

# Shades (feat. Chrisette Michelle)

## Wale

(Boy) Beautiful  
Chip on my shoulder  
Big enough to feed Cambodia  
See, I never fit into they quotas  
Sneakers wasn't fitting and my knees needed lotion  
Long before I knew the significance of a comb  
I roam like phone with no vocal reception  
Immigrant parents had me feeling like a step-kid  
And black Americans never did accept me  
That's why I thrive so much, win and respect dig  
I never fit in with them light skins  
I felt the lighter they was the better that they life is  
So I resented them and they resented me  
Cheated on light-skinned Dominique when we was seventeen  
I figured I'd hurt her, she'd evidently hurt me,  
And all women who had light features  
See, I never let a light broad hurt me  
That's why I strike first and the first cut's deep[Chorus]  
All my light skinned girls to my dark skin brothers  
Shades doesn't matter heart makes the lover  
Boy you're so beautiful boy  
You're so beautiful shades doesn't matter  
Heart makes the lover  
Boy (beautiful caramel),  
Boy (beautiful coffeepot)  
Boy (Beautiful chocolate)  
Boy (Beautiful toffee)  
Boy (Beautiful pecan)  
Boy (beautiful licorice)  
(boy you're so beautiful)Just another knotty head nigga  
Hoping Wes Snipes make my life a bit different  
In middle school, I had the right to be timid  
I had beautiful words but girls never listened  
Listen, blacker the berry, sweeter the product

Well, I'm fruit punch concentrate and they water  
Walk into my room thinking how to make moves  
Ain't thinking like a student but how Ice-T do it  
Light dudes have the girls looking there all year  
It's not fair, the ones with the good hair  
Couldn't adapt to naps, I wavecap they naps and slept on me  
Man, I hate black  
Skin tone, I wish I could take it back  
Or rearrange my status, maybe if I was khaki  
Associating light skin with classy  
The menstrual show showed and me, that was not me[Chorus]They say black is beautiful  
But ask them beautiful light girls  
If its black they attract to usually  
What if Barack skin was all black, truthfully?  
Would he be a candidate or just a black in community?  
Because black dudes tend to lack unity  
And them blacker girls ain't on the tube, usually  
Right now, at 23, I ain't mad at them reds no more  
But for long time I had gone cold  
Blindfolded my own insecurity was holding me back to reds,  
I ain't know how to act  
They would get the cold shoulder and know it was an act  
A defense mechanism what I thought that I lacked  
Confidence[Chorus]

Songwriters

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