

# Among Strangers

## PROVOCATEUR

Your first and last names

### Your question

The narrator says, "They say that language unites people ... My language instead alienates me from my people. It has made me an outcast, a stranger to my kinsmen." Why does he say this? What does he mean?



### Before class: Read the story and write your opinion

### During class: Share your opinion and add to your notes

- ☐ First, you meet with classmates who answered the same question. Compare answers. Add any new thoughts to your notes above.
- ☐ Second, you meet in a new group. Each classmate has a different question. Read your question and give your opinion. Share the thoughts of other students who had the same question as you. Ask your classmates for their opinions. Add their responses to your notes.

**After class: Extend your thinking**

Respond to one of these four questions. Write a paragraph. Be sure to connect your answer to something from the story.

1. Listen to this short interview with Jude Dibia (*the link is on our website*). He says "All forms of writing and art are political." What is political about this short story?
2. In the same interview, Dibia quotes Toni Morrison. She said, "'If there's a book that you want to read, but it hasn't been written yet, then you must write it.'" What book do you want to read that hasn't been written yet? What would it be about?
3. Dibia wrote another book called *Walking in Shadows*. This is now a movie. Watch this video (*the link is on our website*). What do you think that story is about? How does it relate or connect with this short story?
4. The narrator's family speak several languages. They choose different languages for different purposes. Why do they do this? And what is the role of English in this context?

# Among Strangers

## FIREBRAND

Your first and last names

### Your question

Aunty Gold tells the narrator "'Don't tell your father o!'" Why does she say this?



**Before class: Read the story and write your opinion**

**During class: Share your opinion and add to your notes**

- ☐ First, you meet with classmates who answered the same question. Compare answers. Add any new thoughts to your notes above.
- ☐ Second, you meet in a new group. Each classmate has a different question. Read your question and give your opinion. Share the thoughts of other students who had the same question as you. Ask your classmates for their opinions. Add their responses to your notes.

**After class: Extend your thinking**

Respond to one of these four questions. Write a paragraph. Be sure to connect your answer to something from the story.

1. Listen to this short interview with Jude Dibia (*the link is on our website*). He says "All forms of writing and art are political." What is political about this short story?
2. In the same interview, Dibia quotes Toni Morrison. She said, "'If there's a book that you want to read, but it hasn't been written yet, then you must write it.'" What book do you want to read that hasn't been written yet? What would it be about?
3. Dibia wrote another book called *Walking in Shadows*. This is now a movie. Watch this video (*the link is on our website*). What do you think that story is about? How does it relate or connect with this short story?
4. The narrator's family speak several languages. They choose different languages for different purposes. Why do they do this? And what is the role of English in this context?

# Among Strangers

## KINDLER

Your first and last names

### Your question

Why does the narrator's mother call her husband  
*Ononojo - Stranger*?



**Before class: Read the story and write your opinion**

**During class: Share your opinion and add to your notes**

- ☐ First, you meet with classmates who answered the same question. Compare answers. Add any new thoughts to your notes above.
- ☐ Second, you meet in a new group. Each classmate has a different question. Read your question and give your opinion. Share the thoughts of other students who had the same question as you. Ask your classmates for their opinions. Add their responses to your notes.

**After class: Extend your thinking**

Respond to one of these four questions. Write a paragraph. Be sure to connect your answer to something from the story.

1. Listen to this short interview with Jude Dibia (*the link is on our website*). He says "All forms of writing and art are political." What is political about this short story?
2. In the same interview, Dibia quotes Toni Morrison. She said, "'If there's a book that you want to read, but it hasn't been written yet, then you must write it.'" What book do you want to read that hasn't been written yet? What would it be about?
3. Dibia wrote another book called *Walking in Shadows*. This is now a movie. Watch this video (*the link is on our website*). What do you think that story is about? How does it relate or connect with this short story?
4. The narrator's family speak several languages. They choose different languages for different purposes. Why do they do this? And what is the role of English in this context?

# Among Strangers

## INSTIGATOR

Your first and last names

### Your question

The narrator sees his stepmother at his father's burial. She says to him, "Shame on you!" Why do you think she says this?



**Before class: Read the story and write your opinion**

**During class: Share your opinion and add to your notes**

- ☐ First, you meet with classmates who answered the same question. Compare answers. Add any new thoughts to your notes above.
- ☐ Second, you meet in a new group. Each classmate has a different question. Read your question and give your opinion. Share the thoughts of other students who had the same question as you. Ask your classmates for their opinions. Add their responses to your notes.

**After class: Extend your thinking**

Respond to one of these four questions. Write a paragraph. Be sure to connect your answer to something from the story.

1. Listen to this short interview with Jude Dibia (*the link is on our website*). He says "All forms of writing and art are political." What is political about this short story?
2. In the same interview, Dibia quotes Toni Morrison. She said, "'If there's a book that you want to read, but it hasn't been written yet, then you must write it.'" What book do you want to read that hasn't been written yet? What would it be about?
3. Dibia wrote another book called *Walking in Shadows*. This is now a movie. Watch this video (*the link is on our website*). What do you think that story is about? How does it relate or connect with this short story?
4. The narrator's family speak several languages. They choose different languages for different purposes. Why do they do this? And what is the role of English in this context?