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Winter 12-3-2018

## Secret Code

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**Erika Labrum**

**Logan, UT**

**December 3, 2018**

**Secret Code**

**Children's Folklore**

**Informant:**

Erika is part of a military family and refers to herself often as a "military brat." She has moved a lot and lived in many places including Alaska, Kansas, and currently Utah where she is attending Cosmetology school. She loves watching Bob's Burgers and doing hair/makeup. She is good at what she does. She's also a very funny and sarcastic person, her personality is unique and very enthusiastic.

**Context:**

I was at my apartment doing my homework in bed again. It was around 3pm and she was just getting home from her boyfriend's house. I was excited to see her again and in the middle of our conversation and catching up this week, I remembered my homework and asked her what languages she might've spoken or created as a kid. In contrast to my other roommate, she explained that she was a weird kid and that there was plenty more where that came from.

**Text:**

Well in 6<sup>th</sup> grade I was still in elementary school and I was a weird kid so I actually have a lot of examples if you need them. But my best friends at the time Tory, Michaela, Anna and I, had a composition book with our secret code in it and we just like passed it around between us and by the end of the year it ended up being about this big---[Holds out her hands to show width of the book]

Yeah it was gross too like we kept a cracker in there that grew hair.. and some other food. Like I was a really weird kid so if that doesn't do it for ya, I've got more stories. Um yeah I was a really weird kid.

**Texture:**

She was very happy and nice to talk to. We both were able to laugh a lot as she told her stories. She stood as it wasn't really it sit down conversation/interview and I still laid in my bed. It was a casual interview and we both enjoyed the sharing of weird childhood traditions.

Taylor McDougal

Utah State University

Hist 2200 Intro to Folklore

Lynne McNeill

Fall 2018