

# Y7 – Exploring Different Perspectives on racism, the Royal Family and immigration.



Fortnight One	Racism in America
Fortnight Two	The Royal Family
Fortnight Three	Immigration

Name:

Class:

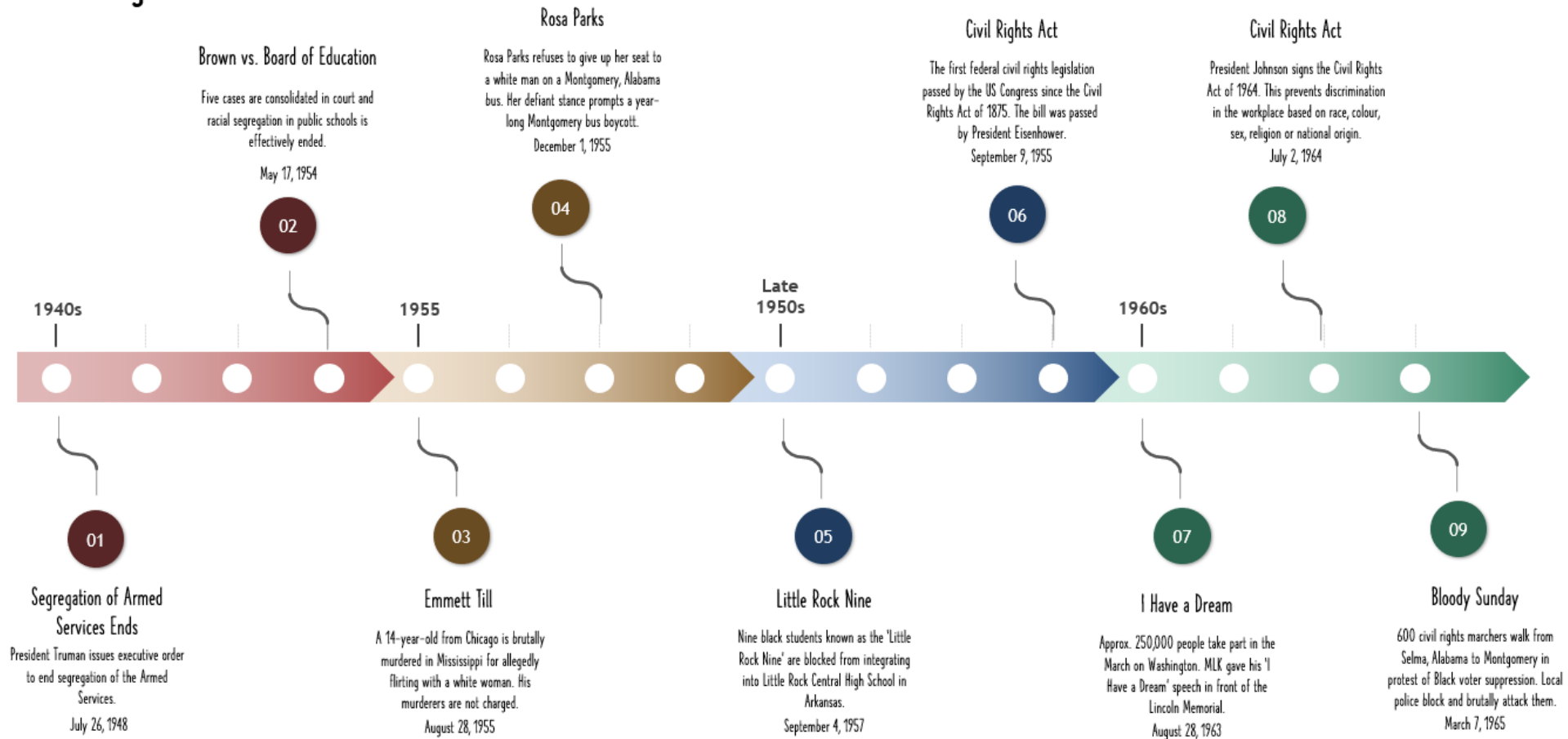
Teacher:

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# Civil Rights Timeline

## USA Civil Rights Timeline



# Jim Crow Laws

<https://www.history.com/topics/early-20th-century-us/jim-crow-laws>

Jim Crow laws were a collection of state and local statutes that legalized racial segregation. Named after a Black minstrel show character, the laws—which existed for about 100 years, from the post-Civil War era until 1968—were meant to marginalize African Americans by denying them the right to vote, hold jobs, get an education or other opportunities. Those who attempted to defy Jim Crow laws often faced arrest, fines, jail sentences, violence and death.

## Ku Klux Klan

During the Reconstruction era, local governments, as well as the national Democratic Party and President Andrew Johnson, thwarted efforts to help Black Americans move forward.

Violence was on the rise, making danger a regular aspect of African American life. Black schools were vandalized and destroyed, and bands of violent white people attacked, tortured and lynched Black citizens in the night. Families were attacked and forced off their land all across the South.

The most ruthless organization of the Jim Crow era, the Ku Klux Klan, was born in 1865 in Pulaski, Tennessee, as a private club for Confederate veterans.

The KKK grew into a secret society terrorizing Black communities and seeping through white Southern culture, with members at the highest levels of government and in the lowest echelons of criminal back alleys.

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## Jim Crow Laws in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century

With Jim Crow dominating the landscape, education increasingly under attack and few opportunities for Black college graduates, the Great Migration of the 1920s saw a significant migration of educated Black people out of the South, spurred on by publications like *The Chicago Defender*, which encouraged Black Americans to move north.

Read by millions of Southern Black people, white people attempted to ban the newspaper and threatened violence against any caught reading or distributing it.

The poverty of the Great Depression only deepened resentment, with a rise in lynchings, and after World War II, even Black veterans returning home met with segregation and violence.

## When Did Jim Crow Laws End?

The post-World War II era saw an increase in civil rights activities in the African American community, with a focus on ensuring that Black citizens were able to vote. This ushered in the civil rights movement, resulting in the removal of Jim Crow laws.

In 1948 President Harry Truman ordered integration in the military, and in 1954, the Supreme Court ruled in *Brown v. Board of Education* that educational segregation was unconstitutional, bringing to an end the era of “separate-but-equal” education.

In 1964, President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the Civil Rights Act, which legally ended the segregation that had been institutionalized by Jim Crow laws.

