

## Almost Pt. 1

### Propaganda

When I was younger my biggest fear was "David"  
White boy  
Billabong  
TNC Surf Designs  
The whole 9

Well  
Didn't fear him  
Bullies come and go  
Fade requests happily obliged

I feared what I didn't understand about him  
Of course this type of self reflection is only seen in a rearview mirror  
Where the objects of childhood trauma are closer than they appear  
Hence why this poem wasn't penned until now

I didn't understand  
Why all this is so important to you  
I don't understand how obsession and repulsion live in the same body  
Why do you love and hate Black people  
Why am I so consequential

I now think he feared extinction  
I think his violence was a trait passed down from his Neanderthal daddy  
Where all actions were just an attempt to slow down atrophy  
And if God is not one of the funniest people  
Slowing down atrophy only accelerates it

I'm not your problem David, you're your problem  
Of course I have no idea what happened David  
I think his fear of extinction in some ways came to be  
Bullies are an 80s trope and nerds are billionaires  
Creating the robots that will exact their revenge  
On the very people that radicalized them

Slowing down atrophy only accelerated it

But it's not a full extinction  
He passed down a trait to me  
I fear extinction too, but not in the same way  
I understand all things come to an end  
And the end is new beginnings  
I understand collective identity

I fear the almost  
The only bully I've ever run from  
I've spent most my life running from almost