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Advice for My Son Upon Entering Kindergarten

Don't be surprised if the other kids wonder what you are. They may make fun of your new used backpack, your brown bag lunch. They don't know it's impolite to ask, "Where's your mama?" even when I'm standing next to you, cautious as a nanny. You are fair and smooth. The girls will fall in love with your long lashes, while the boys will envy the ease with which you pass through worlds. Be smart. These boys may push, cut you in line, think they're entitled to something more.

The playground is an unlikely (or maybe the most likely) place to contemplate the human condition. They may look into your coal-black eyes and demand you choose your color, yet we know black or white is not that simple. You are the best of both. It's your choice to choose or not to. I say, let that be your first *fuck you* to the world.