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## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

LAUREL JOHNSON BLACK IS AN ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF ENGLISH AT Indiana University of Pennsylvania, where she teaches courses in writing, literature, and sociolinguistics. She has an M.F.A. in poetry from the University of Iowa and a Ph.D. in composition from Miami University of Ohio. She has published essays and articles on portfolios, classroom practice, and her own working class background. She is interested in issues of language and culture from kitchens to classrooms, fleamarkets to boardrooms.