And in 1965, the Voting Rights Act halted efforts to keep minorities from voting. The Fair Housing Act of 1968, which ended discrimination in renting and selling homes, followed.

# Rosa Parks

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zjkj382/articles/zkhknrd>

We use buses every day to go to school or into town. It's not unusual, but this story is about a bus journey that changed millions of lives.

Let's go to America, in 1955, to Montgomery in the southern state of Alabama.

There, when a woman called Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat, a bus journey became very important.

Rosa's refusal was a protest about racism against black people. Racism is when someone thinks you're not as good as them because the colour of your skin or your race is different to theirs, so they treat you differently.

At that time, southern states in America, had something called 'segregation'. This meant people of different skin colours had different schools, restaurants, even toilets.

Segregation happened on buses too.

One day, Rosa was in a seat for black people, but white people's seats were full. The bus driver wanted Rosa to give her seat to a white person, but Rosa said no!

Rosa was a member of a civil rights group which fought for black and white people to be treated the same.

She was arrested and taken to jail for a few hours.

Rosa didn't fight alone, people organised a bus boycott, which meant they stopped using buses for a year. They walked instead. This bus company lost a lot of money. The boycott was a peaceful stand against racism.

Judges eventually said having separate black and white parts of buses was not allowed.

"Hello, friends of freedom. It's a wonderful day and let us be thankful we have reached this point and we will go farther from now to greater things. Thank you!"

Today, Rosa Parks is remembered as an ordinary woman who took a stand to help black people in America be treated fairly. To be treated the same as whites.

Key facts

- In 1950s America black people were treated unfairly. One person who tried to change this was Rosa Parks.
- On December 1, 1955, Rosa Parks was tired of having to give up her bus seat and she said "No" to a white person.
- This started the Montgomery bus boycott.



## Civil Rights Act, 1957

<https://www.historylearningsite.co.uk/the-civil-rights-movement-in-america-1945-to-1968/the-1957-civil-rights-act/>

The Civil Rights Act of 1957 was introduced in Eisenhower's presidency and was the act that kick-started the civil rights legislative programme that was to include the 1964 Civil Rights Act and the 1965 Voting Rights Act. Eisenhower had not been known for his support of the civil rights movement. Rather than lead the country on the issue, he had to respond to problems such as in Little Rock. He never publicly gave support to the civil rights movement believing that you could not force people to change their beliefs; such changes had to come from the heart of the people involved, not as the result of legislation from Washington.

However, he did push through during his presidency the 1957 Civil Rights Act. Cynics have stated that this was simply to win the 'Black Vote'. Up to 1957, and for a variety of reasons, only 20% of African Americans had registered to vote. In Britain, the government takes the initiative in sending out voter registration forms which individuals have to return. In America it is up to each person to take the responsibility to register their vote. In the South plain intimidation and official apathy and obstacles meant that very few African Americans registered their vote. Those that did not disqualified themselves from voting.

The 1957 Civil Rights Bill aimed to ensure that all African Americans could exercise their right to vote. It wanted a new division within the federal Justice Department to monitor civil rights abuses and a joint report to be done by representatives of both major political parties (Democrats and Republicans) on the issue of race relations.

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## Civil Rights Act, 1964

<https://www.britannica.com/event/Civil-Rights-Act-United-States-1964>

**Civil Rights Act**, (1964), comprehensive U.S. legislation intended to end discrimination based on race, colour, religion, or national origin. It is often called the most important U.S. law on civil rights since Reconstruction (1865–77) and is a hallmark of the American civil rights movement. Title I of the act guarantees equal voting rights by removing registration requirements and procedures biased against minorities and the underprivileged. Title II prohibits segregation or discrimination in places of public accommodation involved in interstate commerce. Title VII bans discrimination by trade unions, schools, or employers involved in interstate commerce or doing business with the federal government. The latter section also applies to discrimination on the basis of sex and established a government agency, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC), to enforce these provisions. In 2020 the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that firing an employee for being gay, lesbian, or transgender is illegal under Title VII's prohibition of sex discrimination (*Bostock v. Clayton County, Georgia*). The act also calls for the desegregation of public schools (Title IV), broadens the duties of the Civil Rights Commission (Title V), and assures non-discrimination in the distribution of funds under federally assisted programs (Title VI).





# Bloody Sunday

<https://www.history.com/news/selma-bloody-sunday-attack-civil-rights-movement>

On March 7, 1965, when then-25-year-old activist John Lewis led over 600 marchers across the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, Alabama and faced brutal attacks by oncoming state troopers, footage of the violence collectively shocked the nation and galvanized the fight against racial injustice.

The passage of the landmark Civil Rights Act of 1964 months earlier had done little in some parts of the state to ensure African Americans of the basic right to vote. Perhaps no place was Jim Crow's grip tighter than in Dallas County, Alabama, where African Americans made up more than half of the population, yet accounted for just 2 percent of registered voters.

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The rising racial tensions finally bubbled over into bloodshed in the nearby town of Marion on February 18, 1965, when state troopers clubbed protestors and fatally shot 26-year-old Jimmie Lee Jackson, an African American demonstrator trying to protect his mother, who was being struck by police.

In response, civil rights leaders planned to take their cause directly to Alabama Governor George Wallace on a 54-mile march from Selma to the state capital of Montgomery. Although Wallace ordered state troopers "to use whatever measures are necessary to prevent a march," approximately 600 voting rights advocates set out from the Brown Chapel AME Church on Sunday, March 7.

...

Once Lewis and Williams reached the crest of the bridge, they saw trouble on the other side. A wall of state troopers, wearing white helmets and slapping billy clubs in their hands, stretched across Route 80 at the base of the span. Behind them were deputies of county sheriff Jim Clark, some on horseback, and dozens of white spectators waving Confederate flags and giddily anticipating a showdown. Knowing a confrontation awaited, the marchers pressed on in a thin column down the bridge's sidewalk until they stopped about 50 feet away from the authorities.

"It would be detrimental to your safety to continue this march," Major John Cloud called out from his bullhorn. "This is an unlawful assembly. You have to disperse, you are ordered to disperse. Go home or go to your church. This march will not continue."

"Mr. Major," replied Williams, "I would like to have a word, can we have a word?"

"I've got nothing further to say to you," Cloud answered.

