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“It’s Exquisite”: Finding Fun in Literacy

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“It’s Exquisite” : Finding Fun in Literacy

by Emma Pitts

“Exquisite Corpse” is a fun game that any kid can play. All you need is a piece of paper (folded in three sections) and a pencil. You can play this game with any number of people, but we often play it at home, or if we go out to eat. My momma said she used to use it in her classroom as a fun writing activity, but now we play all the time.

You need at least three people to make each part of the drawing without peeking.

Before you begin, fold the paper into three parts, almost like you were putting it in an envelope, but so you can only see one section at a time.

First, each person draws a head (from the top of the head to the neck) of any creature you wish on the top section of the paper. (Mom says, “the sillier the better,” but I say, anything!)

Then, you trade papers with the next person, without looking at the head, and each of you draws on the middle section of the paper. Draw the body (from the neck to the waist).

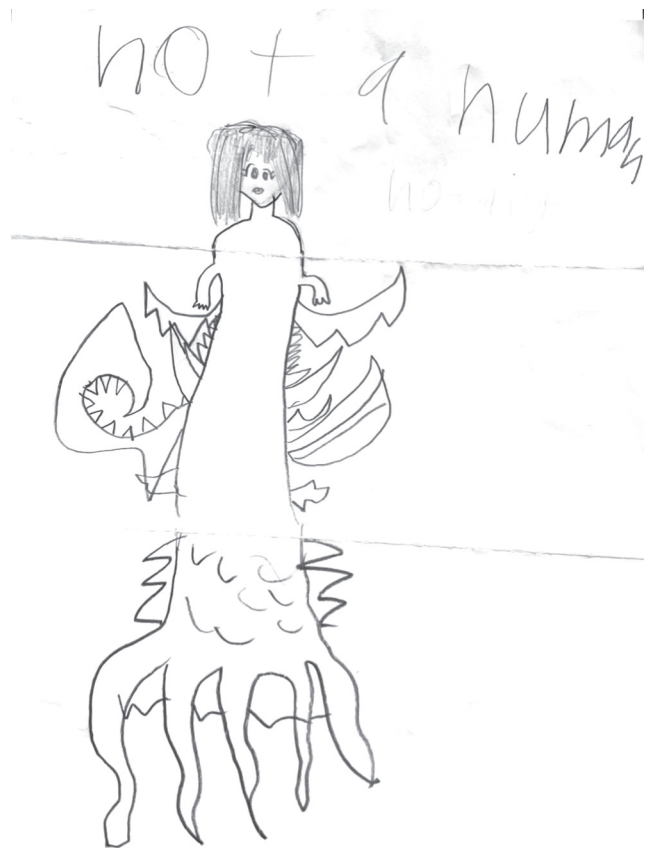
Next, you trade papers to the next person, and each draws the legs and feet on the bottom section of the paper.

Finally, you unfold the paper and pass it back to the person who drew the head. They name the creature and say what it does.

I made an exquisite corpse called, “NOTaHUMAN,” who is not a human. This creature can do everything! If I was going to write a story about “NOTaHUMAN,” I would tell everyone that she can eat planets, and it’s a very cool story because the moon can heal itself. Every day, “NOTaHUMAN” jumps up to the moon and eats a bite. But, it regenerates when it is gone. So, that’s why the moon changes shapes every day. Cool right?



Make your own “Exquisite Corpse” by visiting MOMA to read more: <<https://www.moma.org/collection/terms/exquisite-corpse>>.



Author Biography

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