

"SUBWAY"

1496 Words

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5:30 A.M. DANA is awoken by her Alarm Clock as planned, the timer on her iPod kicks in and "I... Am... Supeeerrr... Woman" by Alicia Keys comes through the speakers lining the corners of her Loft. With a stretch and a yawn she smiles, "Yes I Am." Enjoying the splendor of her Womanhood, and basking in her independence, she singing's the lyrics to the anthem on her way to the shower.

In the lobby of her Building DANA hears the clatter and pounding of the outside World, and the worm air across her face when the Door Man Mr. Charles opens the door for her.

"Good Morning DANA," he says with his unwavering charm, something the Vietnam Veteran has had since as far back as his days of coming home in Uniform on leave from a Tour of Duty.

"Good Morning to you Mr. Charles!" She responded crossing the threshold and stepping on to the sidewalk. "Its suppose to be a nice one today."

"Sure does... 70's they say!"

"Gotta enjoy it while it last," She said over her shoulder taking her place amongst the thousands of foot steps going To and Fro along the Center City Pavement in their Morning Commute.

At the corner, PEREZ who runs the News Stand handed DANA a Quarter and a pack of Double-Mint Gum before she had the chance to retrieve the Dollar Bill she had separated and ready in her pocket, like she did every Morning.

"Greetings Ms. DANA..." Knowing she had no intention on purchasing a News Paper, he began to give his Daily run-down of the Morning Headlines. "Dow closed below 900 Yesterday..."

"Ya... Crazy People running the Country PEREZ, you have to look out for yourself."

"Yes... Yes... Crazy. McCann say Obama Terrorist!"

"He didn't say it... but he didn't stop his supports from saying it."

"Is there difference?"

"I guess you're right PEREZ - is there really a difference."

Heading down the steps to the Underground Subway

Station DANA receives a few "Hello's" from some familiar voices, she politely returns the greetings. Once on the Train she takes her usual seat in the back of the Car facing the Front. As the Train starts to roll she hears Purse Lady digging around in her Purse, as if something was missing, like she does every Morning.

The Train comes to a rest at the next stop and, "Boom - Draggg... Boom - Draggg... Boom - Draggg," Heavy Foot, the Construction Worker who drags his feet, steps on the Train and rushes to his seat next to Purse Lady. iPod Boy follows with his Music Blasting from his head set, along with a number of familiar passengers.

The Train Taxi's away from the platform on its journey to its next stop. DANA listened to the sound of the planks beneath the track's as the Train gains speed, they go from a steady flow of "Bumps" until the sound of air is all that's heard. Suddenly, without warning, all sound and sight is gone. The Train slowly comes to a stop and all that's heard is people moving in their seats, and voices of preliminary panic.

"What's Happening???"

"Can you see... I can't see my hand in front of my

face."

"Anybody hear anything???"

"Is the Train still rolling..."

DANA sat in silence listening to the voices, she didn't grab her bag extra tight, she didn't remove her jewelry to secure it in her pocket, she showed no sign of panic - she just tuned in.

"Something's go'in on!"

"It maybe a Test or something...", someone yelled, "some kind of a Drill."

"It could be a Terrorist Attack - I seen some Muslim's get on!"

From the left someone said, "Yaaa... It could be a serial killer on board, I seen some Nerdy White-Boy's with glasses get on! You need to worry about them and stop worrying about Muslim's."

"I bet you're Black who ever said that... only a N---- would make a nonsensical statement like that."

"Who you call'in a N----, keep talking so I can find you."

"People... People... People... there's no need to panic, lets just remain calm. There has to be an explanation,

just remain clam, we should be hearing something shortly -
what ever's going on I'm certain they wont just leave us down
here.

There was a brief silence, but the quiet was
broken by screams from the front of the Train,

"Get off... Get off... Somebody help Me!!!"

"Haaayyy... leave that Lady alone, you People that
desperate that you can control yourself in an emergency?"

"What do you mean you PEOPLE???"

"He didn't mean nothing by it - can't we agree
that those days are behind us. There's a Black Man about to be
President, there are Female Vice Presidential Candidate's and
Female CEO's, and Gay's have Right's."

"What he say about Gay's? You got something to say
about Gay's?"

"Just forget it," the Man said reluctantly.

"Hay... who ever that is with the Music, can you
please turn it down. That's the problem with you Children
now-a-days, things are going on around you and you're not
paying attention. That Music is vary distracting."

Someone responded saying, "F--- you White Lady...
you just Mad at Rap because it got your Daughter getting High
and Cutting School with Boy's, and your Son's is walking,

Dressing, and Acting like the Black Rapper's you hate." He was supported by giggles from a section toward the back that was obviously a Group of Teenager's.

Before anyone could say another word, the Light's returned, the sound of the air System and the Train's Motor's slowly filled the Air, and gradually the Train began to move along the Track. A voice came over the speaker,

"Lady's and Gentlemen, we suffered a temporary power outage. All power has been restored... please forgive us for the delay and inconvenience - Thank You for Your Patience."

The passenger's were in Silence, they scanned the Car searching for some expression in each other's Faces in the hopes of getting a sign of how to respond to the ordeal, however, the embarrassment of what they may have said in the dark, and who they said it too, prevented them from making eye contact with each other. The awkward moment was shattered by the eruption of laughter in the back of the Car.

DANA rose to her feet clapping her hands, "Well Done... Well Done..." she said with a sarcastic giggle. She

stepped into the middle aisle, unfolded her cane, and began to walk to the doors. "Tap-Tap-Tap-Tap..." The sound of her cane was echoing in a space where on any other day it would produce less than a whisper.

Timidly, someone said, "That's the Blind Girl... the one who always sits in the back."

