

## The Weight of Whiteness by Tania Richard

How do u wear whiteness?

Heavy as a winter coat?

Light as a summer shawl?

I don't hate white people.

I hate whiteness; the systems that keep the marginalized down.

The way I feel about an individual; white or black pertains to how they wear their whiteness.

For me, the cloak is heavy and weighs me down.

For others, it envelops and comforts like a blanket favored.

How do you wear whiteness?

Are you willing to expose your shoulders, let the whiteness slip down your arms, past your hips and skim the ground?

Will you walk without the protection?

Let the sun cast its rays across us all?

We must share the toxins but also it's light.

Then, we all can revel in the rain when it falls.

To wash away the damage that's been done