**Discussion Questions – “The Paper Menagerie” - Ken Liu**

1. Revisit the concept of othering/Orientalism. Write down your definition here:

Western thinking the east one-sided, and might have bias to the east.

1. Find two examples of characters treating Jack differently because he is “different” than the other people in the town where he and his family live. Write down the passage(s)/quote(s). Using the language from your definition in question 1, explain how we might consider the two examples you found as examples of othering/orientalism.

When Jack moved to his new house, his neighbors thought he is a monster and guessed he has illness. His classmate Mike visited his house, he denied his paper menageries is a kind of toy because these toys are different than the toys in America. The neighbors' perception of Jack is a kind of stereotype. Mike assumed paper menagerie’s value as his toys, so he can’t understand the value that these paper menageries really is.

1. How does Jack’s attitude toward his mother change after the boy Mark comes over to Jack’s house? Find a passage/quote to support your answer. Use that passage/quote to help explain your response.

He becomes rude, impatient and strict to his mother, because his mother is Chinese and different to Americans. Jack spoke Chinese to his mother before, however, during the dinner, he asked his mother to speak English.

1. At the bottom of page six, Jack explains how he ignored his mother in his “All-American pursuit of happiness.” What does he mean by referring to his happiness as “all-American”? What might this have to do with the concept of othering/orientalism?

All-American is all the citizen live in the America, but without his mother. American is a big group that contains all kinds of nations, but he excluded his mother. So, we can assume Jack had bias to his mother, think she lacks some capacity of American and can’t classified to American.

1. How does race affect this story? How about othering? Stereotyping? Talk about how this story helps us to better understand the concepts we have discussed today.

The mother is Chinese, so she suffered biased by other Americans. The people around her are focusing on her Chinese face, focusing on her poor background, but forgetting her kindness. We always have wrong concept to the people who are different than us, like the mother in the story can’t understanded by Americans. To break out this stereotype, we should spend more time to know each other, distinguish what advantage and weakness the person have.