

# HERE LIES \_\_\_\_\_

(a freeform game for three to ??? people in 30-60 minutes. written by tracy barnett, edited by jeremy morgan)  
Everything needed for play is included, save for the utensils needed to create The Artifact. For the Artifact, you will need additional paper and writing or drawing utensils.

*Read all of the text below, out loud to the group, prior to play.*

## **We are gathered to commemorate a life.**

*You were a friend, enemy, acquaintance, lover, sibling, child, or parent, to the Eulogized, and today, all gathered with sing their life to all who have ears to hear.*

**One of you is the Recorder and will transcribe the Eulogy. The Recorder can transcribe however they wish; using words, by drawing, by writing a melody, etc. Whatever the means of transcription, the Recorder will have an Artifact to present at the end of play, a memorial to the Eulogized.**

*The rest of the group are Speakers, giving words that will be used to build the Eulogy and create the Artifact.*

## **The Eulogy will be built in rounds.**

### **First, single words:**

The Speakers will speak single words to describe the Eulogized. Four words must be spoken, regardless of the size of the group.

### **Following single words, sentences:**

The Speakers will make statements about the Eulogized. Four statements must be spoken, regardless of the size of the group.

### **Following sentences, paragraphs:**

The Speakers will make extended statements about the Eulogized, building on what was established by the previous rounds. Four extended statements must be made, regardless of the size of the group.

### **Following paragraphs, silence:**

The Speakers will remain silent, absorbing what was said and what was not said. The silence will last no less than 5 minutes.

### **Following silence, presentation:**

The Recorder will present the Artifact, the lasting record of the life of the Eulogized. The Speakers and the Recorder will observe, comment, and when appropriate, go their separate ways, back to the lives they themselves live.

## **Suggestions for play:**

- This is an emotional game. Be sensitive to the nature of the topic
- If there are topics that the group is not comfortable with, discuss them, then do not bring them into play. Be respectful.
- The Artifact can be of any form the Recorder wishes. Input from the group is encouraged.
- The duties of the Recorder can rotate as the group sees fit.
- Listen, collaborate, encourage, and support each other. This is a shared experience.