

# teacher gets fired for braids

teacher gets fired for braids is a phrase that has sparked widespread discussion about cultural expression, workplace discrimination, and educational policies. This incident highlights the challenges teachers face when personal appearance intersects with professional expectations. The case has raised important questions about the balance between maintaining school dress codes and respecting individual rights and cultural heritage. Across the United States and beyond, educators and advocates have debated the implications of such disciplinary actions. This article explores the circumstances surrounding a teacher's dismissal due to braided hairstyles, relevant legal frameworks, cultural significance, and the broader impact on educational institutions. Additionally, it examines responses from communities and experts, providing a comprehensive overview of this complex issue. The following sections delve into these aspects in detail.

- Background of the Incident
- Cultural Significance of Braids
- School Dress Codes and Policies
- Legal Considerations and Discrimination
- Community and Educational Responses
- Broader Implications for Diversity and Inclusion

# Background of the Incident

The controversy surrounding the situation where a teacher gets fired for braids began when an educator was dismissed from their position due to wearing braided hair, which allegedly violated the school's appearance guidelines. The school administration cited the dress code policy as the basis for the dismissal, claiming that the hairstyle was deemed unprofessional or inappropriate. This incident quickly gained attention, sparking debates about the fairness and cultural sensitivity of such policies. The teacher, known for their dedication and performance, argued that their hairstyle was a form of cultural expression and did not interfere with their professional duties. The dismissal raised questions about how schools enforce dress codes and whether these rules disproportionately affect certain groups of people.

## Details of the Dismissal

The teacher had been wearing braids for an extended period without prior issue, but a recent policy review by the school district led to stricter enforcement. After receiving warnings, the teacher was ultimately terminated for non-compliance. The school cited concerns about the perceived professionalism and adherence to district standards. This action ignited protests from colleagues, students, and civil rights organizations who viewed the firing as unjust and discriminatory.

## Initial Reactions

Following the firing, social media platforms and news outlets amplified the story, bringing national attention to the incident. Many expressed outrage over what was seen as an infringement on personal and cultural expression. Education experts and advocacy groups began calling for policy reevaluation to prevent similar cases in the future. The incident also prompted discussions within other school districts about their own dress codes.

# Cultural Significance of Braids

Braids hold deep cultural, historical, and social importance, particularly within African, African American, and Indigenous communities. For many individuals, wearing braids is a form of identity, heritage, and self-expression. The hairstyle is often associated with tradition and cultural pride, transcending mere aesthetics.

## Historical Context

Throughout history, braids have been used to signify social status, community belonging, and personal milestones. In African cultures, intricate braided patterns were often symbolic, representing age, ethnicity, marital status, or tribal affiliation. The practice has been preserved and adapted over generations, maintaining its relevance as a cultural marker.

## Modern Cultural Expression

In contemporary society, braids continue to serve as a powerful symbol of cultural identity. Many individuals choose braided hairstyles as a way to connect with their roots and celebrate diversity. The significance of braids extends into movements advocating for racial equality and against cultural appropriation. Thus, the dismissal of a teacher for wearing braids touches upon deeper issues of cultural respect and recognition.

## School Dress Codes and Policies

School dress codes are established to promote a learning environment that is orderly and distraction-free, often emphasizing professionalism and uniformity. However, these policies can sometimes be ambiguous or inconsistently enforced, leading to controversies such as the case of a teacher getting fired for braids.

## Purpose of Dress Codes

Dress codes aim to set clear expectations for students and staff regarding appropriate attire and grooming. The intent is to foster respect, safety, and focus within educational settings. However, what constitutes “appropriate” can vary widely and may be influenced by subjective standards.

## Common Dress Code Issues

- Ambiguous language that leaves room for interpretation
- Disproportionate impact on certain cultural or ethnic groups
- Lack of provisions for hairstyles tied to cultural or religious practices
- Inconsistent enforcement across different schools or districts

These factors contribute to disputes when dress codes intersect with personal identity and expression, as seen in the firing incident related to braided hair.

## Legal Considerations and Discrimination

The dismissal of a teacher for wearing braids raises significant legal questions regarding discrimination, civil rights, and workplace protections. Various laws and regulations address the balance between employer policies and individual rights.