Williams and Lewis stood their ground at the front of the line. After a few moments, the troopers, with gas masks affixed to their faces and clubs at the ready, advanced. They pushed back Lewis and Williams. Then the troopers paced quickened. They knocked the marchers to the ground. They struck them with sticks. Clouds of tear gas mixed with the screams of terrified marchers and the cheers of reveling bystanders. Deputies on horseback charged ahead and chased the gasping men, women and children back over the bridge as they swung clubs, whips and rubber tubing wrapped in barbed wire. Although forced back, the protestors did not fight back.

...

This time, however, television cameras captured the entire assault and transformed the local protest into a national civil rights event. It took hours for the film to be flown from Alabama to the television network headquarters in New York, but when it aired that night, Americans were appalled at the sights and sounds of "Bloody Sunday."

## Civil Rights Context

What did you learn about each of these events? Write down between 5-10 bullet points for each event.

Jim Crow Laws	Rosa Parks	Civil Rights Act 1957	Civil Rights Act 1964	Bloody Sunday



### Martin Luther King: THE OTHER AMERICA (extract)

Martin Luther King is a famous Civil Rights activist, most commonly known for his 'I have a Dream' speech. This speech was given on March 10, 1968. In this speech MLK discusses the harsh realities that African Americans faced living in America.

*"I want to use as a title for my lecture tonight, 'The Other America.' And I use this title because there are literally two Americas. Every city in our country has this kind of dualism, this schizophrenia, split at so many parts, and so every city ends up being two cities rather than one. There are two Americas. One America is beautiful for situation. In this America, millions of people have the milk of prosperity and the honey of equality flowing before them. This America is the habitat of millions of people who have food and material necessities for their bodies, culture and education for their minds, freedom and human dignity for their spirits. In this America children grow up in the sunlight of opportunity. But there is another America. This other America has a daily ugliness about it that transforms the buoyancy of hope into the fatigue of despair. In this other America, men walk the streets in search for jobs that do not exist. In this other America, millions of people are forced to live in distressing housing conditions...*

*In this other America, thousands of young people are deprived of an opportunity to get an adequate education. Every year thousands finish high school reading at a seventh, eighth and sometimes ninth grade level. Not because they're dumb, not because they don't have the native intelligence, but because the schools are so inadequate, so over-crowded, so devoid of quality, so segregated if you will, that the best in these minds can never come out. Probably the most critical problem in the other America is the economic problem. There are so many other people in the other America who can never make ends meet because their incomes are far too low if they have incomes, and their jobs are so devoid of quality. And so in this other America, unemployment is a reality... So the vast majority of negroes in America find themselves perishing on a lonely island of poverty in the midst of a vast ocean of material prosperity. This has caused a great deal of bitterness. It has caused ache and anguish... These conditions are the things that cause individuals to feel that they have no other alternative than to engage in violent rebellions to get attention. And I must say tonight that a riot is the language of the unheard. And what is it America has failed to hear?...*

*It has failed to hear that the plight of the negro poor has worsened over the last twelve or fifteen years. It has failed to hear that the promises of freedom and justice have not been met. And it has failed to hear that large segments of white society are more concerned about tranquility and the status quo than about justice and humanity... we will never solve the problem of racism until there is a recognition of the fact that racism still stands at the center of so much of our nation and we must see racism for what it is. It is the myth of an inferior people. It is the notion that one group has all of the knowledge, all of the insights, all of the purity, all of the work, all of the dignity. And another group is worthless, on a lower level of humanity, inferior. To put it in philosophical language, racism is not based on some empirical generalization which, after some studies, would come to conclusion that these people are behind because of environmental conditions. Racism is based on an ontological affirmation. It is the notion that the very being of a people is inferior...*

*And we've got to see that this still exists in American society. And until it is removed, there will be people walking the streets of life and living in their humble dwellings feeling that they are nobody, feeling that they have no dignity and feeling that they are not respected. The first thing that must be on the agenda of our nation is to get rid of racism."*

### GLOSSARY

Schizophrenia – noun	A mentality or approach characterised by inconsistent or contradictory elements.
Buoyancy – noun	A cheerful and optimistic attitude or disposition.
Negro – adjective	Considered dated and offensive in modern society. Relating to black people.
Adequate - adjective	Satisfactory or acceptable in quality or quantity.
Devoid – adjective	Entirely lacking or free from.
Perishing – verb	Suffer complete ruin or destruction.
Empirical – adjective	Based on evidence rather than theory or logic.
Ontological - adjective	Human nature.

## Jesse Williams: BLACK LIVES MATTER

*Jesse Williams is a famous American actor and outspoken human rights activist. When accepting an award at the BET's Humanitarian Awards ceremony Williams made a powerful political speech about the cause of 'Black Lives Matter'.*

Now, this award – this is not for me. This is for the real organizers all over the country – the activists, the civil rights attorneys, the struggling parents, the families, the teachers, the students that are realizing that a system built to divide and impoverish and destroy us cannot stand if we do.

It's kind of basic mathematics – the more we learn about who we are and how we got here, the more we will mobilize.

Now, this is also in particular for the black women in particular who have spent their lifetimes dedicated to nurturing everyone before themselves. We can and will do better for you.

Now, what we've been doing is looking at the data and we know that police somehow manage to deescalate, disarm and not kill white people every day. So, what's going to happen is we are going to have equal rights and justice in our own country or we will restructure their function and ours.

Now... I got more y'all – yesterday would have been young Tamir Rice's 14th birthday so I don't want to hear any more about how far we've come when paid public servants can pull a drive-by on 12-year-old playing alone in the park in broad daylight, killing him on television and then going home to make a sandwich. Tell Rekia Boyd how it's so much better than it is to live in 2012 than it is to live in 1612 or 1712. Tell that to Eric Garner. Tell that to Sandra Bland. Tell that to Dorian Hunt.

Now the thing is, though, all of us in here getting money – that alone isn't gonna stop this. Alright, now dedicating our lives, dedicating our lives to getting money just to give it right back for someone's brand on our body when we spent centuries praying with brands on our bodies, and now we pray to get paid for brands on our bodies.

There has been no war that we have not fought and died on the front lines of. There has been no job we haven't done. There is no tax they haven't leveled against us – and we've paid all of them.

But freedom is somehow always conditional here. “You’re free,” they keep telling us. But she would have been alive if she hadn’t acted so... free.

Now, freedom is always coming in the hereafter, but you know what, though, the hereafter is a hustle. We want it now.

