

## FANONENON

by Min Yoon

*an ominous and theatrical guessing game,  
about words that fit everyone,  
in that they fit no one*

### warning:

Contains explicit and vulgar language, from real quotes from Twitter and other online sources written to someone or about a group of people. Quotes have been modified to use the second person perspective.

### an introduction:

*Can you imagine what it's like to walk in another's shoes?  
What if they were forced to wear two pairs of shoes at once?  
Then can you still imagine their shoes?  
It's hard enough living in our own shoes most days.*



*As you walk around, you may have an idea of who you are. Maybe you remember what you look like in the mirror.  
You see others out on the streets.  
Others see you, or at least what you look like on the outside. For some, this is all they'll see.  
Soon, you see what they see of you, and this changes how you see you; you can't unsee how they see you.*

This game is inspired by Frantz Fanon's book *Black Skin, White Masks*, which describes the psychological responses of Black people in a White world, for example, associating "blackness" with "wrongness". These responses develop a "dual consciousness" in which the "nature of the colonized subjects must simultaneously embrace two different cultural identities." This idea comes from W.E.B. Dubois's related concept of "double consciousness" described as "a sense of always looking at one's self through the eyes of others."

### in performance:

*This piece was originally performed with a live audience (as pictured) and has been adapted for reading (below).*

- One "Silent" player stood in the middle for the duration of the game (as the main subject).
- Three "Out-Loud" players stood in masks around the "Silent" player and read quotes (mined hate tweets targeted toward a group of people) out loud to the "Silent" players.
- Once the "Out-Loud" players finished reading the quotes, the "Silent" player was asked to describe the "fanonenon" (if and how they related to the quotes) and guess which group the quotes were originally intended for.

### instructions for reading:

- Right now, you are playing the role of the "Silent" Player (the main subject).
- For each "fanonenon", imagine that the quotes you are reading are words targeted toward you.
- Reflect on any feelings that arise and whether these quotes fit the people they are targeting.

## **FANONENON #1**

**intensity:** Medium

*These quotes are for "you".*

### **quotes:**

"If you want change, let me throw it at your dirty face"

"I wonder if you people go to heaven"

"I hate it when it gets cold outside, all these people get on the bus"

"maybe if you people took care of yourselves, looked pretty, we'd want to help you. I don't help yellow teeth."

"never understand why you smell of piss when you can literally piss anywhere."

"I was enjoying a latte when I saw one of your kind on the other side of the street. I almost vomited."

"Who are you?"

*These quotes were targeted toward homeless people.*

## **FANONENON #2**

**intensity:** High

*These quotes are for "you".*

### **quotes:**

"Are you as overweight, awkward, and lazy as we think you are?"

"Go fuck yourself stupid cunt. Learn your shit before you try to make something out of nothing."

"The main reason why all the harassment is because of all you dumb bitches who want to be superior. Hope you die raped."

"Don't pull the gender card. You're not being harassed because you're one of them, it's because you're an arrogant cunt."

"Your mutilated corpse will be on the front page of Jezebel tomorrow and there isn't jack shit you can do about it."

"If you have kids, they're going to die too. I don't give a fuck. They'll grow up to be like you anyways."

"Kill yourself. you're a waste of air also more games should have girl characters half naked such as "Tomb Raider" etc."

"Men have made the world such a safe and comfortable place that you now have time to bitch about equality"

"I'd never let one of you kick my ass. If you tried something, I'd be like hey, you get your bitch ass back into the kitchen and bake me some pie."

"Keep the transvestites out of the bathroom so you people can be safe. As one of them, you should agree with me."

"If you people want to participate in no shave november, then you will be celebrating no dick december."

"I think all you people should be gagged. You're all bloody noisy."

"Who are you?"

*These quotes were targeted toward female gamers during Gamer Gate.*

### **FANONENON #3**

**intensity:** High

*These quotes are for "you".*

#### **quotes:**

"Why do you black people enjoy Kool-Aid so much?"

"fuck you go eat some bananas and get ebola you dirty monkey."

"when will you get it in your stupid head that nobody likes your black ass"

"When the perpetrator is black, oh well; its so common place its not considered newsworthy, and surely does not fit the propagandists..."

"And isn't it funny. I've got black accountants at Trump Castle and Trump Plaza. Black guys counting my money! I hate it."

"I think the guy is lazy," Trump said of a black employee, according to O'Donnell. "And it's probably not his fault because laziness is a trait in blacks. It really is, I believe that. It's not anything they can control."

"In response to Black Lives Matter protestor, "Maybe [the protester] should have been roughed up," he mused. "It was absolutely disgusting what he was doing."

"What do you have to lose by trying something new, like Trump?" he said. "What do you have to lose? You're living in poverty. Your schools are no good. You have no jobs. 58 percent of your youth is unemployed. What the hell do you have to lose?"

"boohoo! Stop crying and get over it. Who would rape you? ur a fucking ugly nigger bitch"

"Who are you?"

*These quotes were targeted toward African Americans.*

#### **quote sources (#1-3):**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vkKEYsizz6Y>

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2f\\_kavukuKI](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2f_kavukuKI)

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