

This is a pre-print version of the Madeleine Sorapure and Austin Fauni's webtext "Teaching Dear Data," published in *Kairos: Rhetoric, Technology, Pedagogy*, 25(1), available at <http://kairos.technorhetoric.net/25.1/praxis/sorapure-fauni>

Tess Karls on Writing and Design: Transcript

So I was thinking about it because it was really weird to me because it was a writing class. And when I'd try to, I'd be coloring, ok, I'd have this postcard in front of me with just a bunch of colors in front of me. And my friends are like, what are you doing? Are you taking a writing class? I'm like, yeah but I'm coloring. So it was kind of weird at first, but then I realized it's not all that different. Like writing, it says in my reflection, it's, writing is just its own code, it's just a bunch of random symbols that we chose at one point in time that now mean something because we all know the meaning of each symbol. And I was essentially doing the same thing. My postcard was just a bunch of random symbols and colors and leaves. Um, that it's more personal, like it was a personal code versus a universal code that writing and the alphabet is. But my leaves and my colors were a personal code that said the exact same thing that I could have if I wrote out my data. Like it represented the exact same thing, but because I made it different, because I made it personal with colors and stuff, it represented a lot more than words could have. Like it showed me, not just what I tracked. You know, like it was my expression of it so I feel like it reveals a lot more.