And let’s get a couple things straight, just a little sidenote – the burden of the brutalized is not to comfort the bystander. That’s not our job, alright – stop with all that. If you have a critique for the resistance, for our resistance, then you better have an established record of critique of our oppression. If you have no interest, if you have no interest in equal rights for black people then do not make suggestions to those who do. Sit down.

We’ve been floating this country on credit for centuries, yo, and we’re done watching and waiting while this invention called whiteness uses and abuses us, burying black people out of sight and out of mind while extracting our culture, our dollars, our entertainment like oil – black gold, ghettoizing and demeaning our creations then stealing them, gentrifying our genius and then trying us on like costumes before discarding our bodies like rinds of strange fruit. The thing is though... the thing is that just because we’re magic doesn’t mean we’re not real.

Thank you.

#### GLOSSARY

Impoverish – verb	Make a person or area poor.
Deescalate – verb	Reduce the intensity of a conflict or potentially violent situation.
Leveed – verb	Impose a tax, fee or fine.
Bystander - noun	A person who is present at an event or incident but does not take part.
Oppression - noun	Prolonged cruel or unjust treatment or exercise of authority/power.
Gentrifying – verb	Make (someone or their way of life) more refined or polite.

## For My People

BY MARGARET WALKER

For my people everywhere singing their slave songs  
repeatedly: their dirges and their ditties and their blues  
and jubilees, praying their prayers nightly to an  
unknown god, bending their knees humbly to an  
unseen power;

For my people lending their strength to the years, to the  
gone years and the now years and the maybe years,  
washing ironing cooking scrubbing sewing mending  
hoeing plowing digging planting pruning patching  
dragging along never gaining never reaping never  
knowing and never understanding;

For my playmates in the clay and dust and sand of Alabama  
backyards playing baptizing and preaching and doctor  
and jail and soldier and school and mama and cooking  
and playhouse and concert and store and hair and  
Miss Choomby and company;

For the cramped bewildered years we went to school to learn  
to know the reasons why and the answers to and the  
people who and the places where and the days when, in  
memory of the bitter hours when we discovered we  
were black and poor and small and different and nobody  
cared and nobody wondered and nobody understood;

For the boys and girls who grew in spite of these things to  
be man and woman, to laugh and dance and sing and  
play and drink their wine and religion and success, to  
marry their playmates and bear children and then die  
of consumption and anemia and lynching;

For my people thronging 47th Street in Chicago and Lenox  
Avenue in New York and Rampart Street in New  
Orleans, lost disinherited dispossessed and happy  
people filling the cabarets and taverns and other  
people's pockets and needing bread and shoes and milk and  
land and money and something—something all our own;

For my people walking blindly spreading joy, losing time  
being lazy, sleeping when hungry, shouting when  
burdened, drinking when hopeless, tied, and shackled  
and tangled among ourselves by the unseen creatures  
who tower over us omnisciently and laugh;

For my people blundering and groping and floundering in  
the dark of churches and schools and clubs  
and societies, associations and councils and committees and  
conventions, distressed and disturbed and deceived and  
devoured by money-hungry glory-craving leeches,  
preyed on by facile force of state and fad and novelty, by  
false prophet and holy believer;

For my people standing staring trying to fashion a better way

from confusion, from hypocrisy and misunderstanding,  
 trying to fashion a world that will hold all the people,  
 all the faces, all the adams and eves and their countless generations;

Let a new earth rise. Let another world be born. Let a  
 bloody peace be written in the sky. Let a second  
 generation full of courage issue forth; let a people  
 loving freedom come to growth. Let a beauty full of  
 healing and a strength of final clenching be the pulsing  
 in our spirits and our blood. Let the martial songs  
 be written, let the dirges disappear. Let a race of men now  
 rise and take control.

#### GLOSSARY

Dirges – noun	An expression of grief for someone who has died, normally forms part of a funeral.
Ditties– noun	Short, simple song.
Hoeing - verb	Using a hoe to dig (earth) or thin out, or dig up (plants).
Bewildered - adjective	Perplexed and confused; very puzzled.
Consumption – noun	The action of eating or drinking something.
Anaemia – noun	A condition where you don't have enough red blood cells resulting in a pale appearance and tiredness.
Burdened – verb	Cause someone worry, hardship or distress. OR to load heavily.
Omnisciently – adverb	Knowing everything.
Facile – adjective	Easily achieved; effortless.

## **Amanda Gorman Inauguration Poem Transcript, 'The Hill We Climb'**

Mr. President, Dr. Biden, Madam Vice President, Mr. Emhoff, Americans and the world, when day comes we ask ourselves where can we find light in this never-ending shade? The loss we carry as we must wade. We've braved the belly of the beast. We've learned that quiet isn't always peace. In the norms and notions of what just is isn't always justice. And yet, the dawn is ours before we knew it. Somehow we do it. Somehow we've weathered and witnessed a nation that isn't broken, but simply unfinished. We, the successors of a country and a time where a skinny black girl descended from slaves and raised by a single mother can dream of becoming president only to find herself reciting for one.

And yes, we are far from polished, far from pristine, but that doesn't mean we are striving to form a union that is perfect. We are striving to forge our union with purpose. To compose a country committed to all cultures, colors, characters, and conditions of man. And so we lift our gazes not to what stands between us, but what stands before us. We close the divide because we know to put our future first, we must first put our differences aside. We lay down our arms so we can reach out our arms to one another. We seek harm to none and harmony for all. Let the globe, if nothing else, say this is true. That even as we grieved, we grew. That even as we hurt, we hoped. That even as we tired, we tried that will forever be tied together victorious. Not because we will never again know defeat, but because we will never again sow division.

Scripture tells us to envision that everyone shall sit under their own vine and fig tree and no one shall make them afraid. If we're to live up to her own time, then victory won't lie in the blade, but in all the bridges we've made. That is the promise to glade, the hill we climb if only we dare. It's because being American is more than a pride we inherit. It's the past we step into and how we repair it. We've seen a forest that would shatter our nation rather than share it. Would destroy our country if it meant delaying democracy. This effort very nearly succeeded.

But while democracy can be periodically delayed, it can never be permanently defeated. In this truth, in this faith we trust for while we have our eyes on the future, history has its eyes on us. This is the era of just redemption. We feared it at its inception. We did not feel prepared to be the heirs of such a terrifying hour, but within it, we found the power to author a new chapter, to offer hope and laughter to ourselves so while once we asked, how could we possibly prevail over catastrophe? Now we assert, how could catastrophe possibly prevail over us?

