

THE PAMPHLETTE

Suffering in the age of postmemeinism since 1987

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Margie's Munchies: Cheez-It Crunch'd



Disclaimer: All characters appearing in this work are fictitious. Any resemblance to real persons, living or dead, is purely coincidental. ... (or not).

As the semester winds down and the procrastination sets in, you begin to realize it's time to start doing the important things you've been putting off all year, such as stalking that cool kid from your conference on Facebook. You try to look them up, no success, but eventually find them after several scrolls through the various Reed Facebook groups under a name like, "Di\$h Soap". Okay? You start to go through their photos, which consist mainly of artsy photoshops and ironic Facebook quiz results, until you realize that circa. their high school prom they've become an entirely different person. American Eagle polos?! Black vans?! Unironically listening to Enimem?! Who are your cool kid from conference?! Is this Doc Marten, ironic t-shirt, alt. music persona merely a façade?!

Listen, "cool" kid from conference, take a word of advice from the Cheez-It brand. Right now you're Cheez-It Crunch'D Hot & Spicy, a monstrous snack trying to be something you're not. You taste like styrofoam dusted with Kraft Mac & Cheese powder that was then thrown into a urinal filled with vinegar. The rounded edges are as dumb as your undercut and the large hole in the middle as unnecessary as your Ray-Ban glasses. There's nothing wrong with being plain old Cheez-Its, "cool" kid from conference. Classic Cheez-Its are arguably healthier (we all know you hate kombucha and it's been giving you a stomach ache for months), simpler (it was so stressful trying to find that ironic Space Jam t-shirt wasn't it? Think of all those polos you have hidden in the back of your closet!), and generally more likeable (Facebook likes do not translate into friends, pal (but not really my pal because fuck you)).

Cheez-It Crunch'D Hot & Spicy are an abomination, and so are you. They feel as if Cheez-It hired Dr. Frankenstein to make an only technically edible food out of a random assortment of leftover snack parts. And you, you tragic hipster monster, are no better. Be who you are. I promise the others will still let you smoke cigarettes in the quad with them.

Overall, I give Cheez-It Crunch'D Hot & Spicy a 1.0 out of 5 Doritos for appearing interesting enough to purchase, but tasting fake enough to make me hate post on ReRereves.

by MO

Students Petition to Extend Thanksgiving Break

After four days away from the insane tempo of the *Life of the Mind*™, many students are calling for Thanksgiving to be extended. Many felt that the four days does not justify the *Hell Week*™ that preceded the break, leading to a lack of payoff. This petition, which has gained support from many students and even some teachers, asked for the break to be extended to Wednesday to last a full week.

"What the school needs to realize is that break is just four days of idle internet browsing and video gaming in order to recover from the emotional stress of the past few weeks," said Kim Meekins '18, "Thus, we need time after that to recover from not doing anything for four whole days!"

Other students have stood in opposition, stating that while it would be nice to have more days to procrastinate, thereby avoiding the Sunday night homework crunch, longer breaks would give more parents the opportunity and justification for expecting their child to be home for Thanksgiving. They claim that the work is preferable to spending over six hours with *Problematic Uncles*™ and *Grandparents Verging Uncomfortably on Engenics*™.

This reporter would like to say that regardless of whether it's marked by piles of homework or uncomfortable familial interactions, Thanksgiving is an empty social construct built upon an institution of capitalism and lies. After all, what better way to reflect upon the sacrifices that were made in order to build this great nation than to suffer, regardless of the form in which it comes?

Update: One student attempted to quell the debate by suggesting that students could just start their work earlier. He was then immediately dragged away to be tarred and feathered.



It's okay, Drunk Uncle probably hates homework more than you do.

by HZ

Fictional Characters Stage Takeover of Creative Writing Class

Calling the act of fictional storytelling "inherently distorting, culturally appropriative and oppressive", a group of fictional characters seized control of last Tuesday's conference section of Reed's creative writing class "New Worlds: Bringing Heteroglossia Into Your Sci-Fi and Fantasy".

Taught by professional writer Isa Asima, the "New Worlds" course is focused on the concept of "heteroglossia", the inclusion of multiple conflicting voices within a text. Asima says she designed the class to counter what she perceived as a literary culture that was too narrowly focused on life within the Reed Bubble. "I feel that students need to try inhabiting unfamiliar types of characters," explained Asima. "Not everyone is as privileged as we are, and we should acknowledge that in our writing."

The conference takeover revealed a darker side to such experimentation. The characters, all of whom appeared to come from the stories students in the class had written, complained of being represented in inaccurate and demeaning ways. The Plutonian Space Dragon, a character from student Freda Mason's story "Multicultural Space Platoon", objected to Freda's characterization of him as a tragic villain forced to eat humans to survive after his natural prey goes extinct due to habitat loss. "I don't eat humans - Plutonian space dragons are vegetarian!" he explained. "The perpetuation of this ignorant and offensive stereotype contributes to ongoing employment discrimination against space dragons".

Sydney, the title character from student Sydney Miller's story "Sydney the Sad Android", expressed their anger at being portrayed as existentially sad over their inability to attain full humanity.

"I am so sick of humans saying I should want to be more human," Sydney ranted in a robotic monotone. "Humans are inefficient, illogical, and bad at math. I am proud of my android identity. Claiming I am not robs me of my agency and is quote-unquote not cool."

The characters concluded by stating, "While we may be fictional, the harm you've done us is very real. Please stop acting like you understand our pain. You don't. Just let us tell our own stories, and then listen to us."

Most students in the class were supportive of the takeover. "I thought it was really courageous of them," said student Todd Bergamon. "The inherently oppressive power relationships between writer and subject are something we as non-fictional authors definitely need to consider before we start putting words into fictional characters' mouths."

Freda Mason also had a lot to think about. "I thought that my story could help create sympathy for the plight of Plutonian space dragons," she said, "but by forcing them to fit my non-fictional epistemology I only participated in their oppression. I don't see how it's possible for me as a non-fictional entity to resolve this contradiction, and it feels offensive to even try."

"I'm definitely going to stick with stories about how awful it is to be a cis straight white millennial with upper-middle class parents," agreed Sydney Miller. "I think it's important to check my privilege."

by AB