

I can only read so little German before my head hurts.

Yet, now in Berlin, reading is all I do

„*Warum das Coronavirus in Italien tödlicher ist*“

a newspaper title I read in February  
uneasy I call my family — they're fine  
*Mamma\** says to buy protective masks

„*Deutschland führt vorerst keine Schutzmasken Pflicht*“

I read, So I hold tight to my money  
I'll buy toilet paper in stead

„*Corona-Krise: «Noch ist die Ruhe vor dem Sturm»*“

the radio says in my German class,  
I'll stock on some canned food — I think  
*Papà\** asks if I bought the protective masks

„*RKI meldet mehr als 4000 Neuinfektionen*“

I feel fine, I'll eat my veggies maybe,  
spinach never tasted so good

„*Deutschland macht Grenzen dicht*“

perhaps they'll refund my flights —  
should have gone home for Christmas  
*mia sorella\** shows me funny masks on Insta

„*Corona jetzt in fast allen Bundesländern*“

caressing my health insurance card  
I'm young, I'm healthy, I wash my hands

„*Corona-Zustände wie in Italien auch in Deutschland*“

I've social distanced for long enough — haven't I?  
we have flour, yeast and cat litter for a month  
*Schatzi* touches my hand and smiles

„*Erste deutsche Stadt erlässt Mundschutzpflicht*“

Calling my family\* — hey, *avevate ragione*  
I should have bought those masks