We will not march back to what was, but move to what shall be a country that is bruised, but whole, benevolent, but bold, fierce, and free. We will not be turned around or interrupted by intimidation because we know our inaction and inertia will be the inheritance of the next generation. Our blunders become their burdens. But one thing is certain, if we merge mercy with might and might with right, then love becomes our legacy and change our children's birthright.

So let us leave behind a country better than one we were left with. Every breath from my bronze-pounded chest we will raise this wounded world into a wondrous one. We will rise from the gold-limbed hills of the West. We will rise from the wind-swept Northeast where our forefathers first realized revolution. We will rise from the Lake Rim cities of the Midwestern states. We will rise from the sun-baked South. We will rebuild, reconcile and recover in every known nook of our nation, in every corner called our country our people diverse and beautiful will emerge battered and beautiful. When day comes, we step out of the shade aflame and unafraid. The new dawn blooms as we free it. For there is always light. If only we're brave enough to see it. If only we're brave enough to be it.

<b>GLOSSARY</b>	
Notion – noun	A conception of or belief about something; ideas.
Descended – verb	To be a blood relative of.
Pristine – adjective	In its original condition; unspoilt.
Scripture – noun	The sacred writings of Christianity contained in the Bible.
Democracy – noun	A system of government by the whole population or all the eligible members of a state, typically through elected representatives.
Periodically – adverb	From time to time; occasionally.
Prevail – verb	Prove more powerful or superior.
Catastrophe – noun	An event causing great and usually sudden damage or suffering; a disaster.



### Poem Comparison

Find quotations from each poem that link to the word/idea/theme on the left-hand side of the table. Explain whether the quotations show the poems to be similar or different and comment on whether any interesting ideas are used. Look at the first row to help you.

	<u>Poem 1: For My People</u>	<u>Poem 2: The Hill We Climb</u>	How are they similar? How are they different? What techniques are used?
Oppression	"singing their slave songs"	"...skinny black girl descended from slaves."	These quotations both link to oppression because they explicitly reference how black people were enslaved previously. The noun 'slave' has been used in both poems and has strong connotations of oppression, lack of freedom and imprisonment.
Inequality			
Racism			
Hope			
Freedom			
Injustice			
Bigotry			

## How does the media present Kate Middleton and Meghan Markle?

**Task:** look at the headlines beneath and in your book/notes create a mind-map exploring the similarities and differences.

### TABLOID DEPICTIONS OF KATE & MEGHAN



Not long to go! Pregnant Kate tenderly cradles her baby bump while wrapping up her royal duties ahead of maternity leave - and William confirms she's due 'any minute now'

By Siofra Brennan For Mailonline and Rebecca English  
Royal Correspondent For The Daily Mail  
06:40 EST 21 Mar 2018 , updated 03:43 EST 22 Mar 2018



Why can't Meghan Markle keep her hands off her bump? Experts tackle the question that has got the nation talking: Is it pride, vanity, acting - or a new age bonding technique?

By Mail on Sunday Reporter  
18:58 EST 26 Jan 2019 , updated 11:45 EST 28 Jan 2019



1. What are the similarities between these pictures?
2. What are the differences between these pictures?
3. What tone is created in the headlines for Kate?
4. What tone is created in the headlines for Meghan?



NEWS SHOWBIZ FOOTBALL COMMENT

News Royal

Kate's morning sickness cure? Prince William gifted with an avocado for pregnant Duchess



Kate Middleton's morning sickness could be cured with an avocado gifted to Prince William



NEWS SHOWBIZ FOOTBALL COMMENT

News World

Meghan Markle's beloved avocado linked to human rights abuse and drought, millennial shame



The pregnant Duchess of Sussex is a so-called 'avocado on toast whisperer' (Image: GETTY)



Kate Middleton's homegrown bouquet of lily of the valley follows royal code



Royal wedding: How Meghan Markle's flowers may have put Princess Charlotte's life at risk

# SUSSEX SNUB 'Disingenuous' Meghan Markle 'always planned to leave the Royal Family', says royal author and friend of Princess Diana

**Martha Cliff**

27 Feb 2021, 14:19 | Updated: 27 Feb 2021, 14:54

**MEGHAN Markle "always planned to leave the Royal Family" and Prince Harry is "barely recognisable", a close friend of Princess Diana claims.**

The explosive claims were made by royal expert Robert Jobson who knew the late princess "well."



**Rob Jobson described Meghan Markle as "disingenuous" and Prince Harry as "unrecognisable"**

Speaking on True Royalty TV's The Royal Beat, Jobson claimed that the Duchess of Sussex never planned on staying in the royal family.

He said: "Harry's barely recognisable and I think she's totally disingenuous.

"I think she had a plan from the outset that she wasn't going to stick with it [The Royal Family] and it didn't take long, before... all that thanking the royal family.

"The royal family would have done their best to have helped her and they would have tried."

Meanwhile former Buckingham Palace press officer Dickie Arbiter discussed [Prince Harry](#) and [Meghan Markle](#)'s statement confirming they were not returning as senior members of the [Royal Family](#).

Last week, a statement released by the Palace said it is "not possible to continue with the responsibilities and duties that come with a life of public service".

However, Meghan and Harry then quickly hit back with their own statement which said: "We can all live a life of service. Service is universal."

Discussing the couple's statement, royal expert Dickie - who was the Queen's press spokesman for 12 years from 1998 to 2000 - said: "It was petulant, it was rude, it was immature."

Meanwhile, Jobson added: "The rudeness of the statement they issued after they left! Frankly, they have been given a lot of slack, but they were damn right rude to the Queen and the Royal Family."

The Megxit confirmation came one month earlier than expected - as Meghan and Harry were granted a one-year trial to leave the Royal Family back in March 2020.

# Prince Harry and Meghan to step back from royal family

**Duke and Duchess of Sussex say they intend to 'work to become financially independent'**



The Duke and Duchess Of Sussex said in a statement they would balance their time between the UK and north America. Photograph: Chris Jackson/Getty

The Duke and Duchess of Sussex are to step back from senior roles in the royal family and work towards financial self-sufficiency after a period marked by open warfare with the media over claimed intrusion and bullying.

It is understood that no other royal was consulted before the decision was announced on Wednesday evening, and Buckingham Palace was disappointed by the news.

