

Fantasy game takes off

If You Had To Choose...? based on class queries



SANDY GARCIA/METRO TORONTO

Nowadays, most people find it hard to pursue their career dreams due to challenges that keep them from moving forward.

But for Susan Morry, creator of the fantasy game If You Had To Choose...?, the 10 years of trying to accomplish her goals has finally paid off.

"I really wanted to get into filmmaking, and I was successful at creating a short film on my grandmother that made it onto CBC television," Morry says. "But it was so expensive to make films that I had to think of another way of coming up with the money to pursue my goal. So I thought, 'Why not come up with a product?'"

Morry, who was a high school English teacher, used to ask her students questions making them choose between two things, which caused the class to get into a debate.

"I couldn't believe the debate they caused," she says. "It was mind-boggling, and they were always asking me for more questions, and it was the students who suggested I should turn this into a game."

Over the 10-year period, Morry wrote 700 'what-if' questions and created If You Had To Choose...?, a fantasy game about priorities and about topics they never tire talking about – love, money and sex.

Not only do game players have to choose between the two extremes, but also other players must predict what the person answering the question will say and try to change their minds.

If You Had To Choose...? features 700 questions such as, 'If you had to choose, would you rather a) die in five years but remain with your family or b) be frozen now but have to leave your loved ones probably forever?'

After struggling with funding to get her game out on the market, Morry was finally able to launch her game at select stores throughout Toronto.

"The response has just been amazing. In two days we sold over 100 games, and the feedback from people is unbelievable. Who would have thought people would go crazy for a game like this?" Morry says.

Although filmmaking is her passion, Morry is keeping her focus on the board game until she has the funds to start creating films.

Morry offers advice to others trying to pursue their career goals: "It was hard, yes, but I never gave up ... whether you're getting into writing, filmmaking, art or becoming a doctor, you can't let these obstacles and hurdles get in your way. Keep your head up, and keep going."

Go to www.ifyouhadtochoosegame.com for more information.

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If You Had To Choose...? is available at Mind Games (Eaton Centre, Fairview Mall, Upper Canada Mall, Scarborough Town Centre), The Omega (Yorkville), Love Craft (Yorkville) and the University Of Toronto Bookstore for \$34.99.

[<< Back](#)