

GET ON THE BUS

J. V. D. IRE
J. SMITH

FLIP

Hey, what up, black?

GARY

How's it goin'?

FLIP

I'm doing well. I made the bus,
it's all good now.

GARY

You had a little problem getting
up this morning, didn't you?

FLIP

Oh, please, baby, I get up with
the roosters. I had an early
audition.

GARY

You a singer or something?

FLIP

I'm an actor.

GARY

You ever been in any movies?

FLIP

You see Boyz N' the Hood?

GARY

You were in that?

FLIP

Almost. At the last minute they
gave the joint to...umm...to Ice
Cube. Do you believe that? They
hired a rapper to act. He's a
rapper not a actor, they hired a
rapper to act. You know? I
can't get by on that. That's Ok
though, you know, cause, I just
went up for this role
opposite...uh...opposite Denzel.
That's on the QT. So how come
you're going to the march?

GARY

Uhh..I guess if the bruthas are

getting together, you know.
Talking about some things, trying
to work some things out, I want
to be there. Right?

FLIP

Right. ~~Where you from?~~

GARY

I live in Pasadena

FLIP

No, not where you live. Where
you from?

GARY

Monterey originally.

FLIP

Monterey? Well damn, I didn't
know they had black people up
there.

GARY

We got a handful.

FLIP

If you don't mind my asking, are
you Mulatto or just light-
skinned?

GARY

You mean bi-racial.

FLIP

Bi-racial. So that's a yes.

GARY

I consider myself black.

FLIP

Well if you were raised by at
least one black parent I guess
you're down. ~~Half the bruthas I~~
know were raised by one black
parent.

GARY

My mother happens to be white.

FLIP

Oh, oh well. No disrespect...
What's the deal with your pop?

GARY

What?

FLIP

~~Your father, your father.~~ What's up with your father?

GARY

My father was a black man. He was a cop, he got murdered.

FLIP

That must have tripped you out.

GARY

Oh yeah, it tripped me out. It really tripped me out, you know. Just like having to watch a rapper trying to act.

FLIP

~~This brutha, man.~~ Hey, you mind if I ask you something?

GARY

Yeah, why quit now?

FLIP

Was it a brutha that killed your father?

GARY

What kind of question is that?

FLIP

Just wondering, you know?

GARY

Yes, it was a brutha that killed my father.

Flip's phone rings.

FLIP

Yep? Uhhuh, What's happening, Bird? Yeah. Uhhuh, oh yeah, yeah. So they liked me? Oh, yeah count on that. Yeah. I got my fingers and my toes crossed. Ok, ok bye.

Hangs up phone.

FLIP CONT'D

(relieved)

Oh boy.

GARY

So did you get it?

FLIP

'They're gonna make a decision later this weekend but yeah. Yeah, it looks like uh, yeah I got it.

GARY

Yeah?

FLIP

Yeah.

GARY

Big role?

FLIP

You kidding? They put me up on that screen I'll blow up too large. People will be like, 'Denzel who?' You know what I'm sayin'?

GARY

Well, I hope it works out, brutha. ~~Then I can say I know you when...~~

~~GARY/FLIP~~

~~You were actin' a fool on a bus...~~

~~FLIP~~

~~Right on, brutha.~~

~~GARY~~

~~...going on your way to the Million Man march, 1995.~~

FLIP

So yo. What do you think of my mans there?

GARY

Who?

FLIP

Mighty whitey, driving the bus.

GARY

Oh, right about know he's probably thinking about kicking his boss's ass.

FLIP

Oh, yeah. I guess you don't have a problem with him though.

GARY

Huh?

FLIP

You don't have a problem with him, cause you know, you share a white thing. You know what I'm talking about.

GARY

Man, I already told you I consider myself black.

FLIP

Now hang on, no disrespect-

GARY

No, no just because a person is white does not mean I dislike them.

FLIP

I'm not trying to-

GARY

And just because a person is black does not mean I like him.

FLIP

That's not why I'm trying to say-

GARY

Ok, I consider myself black. Just like Bob Marley was black, Ok?

FLIP

I wasn't talkin' about Bob Marley

GARY

He was not called Mulatto. I consider myself black.

FLIP

Well, no disrespect, partner, but I could consider myself six foot four and ugly. The fact remains that I'm six foot and too cute for the English vocabulary. I bet you nine times outta ten, you're bangin' a white woman. Right?

GARY

You are wrong, man.

FLIP

What?

GARY

Look, my lady's not white. ~~But you would never understand that, would you, Flip? You would never understand that.~~ What's your problem, really? I mean, at bottom, what is your problem. Do you want a white woman?

FLIP

Oh, please.

GARY

Is that it? You want a white woman?

FLIP

Please. Playa's written all over me, cuz. I done tagged all kinds of freaks. Black, white, Chinese, Mexican.

GARY

Why do you insist on calling women freaks? Look, I love my woman, Ok? I respect her. She's not a freak, she's a queen.

FLIP

I bang queens too. Oh, oh oh, I'm sorry, I get it, you're on a hen pecked tip. ~~I'm sorry let me sit down.~~

GARY

I do not cheat on my woman, that does not make me a hen peck, it makes me honest, Flip.

FLIP

Oh, well I wish I could see how straight up noble you would be if you had as many draws thrown at your face as I do but I guess we'll never know.