Prince Harry and Meghan plan to split their time between the UK and North America, the continent of her birth, as they raise their son, Archie.

"After many months of reflection and internal discussions, we have chosen to make a transition this year in starting to carve out a progressive new role within this institution," the couple said in an official statement released on Wednesday.

"We intend to step back as 'senior' members of the royal family and work to become financially independent, while continuing to fully support Her Majesty the Queen.

"It is with your encouragement, particularly over the last few years, that we feel prepared to make this adjustment.

"We now plan to balance our time between the United Kingdom and North America, continuing to honour our duty to the Queen, the Commonwealth, and our patronages.

"This geographic balance will enable us to raise our son with an appreciation for the royal tradition into which he was born, while also providing our family with the space to focus on the next chapter, including the launch of our new charitable entity.

"We look forward to sharing the full details of this exciting next step in due course, as we continue to collaborate with Her Majesty The Queen, the Prince of Wales, the Duke of Cambridge and all relevant parties. Until then, please accept our deepest thanks for your continued support."

A Buckingham Palace spokeswoman said discussions with the couple on their decision to step back from the royal family were “at an early stage”, adding: “We understand their desire to take a different approach, but these are complicated issues that will take time to work through.”

...

The couple have appeared increasingly unhappy in recent months with their public roles and the level of scrutiny they have faced.

In October, Meghan began legal proceedings against the Mail on Sunday after the paper published a handwritten letter she had sent to her estranged father. The action was launched alongside a scathing statement from Prince Harry denouncing the media’s “bullying” of his wife; behaviour he likened to the treatment of his mother, Princess Diana.

He said he could no longer be a “silent witness” to Meghan’s “private suffering”, adding that his “deepest fear is history repeating itself”.

He wrote: “There comes a point when the only thing to do is to stand up to this behaviour, because it destroys people and destroys lives. Put simply, it is bullying, which scares and silences people. We all know this isn’t acceptable, at any level. We won’t and can’t believe in a world where there is no accountability for this.

“I lost my mother and now I watch my wife falling victim to the same powerful forces.”



# Royal wedding next year: Katie's eight-year wait is over as she and Prince William finally announce they ARE engaged and will marry in 2011

By [NICOLA BODEN FOR MAILONLINE](#)  
CREATED: 11:14, 16 November 2010

- Couple became engaged in Kenya last month
- William asked her father for her hand
- The Royal wedding will be in spring or summer
- Kate and William will live in north Wales once married
- Middletons: 'We think William is wonderful'
- Pair's first ever interview to be broadcast tonight
- William is 'excited and thrilled', says Cameron
- Divorce lawyers are already talking pre-nups

Prince William and Kate Middleton are engaged and will marry next year, Clarence House announced today.

William, 28, proposed during a holiday in Kenya last month after asking Kate's father for his daughter's hand following a marathon eight-year courtship.

Kate, also 28, had been dubbed 'Waity Katy' amid criticism she was hanging on for a proposal and did not have a proper job but now her wait is finally over.

The couple will appear in public later today, when the Princess-in-waiting is expected to show off her engagement ring. Their first ever interview will be broadcast tonight.

David Cameron said William is 'extremely excited' and 'thrilled' as he appeared outside No10 to welcome the news this lunchtime.

**Engaged at last: Prince William and Kate Middleton arrive together at a friend's wedding last month. It was significant because usually they arrive at events separately**

Their royal wedding will be the biggest event since Prince Charles and Diana got married in 1981.

It is hoped the ceremony will give a huge boost to the nation and the economy as crippling public sector spending cuts hit home.

Bookies have made August 13th the early favourite for the wedding date and it is likely to take place at Westminster Abbey.

It is claimed personnel at the Abbey have already been contacted about a royal wedding in the second week of August, although St Paul's and Windsor Castle are other potential venues.



The Queen and the Queen Mother were both married in the Abbey but it also carries painful memories of William's mother's funeral in 1997.

Charles and Diana's fairy tale ceremony was at St Paul's which has also been the recent location for major royal celebrations such as the Queen's 80th birthday.

In a full statement, Clarence House said: 'The Prince of Wales is delighted to announce the engagement of Prince William to Miss Catherine Middleton.

'The wedding will take place in the Spring or Summer of 2011, in London. Further details about the wedding day will be announced in due course.

'Prince William and Miss Middleton became engaged in October during a private holiday in Kenya.

'Prince William has informed The Queen and other close members of his family. Prince William has also sought the permission of Miss Middleton's father.

'Following the marriage, the couple will live in North Wales, where Prince William will continue to serve with the Royal Air Force.'

The engagement was also officially announced simultaneously on Facebook and Twitter, coming days after the Queen signed up to the social networking site.

A Buckingham Palace spokesman said: 'Both the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh are absolutely delighted for them both.'

Prince Charles, in Dorset, said he was 'thrilled' and joked that the couple had been 'practicing long enough'.

Camilla, the Duchess of Cornwall, on her way into a central London theatre this afternoon, said: 'It's brilliant, isn't it? It's absolutely wonderful.'

Michael and Carole Middleton appeared outside their home in Berkshire shortly before 4pm to speak about their daughter's relationship in public for the very first time.

Mr Middleton said: 'Carole and I are absolutely delighted by today's announcement and thrilled at the prospect of a wedding sometime next year.

'As you know Catherine and Prince William have been going out together for quite a number of years which has been great for us because we have got to know William very well.

'We all think he is wonderful and we are extremely fond of him. They make a lovely couple, they are great fun to be with, and we've had a lot of laughs together. We wish them every happiness for the future.'



# Prince William and Kate Middleton engagement announced

## Clarence House statement reveals engagement of second in line to throne and his long-term girlfriend after weeks of speculation

Kate Middleton today spoke of the "daunting prospect" of joining the royal family as she and Prince William announced they would get married next year.

Wearing the blue sapphire and diamond engagement ring that the prince's father gave to Princess Diana in 1981, Middleton said "hopefully, I will take it in my stride", while adding that her future husband was "a great teacher".

Prince William said the ring "was very special to me" as was his bride-to-be. Giving it to her was "my way of making sure my mother didn't miss out on today" and the excitement that the couple were going spend their lives together.

The long-expected news that the second in line to the throne was to marry his long-term girlfriend was announced by Clarence House earlier in the day.

The prince asked Middleton to marry him during a private holiday in Kenya last month and has, the royal press office stressed, asked her father's permission.

