

*Foreign tongue*

(inspired by Kupu rere kē by Alice Te Punga Somerville)

*English isn't my first language, it's actually 日本語*

*But that's hard to believe. (is it because I don't look like it?)*

*I can read, write, speak, listen, English perfectly,*

*But it's not my first language.*

*My mom taught me 日本語 before I was even born (literally, research how children get accents)*

*But I know English better. I live in America.*

*It's a bit of a tragedy.*

*Some people say that you need to italicize all "foreign" words*

*That's stupid as fuck,*

*But,*

*What is a "foreign" word,*

*a word that's not your first tongue?*

*Well then, this is a poem that's in a-*