

## The Second Round of the Pandemic

After grocery shopping and unloading the groceries at home,  
I take the receipt out of the grocery bag to put it on the kitchen island  
I touch the receipt  
I have to wash my hands  
After putting all groceries away, I would then arrange my receipts on the kitchen island  
I touch a receipt, so I have to wash my hands  
I touch another receipt, I have to wash my hands  
I touch the grocery bags to put vegetable peels in them  
I have to wash my hands  
This routine Continues

I am paranoid

My hands are dry with cracks from overwashing  
I wash my hands too many times  
I keep going from the kitchen to the bathroom to wash my hands with soap  
I am going nuts

I am constantly bothering my husband who is in his den next to the restroom  
where I wash my hands  
I went through SARS when I was in Taiwan and now COVID-19 in the US  
I have personally been through two pandemics  
This pandemic made me recall that scary period, dealing with SARS when I was in  
Taiwan  
Nurses checked our temperature on our foreheads every morning when I went to my university  
All of the students, faculty and staff had their temperature checked upon entering the university  
building  
I took the bus  
After boarding, I saw almost everyone getting on, wearing a mask  
Quite shocking to me  
The image of everyone wearing masks, getting on the bus, horrified me and lingered in my head  
since that time I have learned to wash my hands very frequently