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### Emotion in a World of Boredom

There was a time when the earth was bland and lifeless. Man couldn't feel any emotions and life seemed to possess no meaning. During this glum time, the Goddess, Hope, married Eros, the god of love. Together, they birthed quintuplets. Happiness was the name of the only daughter, and Sadness, Fear, Anger, and Disgust were the four mighty sons. This powerful family inhabited Mt. Olympus. All of the children had a strong and loving relationship with their father from their birth, except for Happiness. Eros taught his children many lessons including the importance of loving one another and respecting each other. He taught them about honor and loyalty, but he eventually disobeyed his own teachings. Every so often, her brothers and father would participate in their own versions of olympic games which required skill and athleticism. They would hold chariot races, discus competitions, javelin throwing, and also running and jumping. However, Happiness, being the only daughter, always felt left out. She wasn't interested in these activities because of their masculinity, and would instead observe her brothers and Eros from the sidelines. One day, Eros saw his upset daughter and he decided to talk to her. He questioned why she was upset and she explained how she did not want to be included in these games. He lectured, "Being a part of a family means that you participate in activities and do your part. Not everything is what you want and you must learn to accept it". Upon hearing this, happiness felt neglected. Never before had she seen her father scold her brothers like he had

scolded her. Happiness decided she didn't desire to be a part of this seemingly cruel family, so she headed off the icy slopes of Mt. Olympus into the real world. For many long, dark, dreary days, she wandered by herself. She observed the lives of humans and how they woke up at dawn, worked in the fields all day, then came inside to eat and sleep. The cycle would start again the following day. Weeks had past and no one had come looking for her. Happiness didn't feel loved, but she decided to make her way back to Mt. Olympus to teach her family about the boredom mankind endures. Upon doing so, she noticed Aphrodite, the goddess of love, luring her father to her, using her kniving fingers. She ran to tell her family, but Eros stopped her. He threatened to banish her if she told a soul. Happiness nodded her head in fear and soon rain began to pour down from the vast sky and fell upon Happiness' face, mixing in with her warm, salty tears. She found her family and tried to convince them of her father's wrongdoings. Sadness, Fear, Disgust, and Anger told her that she was wrong and that it isn't right to wrongly accuse a family member. They all felt insulted that Happiness would make such an allegation. Her mother was different, however. She was the only one to believe Happiness because she had suspicions of her own. Hope confronted Eros and he denied ever having an affair with Aphrodite. He became angry with his family, but carried on with his life while Hope and Happiness formulated a plan. They would drug his drink and when he drinks it, it will send him into a deep sleep that he can not be awoken from. The other children found out what Happiness and Hope had done and became furious with them. Hope and Happiness re-explained the truth, and finally convinced the mighty boys of the reality. Each of the boys experienced different feelings from this event. Sadness felt as if he had a hole in his heart. Fear was afraid for what was to come, and if his mother would be able to take care of their family. Anger became so furious at his father and wrecked havoc

among the earth, killing much of mankind and nature. Disgust couldn't fathom why his once dearly loved father could ever do this to his children, and he was revolted by even thinking about Eros. Happiness became overjoyed that he was gone forever. Her whole life she felt she never owned a place in her father's heart. Now, Happiness experienced sorrow and suffering lift from her chest and make her free. Hope encountered a very different emotion. She understood that times would get better and she had hope for the future. Hope gazed from the sky to the earth and noticed how boring life was for the humans just like Happiness had. She summoned the rest of her children to observe with her, and together they decided to envelop themselves into the earth. They thought it fit to become spirits that dwelled among the earth, so they created emotions the humans could feel, resulting from their father's unworthy, unloyal, and dishonorable actions. Then mankind became sad, fearful, disgusted, angry, but also happy and hopeful.

### Importance and Significance of the Myth

This myth explains why things are the way they are today. The main part of the myth talks about the main emotions and their origin. Emotions are a huge part of life today. When one loses a loved one, they experience the same hole in their heart or pit in their stomach that Sadness felt. Anger went on a rampage just like many people today when he or she experiences fury and madness. Fear is most familiar to children of young ages. Kids are often scared or afraid of the "monster under their bed". Many are also scared of the dark, death, or even the same fear that Fear experienced; not knowing what the future will look like and if things will be okay. Disgust is also an emotion felt by people all around the world and from many cultures. It can be felt in many varying situations also. For example, one can be disgusted at a gross item or concept, or

disgusted by a person who sinned, similarly to Eros. This myth also teaches the concept of happiness and finding hope from the worst situations. One can always discover happiness and hope when times are rough and trials are present. Also, this myth explains karma, irony, and hypocrisy. Eros, the father, taught his children about loyalty and honor, but he himself broke his teaching and in return was put into a coma. Because of this, the myth demonstrates how one receives what they deserve. Today, one can also acknowledge the lessons taught by Eros. Although he disobeyed them, his poor example taught his children, and can teach the world today, about the importance of honor, loyalty, love, and respect. This myth and other myths represent reality and should be carefully examined to improve mankind as a whole.