

# Alex Irick - Encyclopedia Poem

## Encyclopedia Poem

Frightful Infections

By Alex Irick

As rotten as the plagues, **A**  
As deadly as the wars, **B**  
Viruses and bacterias, **C**  
Brought many to all fours. **B**

Viruses and bacterias, **A**  
Spread in cafeterias, **A**  
You're crippled and crumbled; you slowly perish, **B**  
You remember the memories you used to cherish. **B**

According to studies across the USA, **A**  
A virus's spread can be stopped in many ways. **A**  
One of them is vaccines, which can be used for immunity, **B**  
But it doesn't work if it is not used by the community. **B**

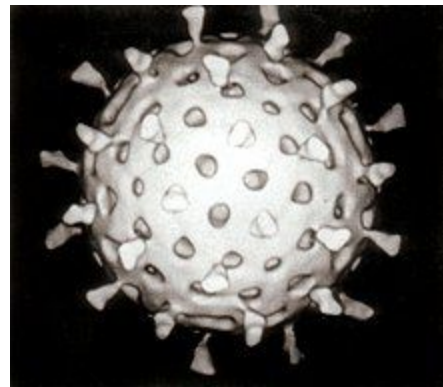
Some viruses avoid our immune systems, **A**  
Which helps many of us fall as victims, **A**  
And result in chronic infections, **B**  
Which can throw your life in many directions. **B**

Other than that, **A**  
You're good to go, **B**  
Just making sure **C**  
That you know. **B**

## Encyclopedia Entry

The second half of the twentieth century was the golden age of virus discovery and most of the over 2,000 recognised species of animal, plant, and bacterial viruses were discovered during these years. These viruses can be very frightening and deadly to humans.

Viral infections in animals provoke an immune response that usually eliminates the infecting virus. Immune responses can also be produced by vaccines, which confer an artificially acquired immunity to the specific viral infection. Some viruses, including those that cause HIV and viral hepatitis, avoid the immune system and result in chronic infections.



**"Virus."** Wikipedia, Wikimedia Foundation,  
17 Feb. 2020, [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Virus](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Virus).