Open in app ↗

Medium Search Write

Member-only story

Racism + Equality + Culture + Politics ✓ Medium +

The Great Unraveling of The American Chosen Ones

Because Nothing Is Scarier Than Having to Earn What You Used to Get for Free

The Color of My Politics Follow 5 min read · Mar 1, 2026

671 9

By Malik Shakur



This morning’s Sunday sermon was about humility.

For most of America's existence — and I'm talking from Plymouth Rock to the present — white men weren't merely the protagonists of the national story. They were the *story*. If America were a video game, it would have God Mode enabled while everyone else was still trying to unlock Basic Rights as downloadable content.

White men weren't treated as one demographic among many. They were treated as the natural default: the human template. Others were deviations — interesting side characters, perhaps, but not the main arc.

But now, at the end of 2025, an irreversible shift is underway: T**he White male aura of automatic authority is dissolving, inspiring hope for a more equitable future.**

Some are adjusting. Some are resisting. Some are shrieking like banshees in a comment section, ranting about cultural Marxism while accidentally demonstrating cultural confusion. Because for the first time in generations, this country isn't automatically built around their comfort — or their convenience — or their validation. And that feels, to them, like injustice. It feels like betrayal. It feels like the fall of an empire — which, in a way, it is. This recognition can inspire hope for a more equitable future.

THE LOSS OF PRE-INSTALLED RESPECT

Imagine being raised in a world where you are quietly taught:

- Your voice matters by default
- Your ideas are presumed rational

- Your anger is interpreted as passion
- Your confidence is seen as leadership
- Your mistakes are framed as teachable moments
- Your dreams are considered realistic

That's not empowerment — that's *cultural inheritance.* But what happens when one day someone says:

"Thank you for your opinion… now please back it up with evidence." Suddenly, Trent from Ohio feels like Galileo on trial. This is not oppression. This is accountability. Yet you'd think someone just told him his beloved pickup truck gets terrible mileage, and his beard isn't fooling anyone.

It's no coincidence that "I'm being silenced!" is often shouted by people with uninterrupted microphone access.

The Myth of White Innocence vs The Myth of Black Criminality

This is where America reveals its split-screen morality. When a Black person commits a crime, suddenly, pundits morph into amateur anthropologists asking:

"What's wrong with Black culture?" But when a white man commits a crime:" *What went wrong in his life?"* White criminality is explained. Black crime is weaponized. White violence is individualized. Black violence is collectivized. A White mass shooter is:

- a quiet loner
- misunderstood

- mentally unstable
- troubled by society
- failed by institutions

A Black suspect is:

- a "thug"
- a "super-predator"
- a "statistical correlate."
- a "community problem."
- a "demographic concern."

As Baldwin would say with searing clarity: "The story is not about what was done, but about who is allowed to remain human afterward." This truth can motivate us to work together toward accountability and fairness. And that cuts deep — because it's true.

When Statistics Are a Scalpel for One Group and a Sledgehammer for Another

Ah — the glorious American pastime: **quoting statistics selectively.** Right-wing commentators LOVE numbers. They wield data the way a toddler wields spaghetti: with enthusiasm, conviction, and zero nuance.

They recite:

- crime rates among Black men
- incarceration rates among Black youth

- Poverty statistics among Black families
- fatherlessness rates among Black households

They treat these statistics like holy scripture — except scripture gets interpreted. These get weaponized.

But here's the part they never mention:

Across many categories, white individuals constitute a significant percentage of offenders and arrests — consistent with being the largest demographic.

Yet no one asks: **"What's wrong with white culture?"**

No one demands: **"Why don't white men respect authority?"**

No one interrogates: **"Is whiteness predisposed to violence?"**

Because if someone did ask that, the reaction would be so dramatic you'd think someone suggested banning mayonnaise.

When a White male criminal emerges, media coverage is lavish:

- baby photos
- interviews with neighbors
- sympathetic narratives
- speculation about mental health
- extended explorations of motive and meaning

When a Black criminal appears, we get a mugshot and a stat sheet.

Statistics aren't the real problem. **Interpretation is.** Numbers don't lie — but people use them dishonestly.

The Protection of The Narrative

The most significant advantage white men ever had wasn't just legal. It was *mythological.* It was the shared cultural fiction that white men:

- are rational
- are moral
- are stable
- are credible
- are capable
- are authoritative

Even when they demonstrably weren't. Even when they led the country into economic crises.Even when they oversaw corruption and war.Even when they engaged in exploitation, colonization, and suppression.

The story bent to protect them. As Baldwin would point out: "The power is not just in who tells the story, but in who is protected by the story being told."

This is why white men never got a cultural label like:

- "white-on-white crime"
- "white fatherlessness crisis"

- "white violent pathology"
- "white community breakdown"

They were never reduced to statistics. They were lifted above them.

The Power Shift — And the Tantrums

Let us be honest: we're witnessing a theatrical meltdown. What some white men perceive as "oppression" is actually **the loss of unchecked dominance.** It's the realization that:

- They are no longer automatically respected
- They are no longer inherently authoritative
- They are no longer universally prioritized
- They are no longer shielded from criticism
- they are no longer mythologized as the standard of humanity

Suddenly:

- Hiring a woman feels unfair
- Listening to minorities feels threatening
- Acknowledging inequality feels accusatory
- Teaching history feels dangerous
- Losing a monopoly feels like persecution

This isn't about blaming individuals but about recognizing how societal systems have historically favored white men through structures of privilege, *encouraging reflection rather than defensiveness.*

And equality feels painful to those who mistook privilege for baseline reality.

This Was Never About Biology — It was Always About Advantage

We aren't claiming white men are genetically predisposed to violence. We are saying white men have historically been:

- protected from scrutiny
- shielded by narrative
- excused by framing
- individually analyzed instead of collectively condemned

The issue was never inherent danger. It was an **inherited permission.** White maleness came bundled with a cultural warranty that said:

"Do not blame the demographic." That warranty is expiring.

THE NEW AUDITION

Now comes the twist: For the first time in American history, **the lead role in society, culture, leadership,** and **credibility is actually up for competition.**

This does not mean white men are being exiled. It means they are being normalized. This shift can inspire confidence that change is possible and progress is within reach. They can still be leaders — but they must *earn* it. They can still be respected — but they must *deserve* it. They can still speak — but they must *listen* too. And as always, Baldwin whispers through time:

"Those who were once gods must learn to live as men." "And honestly, that's progress — because most of them weren't perfect men or gods anyway."

Racism + Equality + Culture + Politics ✓ Medium +



Written by The Color of My Politics

1.6K followers · 81 following

The Color of My Politics is my satirical look as a Black man in America—educated enough to know the rules, wise enough to know they weren't written for me.

Follow