## Civil Rights and Anti-Discrimination Laws

In the United States, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act prohibits employment discrimination based on

race, color, religion, sex, or national origin. Recent legal interpretations have extended protections to hairstyles historically associated with racial identity, such as braids, locks, and twists. This means employers, including school districts, may be required to accommodate such hairstyles as part of cultural expression.

## **Recent Legislation**

Several states have enacted laws specifically prohibiting discrimination based on natural hairstyles. For example, the CROWN Act (Creating a Respectful and Open World for Natural Hair) has been adopted in multiple states, explicitly protecting hairstyles like braids in workplaces and schools. These laws aim to prevent cases where teachers or students face penalties for their natural hair or culturally significant styles.

## **Legal Challenges and Outcomes**

Cases involving teachers fired for their hairstyles often lead to legal challenges that test the boundaries of dress code enforcement and anti-discrimination protections. Courts may consider whether the school's policy unjustly targets a particular racial or cultural group and if reasonable accommodations were considered. Outcomes vary but tend to favor protecting cultural expression in recent rulings.

## **Community and Educational Responses**

The firing of a teacher for wearing braids has prompted reactions from various stakeholders, including school communities, advocacy groups, and policymakers. These responses reflect growing awareness of cultural sensitivity and inclusivity in education.

## **Advocacy and Support**

Many civil rights organizations and cultural groups have condemned the dismissal, arguing it

perpetuates systemic biases and undermines diversity. Campaigns have emerged to support the affected teacher and push for policy reforms. Community members have organized petitions, rallies, and discussions to raise awareness.

## **School District Reactions**

Some school districts have responded by reviewing their dress code policies to ensure they are culturally inclusive and non-discriminatory. Training sessions for administrators and staff on cultural competence and implicit bias have been implemented in certain districts to prevent future incidents.

## **Educational Impact**

Teachers and students alike have expressed concerns about the implications of enforcing restrictive dress codes. Such policies can affect morale, inclusivity, and the overall school climate. Educational leaders emphasize the importance of fostering environments where diversity is respected and celebrated.

## **Broader Implications for Diversity and Inclusion**

The case of a teacher getting fired for braids serves as a microcosm of larger societal issues surrounding diversity, equity, and inclusion. It challenges institutions to reconsider how policies affect marginalized groups and the importance of cultural awareness.

## **Promoting Inclusive Policies**

To create equitable educational environments, schools are encouraged to develop dress codes that respect cultural differences and prevent discrimination. Inclusive policies might include:

- Explicitly allowing culturally significant hairstyles

- Providing clear guidelines that avoid subjective judgments
- Engaging diverse stakeholders in policy development
- Offering training on cultural competency for staff

## **Impact on Teacher Retention and Recruitment**

Inclusive policies that respect cultural expression can enhance teacher satisfaction and retention, especially among educators from diverse backgrounds. Conversely, restrictive and discriminatory policies may discourage talented individuals from entering or remaining in the profession, negatively affecting educational quality and representation.

## **Encouraging Dialogue and Education**

Open conversations about cultural identity, discrimination, and professional expectations are vital for fostering understanding within school communities. Educational programs that highlight the significance of diverse cultural practices can contribute to more inclusive and respectful environments.

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **Why did the teacher get fired for wearing braids?**

The teacher was fired because the school administration claimed that her braided hairstyle violated the school's dress code or grooming policies.

## Is it legal for a teacher to be fired for wearing braids?

Firing a teacher solely for wearing braids can raise concerns about discrimination, particularly racial discrimination, since braids are often a cultural hairstyle. Such actions might be challenged legally under anti-discrimination laws.

## How have communities reacted to a teacher being fired for braids?

Many communities and civil rights groups have expressed outrage and called the firing unfair and culturally insensitive, advocating for policies that respect diverse hairstyles.

## What policies do schools have regarding hairstyles like braids?

School policies on hairstyles vary, but some schools have grooming codes that prohibit certain hairstyles they consider unprofessional, which has led to controversies when these rules disproportionately affect hairstyles associated with specific cultures.

## Are there any movements or laws addressing discrimination based on hairstyles like braids?

Yes, several states and local governments have enacted CROWN Acts (Create a Respectful and Open Workplace for Natural Hair) to prohibit discrimination based on natural hairstyles, including braids, in workplaces and schools.

