

Robin Reshard

THE LITTLE BOOK OF 'FRO-ISMS

A Guide For Your Journey To Finding Your Uniqueness

By Robin Reshard

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Designed and layout by Team Media Creations Studio Photography by Howard Robinson Studios

The 1st Pick Seek And You Shall Find Your 'Fro!

If you became "it," then you faced the designated home base with your eyes covered, counting to 10 or 20, while giving your friends time to hide. They hid everywhere, sometimes in plain sight, daring you by their boldness to run faster than they could. Then, when you reached the magic number, you shouted, "Ready or not, here I come!" running to seek them out to make them "it" by tagging them with a touch.

Hide and seek is about looking, searching, hunting for your friends, your allies, your network. It is about the constructive curiosity that leads to meeting your goals. Even this childhood game of quest led to the discovery of new things along the way - a bird's nest, some long lost coins, a message scribbled in concrete, etc. You were interested in the newness of your finds and questioned the origins of some of it, even as finding your friends was your ultimate goal.

Years later, hide and seek takes on the same sense of discovery and newness. It is about being curious about people, things and ideas so that you live in your purpose and find your 'fro, or that unique trait about you that, for a season or a lifetime, defines you and sets you apart from others. I found my 'fro – literally – after the loss of three jobs had me questioning my existence, my very reason for living. I had derived my worth from my vocation. My purpose, helping others be their best by connecting people with people, ideas and information, was on solid ground. Nevertheless, after each one of these job transitions, I fully did not recognize what set me apart from others. My hair had been unique to some degree, but I knew that it did not totally define me. Yet, others recognized my 'fro even as they did not recognize my name or understand my value. So, as I loved doing and was trained to do, I began to ask questions of others; I became real nosy about things; and I started writing down my ideas. My 'fro started getting me

in some doors and, quite frankly, it kept me out of others. That was fine. I kept asking questions and researching and writing. I kept being curious. Needless to say, I made mistakes.

As you search for your uniqueness, remember to honor the missteps that you make (and you will make some doozies.) These missteps will give you those scars and scabs that provide physical and mental reminders on what to do or not to do the next time.

You have been endowed with a God-given unique gift. It is squarely up to you to be curious enough to discover it by being inquisitive of people, things and ideas so that your uniqueness can rise to the top. Call it being nosy if you want, but stick your neck out and smell the possibilities.

Alright, your time is up. Go shout, "Ready or not, here I come!"

small pick: be curious



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