Middleton said, during a brief press conference and photocall at St James's Palace, London, that the prince had been "a true romantic", was "a loving boyfriend" and "very supportive of me in good times and also through the bad times".

Prince William said of their engagement: "The timing is right now, we are both very, very happy. We both have a very good sense of humour and we take the mickey out of each other a lot."

He added that Middleton had "plenty of habits that make me laugh that I tease her about".

The formal statement said William's father, Prince Charles, was "delighted". Speaking at his Poundbury model village in Dorset, Charles said that he was "thrilled, obviously", and joked: "They have been practising long enough ... it makes me feel very old."

William's stepmother, the Duchess of Cornwall, on her way to an official engagement at the Apollo Theatre in London, told a well-wisher: "It's brilliant, isn't it? It's absolutely wonderful."

Middleton's parents, Michael and Carole, were "thrilled". Her father Michael, reading a statement outside their home near the Berkshire village of Bucklebury, said they had got to know the prince very well: "We all think he is wonderful and we are extremely fond of him. They make a lovely couple, they are great fun to be with, and we've had a lot of laughs together. We wish them every happiness for the future."

Earl Spencer, the prince's uncle and brother of Princess Diana, said: "It's wonderful news. Very exciting. My family are all thrilled for them both."

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh were also "absolutely delighted", Buckingham Palace said. During a reception this afternoon at Windsor Castle for leaders of British overseas territories including Bermuda, Montserrat and the Falklands Islands, the Queen told a guest who congratulated her: "It is brilliant news. It has taken them a very long time."

Political leaders and the Archbishop of Canterbury, Rowan Williams, echoed the sentiment.

Full details of the wedding plans have yet to be announced. The statement said only that the wedding would take place in London next spring or summer.

St Paul's Cathedral and Westminster Abbey are possible venues, although both have painful resonances – St Paul's was where Charles's ill-fated wedding to Princess Diana took place in 1981, while the abbey hosted Diana's funeral in 1997.

William and Kate have known each other for eight years, and met as students at St Andrews University. They subsequently shared student accommodation for two years and, apart from a brief separation in 2007, have been together ever since.

Middleton will be the first commoner to marry an expected future king for 350 years, since Anne Hyde married the future King James II in 1660.

Middleton is eldest of three children in a family whose fortune is based on a mail-order children's party accessories business.

The prime minister, David Cameron, said the whole country would join him and his wife, Samantha, in wishing the couple "great joy".

Later, he said that he had spoken to the prince to pass on his congratulations and predicted "a great day of national celebration".

The prime minister told a press conference at Downing Street that it felt "great to have a bit of unadulterated good news", and said a cheer had gone up when he told ministerial colleagues at today's Cabinet meeting.

## What They Call News - Kelly Hornyak

Verge of tomorrow.  
Votes lead to joy or sorrow.  
A country divided,  
half hope,  
half hate.  
It's as if  
the times  
never changed.

TV news will lie to you.  
They say we're racists  
and I guess many are.  
But count your inner circle.  
Count your workmates  
and playmates,  
and tell me how many  
are really making that mistake.

Maybe your answer would surprise me.  
Maybe I live in another world  
built in a time of love and acceptance  
and maybe I'm too optimistic,  
too coddled by my artist's bubble.

Who shapes this world long-term, though?  
Not the politicians and the police.  
It's the musicians, the writers,  
the directors, the producers,  
the singers, the dreamers.

Every four years we get caught up  
and think that some flawed human  
(likely corrupt, likely a puppet)  
can step to that podium  
and save us all.

Change begins at home.  
Raise your babies to love everyone.  
Change your elders who still judge.  
Vote with your dollars,  
your actions,  
your words.

The mirror reveals more  
about the state of the world  
than any idiot box or boob tube,  
than any social media screen  
or anything else they call news.

## Terrorist - Sid

Pardon me for this intercession,  
But it seems me and my people have risen to fame.  
So, I'm here to pose to you a question,  
Before me and my people consume more of the blame.  
Am I a terrorist?

Is that what you see?  
Do morals, ideals and religious beliefs define how dangerous I can be?  
Am I a terrorist?

Is it the skin or the race?  
Is it the languages I speak, or is it the beard on my face?  
Am I a terrorist?

...

Or has the media been intrusive?  
Making that label to be exclusive to my people,  
causing them to be reclusive.  
Separated from society seeking solitude  
because the monsters out there have a weird attitude.  
You see us with a big bag and you start to worry.  
The same big bag makes you pick up yours and scurry.  
You don't see me as a terrorist when you want some curry  
On the phone saying "Boss man, please hurry"  
Am I a terrorist?

# SWARM TACTIC

## People smugglers sending fleets of migrant boats at the same time to overwhelm patrols

[Nick Pisa](#)

3 Apr 2021, 22:39

Updated: 3 Apr 2021, 22:39

**PEOPLE** smugglers are sending fleets of small boats across the Channel at the same time hoping to overwhelm patrols.

French coastguards stopped eight boats full of migrants heading to Britain in one day, as criminal gangs changed their tactics.



In the 24 hours to dawn yesterday, 13 vessels, carrying more than 200 [migrants heading for Britain](#), were intercepted.

French authorities have deployed an extra 450 officers to the area.

A source in Calais said: "It appears to be a tactic to try to overwhelm both the French and British authorities so at least some get through."

Last year, six people died trying to cross the Channel and so far this year almost 1,500 migrants have arrived compared with 511 for the same period last year.

<https://www.thesun.co.uk/news/14541447/channel-flees-migrant-boats-overwhelm-patrols>



# ‘We thought we’d die’ – after their treacherous journeys, what awaits the refugees landing on British beaches?

Many of the thousands of people who attempt the deadly Channel crossing in tiny boats land in towns like Folkestone. Local resident James Harkin meets some on the shore



Only the hardy wade into the Channel in winter, and this year I’m one of them. Nearing the end of my stone-cold morning swim at Mermaid Beach in Folkestone, Kent, I notice something out of the ordinary. A commotion has broken out around a small inflatable dinghy a few beaches away as it skirts a vicious pile of rock groynes there to protect the shingle beach. Shortly afterwards, a fellow swimmer hollers in my direction, wondering whether I’ve seen the arrivals. They tossed their lifejackets in the water when they landed, he says, with what sounds like disdain.

