

# Everybody Believes They Are the Good Guy

By Cynthia Arrieu-King

I was hanging with grandparents in a kindergarten  
and the teacher drew an accordion wall across  
to keep the children in antigravity class together  
the grandparents separately graded balloon worksheets  
sunlight floated in, the grandparents thoughtful about addition, mulling vacation

*Come here* I said to the little one too little to be in class, soft as peaches

*I want to tell you something and you repeat it back to me next time*

She toddled over, put her arms up to hug me, we hugged

She had stars inside her soul, was visibly celestial beneath her coat

*More human than human, got it?* I cuddled her

*Okay, she said, I'm more human than a human*

Source: *Poetry* (December 2017)