## Additional Resources

### 1. *Braided Boundaries: A Teacher's Fight for Identity*

This compelling novel follows a dedicated teacher who faces unexpected backlash after wearing her natural braids to school. As she navigates the challenges of discrimination and misunderstanding, she becomes a symbol of cultural pride and resilience. The story explores themes of identity, workplace bias, and the power of standing up for oneself.



## 2. *Strands of Resistance*

When a beloved educator is fired for her braided hairstyle, the school community is thrown into turmoil. This inspiring tale highlights the intersection of race, personal expression, and professional expectations. Through protests, legal battles, and heartfelt conversations, the teacher and her supporters seek justice and change.

## 3. *Unraveled: The Cost of Conformity*

In a society that demands uniformity, one teacher's choice to wear braids becomes a catalyst for controversy. This novel delves into the personal and professional consequences of suppressing cultural identity. It challenges readers to question societal norms and the true meaning of professionalism.

## 4. *The Braid Ban: A Story of Courage and Conviction*

After being dismissed for her braided hairstyle, a teacher embarks on a journey of self-discovery and advocacy. The book chronicles her fight against institutional racism and the support she garners from students and colleagues alike. It's a powerful narrative about courage, community, and change.

## 5. *Knots of Prejudice*

This story centers on a teacher whose natural hair becomes the focus of discrimination leading to her termination. Through her experience, the novel sheds light on the subtle and overt biases present in educational institutions. It advocates for acceptance and the celebration of diverse cultural expressions.

## 6. *Braids and Boundaries: Breaking the Rules*

Set in a strict school environment, this novel follows a teacher who defies dress codes to honor her heritage. Facing suspension and eventual firing, she becomes an unlikely hero in the fight for inclusivity. The narrative balances personal struggle with broader societal issues around race and identity.

## 7. *Hair Today, Gone Tomorrow*

A poignant tale about a teacher whose braided hair leads to an unexpected career crisis. The story

explores the emotional toll of discrimination and the resilience required to overcome it. It also highlights the importance of allyship and community support in confronting injustice.

#### 8. *The Last Braid: Standing Tall Against Discrimination*

This book tells the true-to-life story of a teacher who refuses to abandon her cultural hairstyle despite pressure from administrators. Her dismissal sparks a movement advocating for policy changes in schools nationwide. It's a testament to the strength found in embracing one's identity.

#### 9. *Entwined: A Teacher's Journey Through Injustice*

Following the firing of a teacher over her braids, this narrative explores the complexities of race, culture, and professionalism in education. It offers a nuanced look at the challenges faced by educators who do not conform to traditional norms. Ultimately, it is a story of hope, empowerment, and transformation.

## **Teacher Gets Fired For Braids**

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**teacher gets fired for braids:** White Shirt Crystal Washington, 2010-11-30 He gives true accounts of his life in the streets of Wellston dealing with gang rivalry and police corruption. She writes about experiences growing up a female with no father at home, overcoming child molestation, incest and rape, a single parent and poor in St. Louis city. She has witnessed gang rapes, murders and other vile things that come with a life of being poor. Life is truly a battlefield when you are born at the bottom. Crime is not a fairy tale. It's a dead end and there is no outlet. This book is a love story about a couple who have gone through all types of trials and tribulations growing up at the bottom of the ghetto. Their lives went through all types of twists and turns, only in the end to find true love. In the end, God had their backs.

**teacher gets fired for braids: African American Young Girls and Women in PreK12 Schools and Beyond** Renae D. Mayes, Marjorie C. Shavers, James L. Moore III, 2022-06-02 African American Young Girls and Women in PreK12 Schools and Beyond: Informing Research, Policy, and Practice presents a comprehensive viewpoint on preK-12 schooling for African American females. This volume offers readers compelling evidence of the educational challenges and successes for this student population.