I swim back to shore and walk up the beach, following a coastguard car. The dinghy is still bobbing up and down on the rocks, surrounded by military-looking jetskis; by the time I get there, it’s empty. Six men sit, soaking, on two semicircular stone banquettes adjoining the beach, surrounded by police and medics. According to the chatter on police radios, other men might have fled into a nearby coastal park, perhaps because they had contact information for people to help them. All six have been handed rugs and bottles of water; they look stunned, and a little sheepish. I ask a police officer if I can talk to the men and he shrugs his shoulders. “They haven’t been checked for Covid,” he says.

Walking through a gaggle of police and nurses, I sit down beside one of the refugees: a handsome young man wearing a flimsy jacket who tells me his name is Mahmoud. He says he’s from the city of Deraa in southern [Syria](#) – a country that, by coincidence, I’ve spent much of the past decade reporting from. I’d imagined he might be elated to have arrived at his destination, but instead he looks stunned, as if he’s still processing what has just happened. The journey took seven hours in the freezing cold; at one point, he tells me, he was thrown into the water. He paid €3,000 (£2,514) for the privilege, but had no idea who the smugglers were – it was an amorphous company or syndicate. “It was a bad idea,” he says.

The current wave of arrivals began around 2015 when, thanks to the long aftermath of the Arab spring, millions of people fled chaos and poverty in the Middle East and north Africa to seek sanctuary and a better life. Most fetched up in countries such as Turkey, Greece and Italy; in time, some got as far as the UK, often concealing themselves on lorries or in the Channel tunnel to get here. It’s only in the last two years that this perilous new smuggling route – crossing the Channel on small boats or dinghies from Calais or Dunkirk in France to towns on the Kent and Sussex coast – became a serious prospect, when ferry security was toughened up and the pandemic shut down

conventional travel routes. In 2018, [539 people attempted to cross the Channel in this way](#); by 2021, the annual number had swelled to [more than 28,300](#).

In the past 12 months the boats have kept coming, and in even greater numbers. The day Mahmoud and the others arrived, 8 October 2021, turns out to be one of the biggest days ever for asylum seekers arriving on little boats: [624 people made the crossing](#), the fourth highest daily tally then recorded. Most, like Mahmoud, don't make it on their own. If they're lucky, they are intercepted by Border Force or RNLI lifeboats and taken to UK shores to begin their applications for asylum. The boats are a near-constant presence: you can watch them from the shore, see them attract inflammatory comments on social media or, in my case, swim right past them.

As Mahmoud and I speak, a medic arrives to check that he and his friends have drunk enough water. The older man sitting beside him is called Mohammed, but he knows no English. Neither does the third man, also Syrian. Three north Africans sit apart on the other banquette. Explaining as best I can that I am a journalist, I ask Mahmoud why he left Syria, and he tells me he's fleeing the government of [Bashar al-Assad](#). Had he been in the rebel Free Syrian Army? "No, no," he says, waving the question away as if I don't understand the gravity of the situation. "Bashar hates anyone who wants democracy." Like many young Syrians, he might have been fleeing the prospect of imminent military service. Given he only left earlier in 2021, he might also have been escaping punishing new US sanctions, which are helping push the country to the brink of famine.

Without getting to know him better, it's hard to say. I write down my name and telephone number in his still-wet notebook. "Welcome to the UK," I say weakly, and shake the hands of all three men.

It is no wonder Mahmoud found his journey terrifying. The Channel is one of the busiest and most dangerous shipping lanes in the world. Whatever the enthusiasm of evangelical sea-swimmers, no one could survive in water like this for very long. A month later, at the beginning of November, someone dies attempting to reach the UK from France, after their small boat capsizes near Dunkirk. Little more than a day later, another person is found dead on a beach near Calais, after their boat rapidly filled up with water on the way across. A few days later, on my way back into the water at Mermaid Beach, I walk past another boat arriving and chat briefly to its shivering occupants. They include two Albanians and a young man from Iranian Kurdistan; none can speak any English.



# My tongue is divided into two

BY QUIQUE AVILÉS

My tongue is divided into two  
by virtue, coincidence or heaven  
words jumping out of my mouth  
stepping on each other  
enjoying being a voice for the message  
expecting conclusions

My tongue is divided into two  
into heavy accent bits of confusion  
into miracles and accidents  
saying things that hurt the heart  
drowning in a language that lives, jumps, translates

My tongue is divided by nature  
by our crazy desire to triumph and conquer

This tongue is cut up into equal pieces  
one wants to curse and sing out loud  
the other one simply wants to ask for water

My tongue is divided into two  
one side likes to party  
the other one takes refuge in praying

tongue  
english of the funny sounds  
tongue  
funny sounds in english  
tongue  
sounds funny in english  
tongue  
in funny english sounds

My tongue sometimes acts like two  
and it goes crazy  
not knowing which side should be speaking

which side translating

My tongue is divided into two  
a border patrol runs through the middle  
frisking words  
asking for proper identification  
checking for pronunciation

My tongue is divided into two  
My tongue is divided into two

I like my tongue  
it says what feels right  
I like my tongue  
it says what feels right

# The Immigrant's Song

By TISHANI DOSHI

Let us not speak of those days  
when coffee beans filled the morning  
with hope, when our mothers' headscarves  
hung like white flags on washing lines.

Let us not speak of the long arms of sky  
that used to cradle us at dusk.

And the baobabs—let us not trace  
the shape of their leaves in our dreams,  
or yearn for the noise of those nameless birds  
that sang and died in the church's eaves.

Let us not speak of men,  
stolen from their beds at night.

Let us not say the word  
*disappeared.*

Let us not remember the first smell of rain.  
Instead, let us speak of our lives now—  
the gates and bridges and stores.

And when we break bread  
in cafés and at kitchen tables  
with our new brothers,  
let us not burden them with stories  
of war or abandonment.

Let us not name our old friends  
who are unravelling like fairy tales  
in the forests of the dead.

Naming them will not bring them back.

Let us stay here, and wait for the future  
to arrive, for grandchildren to speak  
in forked tongues about the country  
we once came from.

*Tell us about it*, they might ask.

And you might consider telling them  
of the sky and the coffee beans,  
the small white houses and dusty streets.

You might set your memory afloat  
like a paper boat down a river.

You might pray that the paper  
whispers your story to the water,  
that the water sings it to the trees,  
that the trees howl and howl  
it to the leaves. If you keep still  
and do not speak, you might hear  
your whole life fill the world  
until the wind is the only word.