



1-1990

Dangerous Facts

Jay Klokker

Follow this and additional works at: <https://commons.und.edu/tl-nirp-journal>



Part of the [Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Klokker, Jay (1990) "Dangerous Facts," *Teaching and Learning: The Journal of Natural Inquiry & Reflective Practice*: Vol. 4: Iss. 2, Article 5.

Available at: <https://commons.und.edu/tl-nirp-journal/vol4/iss2/5>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by UND Scholarly Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in *Teaching and Learning: The Journal of Natural Inquiry & Reflective Practice* by an authorized editor of UND Scholarly Commons. For more information, please contact und.common@library.und.edu.

Dangerous Facts

When I try to explain to you exactly what I feel I remember the time I ran home from school crying because I thought everyone there could read minds. I'd been trying to show them the difference between the sailbacked reptile edaphosaurus and the similar, but fiercer dimetredon, when I realized something was wrong. They were listening, not to me, but to a part of my voice that I couldn't hear. I tried to distract them with dangerous facts: how many apple seeds it takes to kill a man and how to make a sleeping potion from urine. Imagine yourself, I said, lying in bed on the surface of a white dwarf star. Try lifting your finger. It weighs one thousand two hundred pounds. Now open your eyelids—if you can find them. Your brain, I said, is nothing but soup with chunks of bone in it. That's when the teacher sent me home with a note saying "Jay has a problem with peer interaction." I wanted to ask my mother what kind of interaction this was, but I was afraid of making her lie. That night I couldn't get to sleep. I had to know the truth about everything.

—Jay Klokker