ballet. She made me a tutu -- that's a ballet dress for those of you who don't know. My cousin Charlee does ballet. I wonder if I'll be as good as her?



And, it will be no surprise to you to know that I am wearing my ballet dress all day. Do you think my human will let me wear it to bed?



It was a lovely Saturday and my human said we might go for a walk. I did some warm up exercises and then we set off. We didn't go too far as you are supposed to stay close to home but I did enjoy it.



That evening, I had a lovely surprise. I talked to my cousin in Melbourne. They are in lockdown, too. He says that his family is fine but they worry about Granddad Bear who is getting older.



Sunday was
housework day.
I'm a little bit
small to help
with the
vacuuming but
my human let
me go along for
the ride.



Whoa, not so fast!



'Tonight, you need to have a bath,' said my human.

'We are going on a trip. We will go down to Level 2 tomorrow and we are allowed to leave Auckland.' She let me use her special towel so I'm lovely and clean and all ready.

Monday arrived.

My first job was to pack my travel bag.

‘Can I take my ballet dress?’ I asked.

‘Unfortunately not,’ said my human. ‘It will crush but you can take your superhero suit.’

I still don’t know where we are going.

I am so excited!

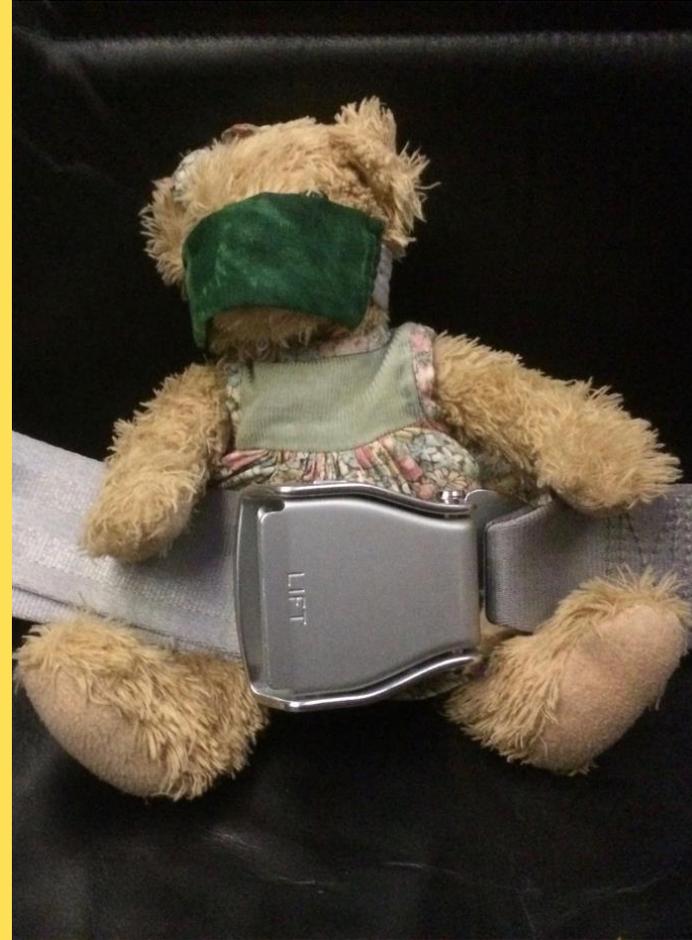




We're ready to go.



Into the taxi.



A quick bite to eat in the Koru Lounge, then time to explore the seat pocket of the plane before I needed to buckle up for take-off on our trip to Christchurch. I can't wait to see everyone.



The next day I went to visit my family. I got a great big hug from Bear.



He introduced me to his best friend, Alligator. I wasn't sure about him.



And then I told the little bears about all my adventures in Level 3 lockdown.



It's hard to think of everything I did. But I did learn some life lessons...

It's important to make the most of what's around you. You can make your own fun out of ordinary things. And there's a little treasure in every day if you stop and look for it.



But, most of all, there is a superhero inside all of us. You just need to find your own unique superpower.

Level 3 lockdown in Auckland is over for now but the virus is still here. Life is going to have a few more ups and downs for some time to come.

Kia kaha, kia māia, kia manawanui.

Love, *SUPERBERRY*

On August 12, 2020, the Prime Minister, the Right Honourable Jacinda Ardern, put the city of Auckland into Level 3 lockdown after an outbreak of COVID-19 in the community. The rest of the country was placed into Level 2. The author was in Auckland at the time and luckily had a little bear for company who recorded their new lockdown experience.