

White Boyfriend: A Saga

saga

noun

a series of incidents

[...]

white like, Black like me

white like Birkenstocks (no, wait - Merrill hiking boots)

(no, wait - Doc Martens)

Timberlands

oh, wait, appropriation

white like Birkenstocks crunching on New England leaves

orange, scarlet -

sunshine

blindingly white through snow

white like

90's boy cuts, like

Saved by the Bell, like

Shawn Hunter

like, you're so pretty for a black girl

like, ohgod your lipsare so big

... in both senses

like, "what do you want to do for dinner? I know a
great fried chicken place on the south side!"

like blank eyes and forced smiles in response to microaggressions

like blank eyes and forced smiles in response to Trayvon Martin

like blank eyes and forced smiles in response to

Sandra Bland

Freddie Gray

like, *macroaggressions* as an inconvenience

like white fragility

like, oh, wait, systemic racism

white like, my nigga

white like, boy please

like, "so,

are you really thinking of marrying her?"

like, well intentioned do gooder

like, self-congratulatory work in

inner cities urban areas disenfranchised populations

oh, wait, you mean the ghetto?

yes! gosh, oh someone hadtosayitright? guys, like me haveto be completely
politically correct around here.

white like,

you don't say?

like, I liked your hair

the other way

like, don't get too dark in the summer
like, I thought her performance was quite angry, didn't you?
like. rage. is. a. praxis. for. revolution.
white like whispers
like, where are you really from?
darkness from the onus of the night sky - expansive, layered,
actually.
white like absent minded, like silence
like violence
like violence (enacted), like silence (purposed), like spoken (word)
spoken words are softly spoken / shouted
like, do you have to laugh
so loud?
so, she stays quiet
like, seen but unseen
white like indie-folk
like, who's Nina Simone?
like, bodies swinging on trees in the summer breeze
white like, mediating difference
like, parsing through difficult questions
like, a series of incidents of difficult questions
except
systemic incidents
oh, wait,
that's oppression.