



11 • The Raging River

Supplemental Materials:



Mirrorland/ Will I Ever Be Enough?: Poetry Project

Here are excerpts from the poem “Mirrorland/Will I Ever Be Enough?” by Funmi Lijadu. Discuss this poem and then write your own poem that is a message to this poet in response to her poem. What would you like to say to her that might help her?

Mirrorland/ Will I Ever Be Enough? by Funmi Lijadu

Mirrorland is never kind
Presenting myself to the one-sided pane
Gazing wistfully at the luminous rectangular mirror
I hold in my palm for too long
Yes. scroll and see those fleeting visions
Flashing, dazzling, reflecting in your eyes
Do you know how my eyes water for you?

Focused on you in the unforgiving dark
I follow, I envy, I like, I like, I dislike, I unlike.
Yes! Today
you can buy this
and be happy?
Happy, until you see that post
Convinces you you're not enough
(You'll be back tomorrow!)....

Mirrorland oppresses me,
Reminding me of everthing
I don't have

I need to be.
Everything I haven't been
I keep going back
Pathetic.
(like a moth to a flame, you never learn)



A Radical Idea: Discussion Project

Have you ever considered that maybe you might be better off without social media? Did you know that the tech company inventors don't allow their own children to own iPhones? Why do you think that is so? Discuss what it would take for you to live a life without social media. What might you gain from making such a choice? What would you lose? How do the gains and losses add up?