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**teacher gets fired for braids: *The Girl Who Wrote Loneliness*** Kyung-Sook Shin, 2015-09-15 The *Girl Who Wrote Loneliness* is a stark and lyrical work that follows a teen-aged girl who has just arrived in Seoul to work in a factory while struggling to achieve her dream of finishing school and becoming a writer. Shin sets the this complex and nuanced coming of age story against the backdrop of Korea's industrial sweatshops of the 1970's and takes on the extreme exploitation, oppression, and urbanization that helped catapult Korea's economy out of the ashes of the war. Millions of teen-aged girls from the countryside descended on Seoul in the late 1970's. These girls formed the bottom of the city's social hierarchy, forgotten and ignored. Richly autobiographical, the novel lays bare the conflict and confusion Shin goes through as she confronts her past and the sweeping social change that has taken place in her homeland over the past half century. The *Girl Who Wrote Loneliness* has been cited in Korea as one of the most important literary novels of the decade, and cements Shin's legacy as one of the most insightful and exciting young writers of her generation.

**teacher gets fired for braids: *The General's Unexpected Wife*** Theresa Yasses, 2025-06-24 Song Shengsheng had a nightmare and realized that she was the cannon fodder female supporting character in a period drama—the evil ex-wife of the male lead who died early. In the story, she was nothing but a beautiful woman with no other talents. To escape her husband, she wrote a denunciation letter accusing her military officer husband of having questionable political background. Not only that. When her husband traveled thousands of miles to chase her and beg her to come home, she rejected him without hesitation and even mocked him, saying he would never amount to anything in his life. In the end, her husband's family was exonerated, and his father and brothers were restored to their former positions. He himself rose through the ranks and, upon returning to the capital, became a powerful figure in high office. As for her, the cruel female supporting character who abandoned her husband and children, she met a tragic end by taking her own life. Song Shengsheng, who had awakened from her dream: ??? To avoid such a tragic ending, she could only keep her head down and strive to be a good person. She waited for the turbulent years to pass, hoping to divorce the male lead peacefully and each go their separate ways to a happy life. Days passed. Her husband, just like in the book, rose higher and higher in his career. Song Shengsheng waited and waited, but he never initiated the divorce. But Song Shengsheng had had enough. Once she felt confident enough, she said without hesitation, "Fu Cheng, I want a divorce!" After all these years of working tirelessly to clean up her messes, Fu Cheng was taken aback: ??? The female lead is a great actress; she's just pretending to love him. The male lead truly loves her; he's just a man of few words.

**teacher gets fired for braids: *Education and the Politics of Memory in Russia and Eastern Europe*** Sergey Rumyantsev, 2025-01-21 This book examines both formal and extracurricular education, and the politics of memory and historical narratives in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Russia, and Ukraine. The misalignment between memory politics and history politics forms a central theme of this book. Structured in three parts, it focuses on school education in the post-Soviet states over the

30 years between the collapse of the Soviet Union and the 2022 Russian invasion of Ukraine. The chapters inquire as to how post-Soviet school education, politics of memory, and history politics became active participants in the production of state-approved ideology, patriotism, and a state-prescribed understanding of the national past. Armed conflicts in the territory of the former USSR not only saw numerous victims and refugees but also the emergence of new borders and unrecognized (de-facto) states, and the annexation of territories. They also contributed to the creation of new sites of memory, generated their own traditions of commemoration for the heroes and victims of these confrontations, and led to the reconstruction of historical narratives and the construction of new national myths. The research in this book foregrounds how the nationalization of the public space and the reconstruction of national historical narratives in the independent states reflect a desire to monopolize the power to interpret the past, with low tolerance of alternative accounts. In this light, the book covers issues such as the nation-state, Sovietization, national history creation, memory politics, religion, mass media, nationalism and patriotism, and analyzes the relationship of Azerbaijani and Armenian, Russian and Ukrainian societies with their histories and pasts. A novel study on the topic of memory and history writing, this is a timely contribution to the field of Post-Soviet history and Russian and Eastern European Studies. The Open Access version of this book, available at <http://www.taylorfrancis.com>, has been made available under a Creative Commons Attribution-Non Commercial-No Derivatives (CC-BY-NC-ND) 4.0 license.

