

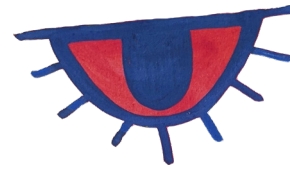


## FRACTAL MINDSCAPE

marker

Grace Lang | 12

## WHAT DO YOU SEE?



*dramatic monologue*

Laniya Jones | 9



Black, African American, colored, ghetto, hoodrat, thug, uneducated, suspicious, loud, ignorant, unaware, hoodlum, monkey, gorilla, aggressive, hostile, threat, unprofessional, unkempt, nappy-headed, slob, messy.

[Pause]

... Oh you really thought that was all? I'm seen a different way every day. Cotton picker, angry, big lips, big nose, big butt, dark skin, light skin...nope you're mixed, big feet, poofy hair - no you need to straighten it.

More and more jobs being lost because what, I have locs? Yes, I like wearing big hoops and colorful braids but, that's simply my culture. Soon, you'll come to accept it or, should I really say, steal it. Just like you did everything else. Our music, style, hairstyles, inventions, products, etc. You've stripped us bare with no credit left. Shouldn't you feel bad for taking everything from Black people and leaving us in despair? What else can you take from me, our dances? Welp, I see that has already happened. All these scenarios I can name off the top of my head while I run around in a whirlpool of ideas being fed to my community. Slowly we lose the truth and the truth to ourselves we continue to let it go free.

I had to say to myself, "why change when you can be proud of who you are?" No matter how much you alter yourself, you'll never be like them. It's as simple as that; forget what people have to say, stand with your community and be PROUD! ○

