The poem “My Blackness is the Beauty of This Land” is about an African American grandmother explaining the pain she went through growing up in America. This woman is a woman of the church but has been through a lot because she was black in America. For example, being black in America she has been spat on by a white man. Situations like these is why her daughter had a fear when she found out what it means to be black. In this poem the grandmother knows that her time of death is almost near. For instance, she says “all my long body with filth and in the gutter lie as I lie I will perfume this armpit garbage.” This example explains the title because she is soon to be a part of this world.

The article that I found that relates to this poem is “Growing up Black in America: Here’s My Story of Everyday Racism”. The article depicts how he is better off in America as a light-skinned black man. He explains that in the United States he has experienced a lot more discrimination. For example, he was told that he was a bad one, but better than the others. As he got older he observed that racism was around the corner everywhere. This article relates to the poem because they both discuss the struggles in their lives being
black in America. Both show the discrimination and suffering they went through. I will use this to relate to myself and the struggles I have gone through growing up in Fort Wayne.

Herman, Melissa. “I Wouldn't, but You Can: Attitudes toward Interracial Relationships.”


The short story “You Can’t Get Lost in Cape Town” is set in Cape Town in South Africa and is about an African American woman who finds love, but her love is forbidden because she fell in love with a white man named Michael. Eventually she became pregnant and she knew wants the baby came she wouldn’t be able to hide it anymore. Instead of running away with Michael like he proposed she decided the best way to keep her relationship a secret she would get an abortion. The article that I found that relates to the short story is “I Wouldn’t, but you can: Attitudes Toward Interracial Relationships” is about Whites’ attitudes towards dating African Americans and Asian Americans. For example, 29% of the respondents said that they reject both for relationships. This article explains what white people feel about people in interracial relationships. Overtime people have become more acceptive of interracial relationships and this article states that white woman are the most accepting. Most people in this article say that they are now more accepting of others dating, but they wouldn’t themselves. So overall there is still judgement and disapproval of people who are involved in interracial relationships. The article states that there is judgement and disapproval which is what the woman in the short story was afraid of because in South Africa it wasn’t accepting of interracial relationships. Especially because of the time era her, Michael, and her baby could have
been punished because of their actions. These relate to my theme of interracial relationships.


The short story known as “The Arrangers of Marriage” is a story about a Nigerian girl’s uncle found her a husband who was original from Nigeria but then him and his mother moved to America his name is Dave. Dave and she moved to New York in America when they became married after two weeks of getting to know each other. After moving down with her husband, he tried in so many ways to get her to assimilate to the American culture, which made her feel uncomfortable. After she tries to assimilate into the American culture by cooking fried chicken, her neighbor makes her feel comfortable by allowing her to come over and talk about Nigeria and connect with the culture. After she becomes friends with her neighbor she feels more comfortable and even wants to get a job in America. After consulting her husband about working she finds out that he is still married and that he is not all that she thought he would turn out to be so then she left. The article that relates to this short story is the article known as “Arranged Marriage, American-style” An Indian woman met a guy named Raj who her parents wanted her to marry in America. She wasn’t even consulted about the idea they just told her she would marry him. The woman chose to understand that arranged marriage is a common thing in their culture, instead of saying that they are in America and things are different here. She decided to go on a date with Raj. After the date she concluded that a marriage with this man wouldn’t work so she decided to call it off. These two stories will help me write later
how arranged marriage shouldn’t be allowed, but to allow people to find true love for themselves.


The story “The Nigga Section” is about an African American assimilating into white culture almost as if they are losing their self-identity and recreating a new one. The poem explains that they hate African Americans who assimilate to white culture. For example, you rodents you whores...holes with bits of Malcom’s flesh. This poem feels that there is nothing worse than a black man assimilating into whiteness. The article that I think related to this is “The Three Effects of Immigration and Assimilation”. The article discusses about that assimilation effects people mental health and self-identity. I will use these to show how self-identity is important for a person to be truly happy.


The story “Let’s Make a Slave” is about what it takes to make a slave and the process of breaking a man so that they understand the relationship between master and a slave. This story explains that making a slave you need an African American man, woman, and boy. Then you can begin the process which is like breaking a horse. For example, both must be taught to respond to a new language. Overall the story explains that each thing you do has to show who is the dominant man in the relationship and teaches them to obey. In the article “An American Tragedy: The Legacy of Slavery Lingers in our Cities’ Ghettos”
explains that there is still a race problem today and an issue with African Americans still be discriminated against. Even though slavery was abolished government, society, and locals continue to create ways to systematical put people on the bottom of the race hierarchy. Overall, I will use the article and story to talk about discrimination and relate it to myself on some of the ways I have been discriminated against.