**teacher gets fired for braids: At the Intersection of Hermeneutics and Homiletics** Yung Suk Kim, 2025-04-18 While hermeneutics involves comprehensive study of the biblical text, whether through historical or literary or reader-focused approaches, homiletics is concerned with a selected theme/message and on the composition and delivery of sermonic discourse aimed at a particular audience. But the border between hermeneutics and homiletics is blurry because both disciplines require readers to engage the biblical text from their own contexts. This collection deals with the intersection of hermeneutics and homiletics by exploring two revelatory texts—one from the Hebrew Bible and the other from the New Testament: the book of Ruth and Matthew 15:21–28 (a Canaanite woman’s encounter with Jesus). Both reflect agonizing issues that readers must tackle: (im)migration, family/community, identity/agency, race/ethnicity, gender, class, culture, economy, and religion. A diverse group of scholars brings their transgressive perspectives to the above texts. Unfolding new areas of interest, inquiry, and insight, they will transgress authoritative readings of biblical texts, fashion hermeneutic horizons in dialogue with the text, and forge homiletic trajectories toward contemporary audiences. Without limiting interpretation to a box, this volume looks to register bold voices to perennial issues in our day. Homiletic transformation occurs through the relentless, resistant reading of the text and through reimagining our world.

**teacher gets fired for braids: Handbook of Research on Education for Participative Citizenship and Global Prosperity** Pineda-Alfonso, José A., De Alba-Fernández, Nicolás, Navarro-Medina, Elisa, 2018-11-23 Active participation in processes of change are an essential aspect of community participation, and proper recognition of opportunities for participation facilitate community engagement nationally and internationally. Education and its relation to citizenship in recent years has become one of the most important fields of research. From different areas and contexts, it has been revealed that there is a prevailing need for education for citizens to take part actively in the processes of change and improvement that the current global situation requires. The Handbook of Research on Education for Participative Citizenship and Global Prosperity is a pivotal reference source focusing on the productions and fields of study that are carried out all over the world on education for citizenship, namely the devices that provide young people with the consciousness and highlight the aspects of an active democratic life. While highlighting topics such as citizenship identity, educational policy, and social justice, this publication explores participation instruction, as well as the methods of community involvement. This book is ideally designed for educational administrators, policymakers, researchers, professionals, and educators seeking current research on instructional methods for teaching active community and political involvement.

**teacher gets fired for braids: *The Liar's Child*** Carla Buckley, 2019-03-12 In this intense and intimate family portrait that moves at a thriller's pace, a troubled woman faces a gripping moral dilemma after rescuing two abandoned children from a hurricane. On the outskirts of North Carolina's Outer Banks sits the Paradise, an apartment complex where renters never stay long enough to call the place "home"—and neighbors are seldom neighborly. It's ideal for Sara Lennox, who moved there to escape a complicated past—and even her name—and rebuild a new life for herself under the radar. But Sara cannot help but notice the family next door, especially twelve-year-old Cassie and five-year-old Boon. She hears rumors and whispers of a recent tragedy slowly tearing them apart. When a raging storm threatens then slams the coastal community, Sara makes a quick, bold decision: Rescue Cassie and Boon from the storm and their broken home—without telling a soul. But this seemingly noble act is not without consequences. Some lethal. Carla Buckley crafts a richly rewarding psychological portrait, combining a heart-wrenching family drama with high-stakes suspense, as the lives of three characters intertwine in an unforgettable story of fury, fate—and redemption. Praise for *The Liar's Child* "Surprising and rewarding . . . Ms. Buckley does what only the best suspense writers can do: She makes you care about what happens to her characters, provoking your emotions as well as your curiosity."—*The Wall Street Journal* "Buckley has crafted a complex and compelling story. The nuances and dynamics at play in *The Liar's Child* will take the most jaded reader on a heartfelt and emotional journey."—*Associated Press* "A wonderfully complex and multilayered drama complete with the suspense that keeps the pages turning. Fans of Kate White and Diane Chamberlain will be asking if it's possible for a child to leave the past behind long after the book ends."—*Booklist* "Carla Buckley's superb psychological thrillers are always emotionally wrenching but *The Liar's Child* packs a visceral gut punch that knocks the wind right out of us . . . Emotive writing that packs a wallop to both the heart and the mind."—*Book Trib*

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research and analysis will be important reading for those studying Ethnicity, as well as Sociologists, Political Scientists, and Anthropologists. This book was originally published as a special issue of Ethnic and Racial Studies.

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**teacher gets fired for braids: Unrelenting** George H Morris, 2016-05-01 If there is one name in the American equestrian story that everyone knows, it is George Morris. A horse lover, rider, carouser, competitor, taskmaster, dreamer, teacher, and visionary, George Morris has been ever-present on the rarified stage of the international riding elite for most of the 70 years he's been in the saddle. He has represented our country as an athlete and a coach and, at one time or another, instructed many of our nation's best horsemen and women. His carefully chosen, perfectly enunciated words are notoriously powerful. They can raise you up or cut you to the quick. His approval can be a rainmaker; his derision can end a career. But as much as people know and respect (or, perhaps, fear) the public face of George Morris, he has lived, in other ways, a remarkably private life, keeping his own personal struggles with insecurity, with ambition, and with love behind closed doors. It is only now that he has chosen, in his own words, to share the totality of his life—the very public and the incredibly private—with the world. This engrossing autobiography, the real story of the godlike George Morris, beautifully demonstrates his ultimate humanity.

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**teacher gets fired for braids: The Pink Line** Mark Gevisser, 2024-05-01 A groundbreaking examination of how the issues of sexuality and gender identity divide and unite the world today. More than seven years in the making, Mark Gevisser's *The Pink Line* is an exploration of how the conversation around sexual orientation and gender identity has come to describe—and divide—the world in an entirely new way over the first two decades of the twenty-first century. A new *Pink Line*, Gevisser argues, has been drawn across the globe, and he takes readers to its frontiers. Between sensitive and sometimes startling profiles of the queer people he's encountered along the *Pink Line*, from Israel to Russia, Michigan to Mexico, Gevisser offers sharp analytical chapters exploring identity politics, religion, gender ideology, capitalism, human rights, moral panics, geopolitics, and what he calls the new transgender culture wars. What results is a moving and multifaceted picture of the world today, and the queer people defining it. Eye-opening, heartfelt, expertly researched, and compellingly narrated, *The Pink Line* is a monumental—and urgent—journey of unprecedented scope into twenty-first-century identity, seen through the border posts along the world's new LGBTQ+ frontiers. One of TIME's 100 Must-Read Books of 2020 Longlisted for the 2021 Rathbones Folio Prize Praise for *The Pink Line* [Mark] Gevisser is clear-eyed and wise enough to have a sharp sense of how tough the struggle has been, and how hard it will be now for those who have not succeeded in finding shelter from prejudice. —Colm Tóibín, *The Guardian* A global geography of queer struggle,

a wide-ranging, openhearted, beautifully told account of the radically various state of LGBTQ rights in the world. —Garth Greenwell, author of *Cleanliness Gevisser's* monumental effort in this global deep-think of a text outlines how much work remains ahead. This necessary, timely, intelligent book belongs in every library, the world over. — Booklist (starred review) Makes impressive strides in chronicling distant and recent LGBT history and progress across the world . . . the humanity and tension with which Gevisser portrays his subjects keeps the prose engaging alongside his incredible and seemingly encyclopedic knowledge of LGBT world history. — Library Journal (starred review)

**teacher gets fired for braids:** *Terrarium* Valerie Trueblood, 2018-08-07 Shortlisted for the Pacific Northwest Book Award Urgent, unnerving and tightly packed short fiction that covers enough ground for a library of novels. —The New York Times Book Review, Editors' Choice Valerie Trueblood's writing has been praised by The New York Times as an exercise in literary restraint and extreme empathy. Selected here are stories from her previous collections—finalists for the PEN/Faulkner Award and the Frank O'Connor International Short Story Award—alongside her newest collection, which lends this book its name. The new stories collected within *Terrarium* represent an exciting direction for the author: a condensing of narrative and, in some cases, a departure from it into another state of mind. It's hard to describe any of Trueblood's stories as typical. She does not write about people from a single class, or caste, or geographical area. She has not written a single story emblematic of her work. She does not write stories fantastical or eccentric. Ordinary life, her stories may be saying, is fantastical enough. She is more like Babel than Chekhov. In all her writing, it's clear that Trueblood believes that the short story can carry both the lightest and heaviest of loads. *Terrarium* highlights the achievement of simply living, the stories within often unresolved but in a state of continuation, expansion. Trueblood's stories aren't merely about their subjects, they're inside them.

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