"It was good seeing you all finally show your true selves to each other." DANA said, removing her Sun-Glasses, something she seldom did in public. "I've seen you... I've seen what you've been hiding from each other. Your ignorance, hatred, desires's, and prejudice. I've seen how you rush on the Train every Morning shuffling and dragging your Boots so you can sit next to a Woman you're scared to talk too." She pointed her cane at Heavy Foot.

"I've seen how you nervously dig in your Purse because you're afraid the Kid with the loud Music is going to try to take it from you. But what you can't see is that the Kid stands in front of you to protect you, he thinks you're a crazy person and the Guy that rushes to sit next to you every Morning is waiting for a chance to do something to you." She directed her cane to Purse Lady.

"All of you ride this Train every Morning, you sit in the same seats, next to the same people, yet you never talk to each other - you make a lot of noise, but you don't talk. It wasn't until you couldn't see each other that you decided to talk, and when you did, you seen what I see - the worst in you. Its one thing to stick to your Beliefs, Love your Race, and Hold Firm to your Religion. Its an entirely different story when we use that to Hate other Belief's, Race's, and Religion's. There shouldn't be a thin line between Love for Self and Prejudice of Other's, Our Love for Self is suppose to be reflected through Our Treatment of Other's - we're not understanding that and its Killing Us."

The Train came to a stop and the Doors slid open. Placing her glasses over her eye's and turning to exit, DANA said, "We'll get it together sooner or later... the only thing holding Us back is Us. Deep down We Love each other, and know We need each other, some of Us just can't see it that clearly." Shaking her head like a Coach feed up with his Team she disappeared into the oncoming crowd of passengers.

SUBWAY

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By Camara Oye

"SUBWAY"

A PLAY BASED ON
THE SHORT STORY "SUBWAY"

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ACT 1

INT. BED ROOM IN NINTH FLOOR APARTMENT IN DOWNTOWN
PHILADELPHIA

5:30 A.M. DANA is awoken by her Alarm Clock as planned, the timer on her Entertainment Center kicks in and music fills the room as it did every morning.

[Music by Alicia Keys]

"I... Am... Supeeerrr... Woman."

[DANA sings along while stretching and yawning]

"Yes I Am."

Basking in her independence and enjoying the splendor of her Womanhood, DANA singing's the lyrics to the anthem on her way to the shower.

Existing the Shower DANA hears the phone ringing. Dressed in a bath rob DANA turns down the radio and puts the

phone on speaker.

[DANA]

Hello!

[CALLER]

DANA? Is that you?

[DANA]

Yes Mom (thinking who else could it have been other than her self).

[MOM]

Why do you insist on using that speaker system, you're aware that its an inconvenience to the caller?

[DANA]

Don't call me then (DANA says in a low tone - she continues to lay her clothes out on the bed).

[MOM]

What did you say? I can't hear a word! This is so frustrating.

[DANA]

I didn't say anything MOM, how are you this morning?

[MOM]

I'm fine, are you going to be hear this weekend?

[DANA]

I'm not sure, I think I'm going to have some work to catch up on Saturday - so I wont be able to make it until Sunday.

[MOM]

You know your Father is expecting you, must you let him down all of the time.

[DANA]

He can miss one day of me MOM, plus he'll have his hands full with the DONNA'S crying and wining and the rest of the suck ups.

[DANA]

That's no way to talk about your Sister, not everyone has your Drive and view of Life DANA. You have to accept your Family as they come. And his friends are not suck ups, your Father has a lot of people who he's helped in Life, be it personal or professional. There's nothings wrong with them expressing their appreciation on his Birthday.

[DANA]

Sure, as long as Daddy's paying for it.

[MOM]

Your Father is a vary successful business man, we have a large Estate here, why can't he accommodate his friends on his Birthday. Stop being so cynical.

[DANA]

If I can get done early I'll be there Saturday -
if not - I'll be there Sunday Morning.

[MOM]

Just call so I can have the car come get you.

[DANA]

I told you MOM, I don't need a car to bring me
home, I know my way just fine.

[MOM]

Its just more convenient, but if you prefer to
ride alone so be it.

[DANA]

(With a look of getting a good idea) I'm not going
to ride alone, I'm bringing NeeNee with me.

[MOM]

Oh, that's nice, how is she?

[DANA]

Is that genuine concern, or is that a how is she getting along being a High School Drop-Out and a single Mother? Are you being cynical Mom?

[MOM]

That's non-sense, I've always liked your Friends.

[DANA]

When we were in pre-school you did, but when she got pregnant in High School you changed on her and her Mother.

[MOM]

That's not true DANA, her Mother and I drifted apart when they closed that section of the school and we went private. People go in different directions some times.

DANA]

Okay MOM, what ever you say. I'm running late for work, I'll see you this weekend.

[MOM]

Alright Baby, I'll tell your Father you'll be here - take care of yourself. I Love You.

[DANA]

I love you too MOM.

(The Line goes dead. Sliding on her Jeans DANA hits the speed dial on the phone. After a Few rings someone answers).

[VOICE ON THE PHONE]

Hello?

[DANA]

O.G. Call!

[NeeNee]

Why... What happen?

[DANA]

My Dad's Birthday Party at my parents house this weekend, I need you to go with me.

[NeeNee]

One of those all weekend long things with a bunch of Rich Black Folk's?

[DANA]

Yeah, you can't make me do it alone.

[NeeNee]

I'm off from work this weekend, but I'll have to find a Baby sitter.

[DANA]

He can come with us, my Room is big enough for all three of us.

[NeeNee]

Your Cousin Wayne gonna be there?

[DANA]

Ill girl! He probably will, but I can't see what you like about him. He's stuck on himself, and he uses the Family Money to live like he's a Rap Star.

[NeeNee]

After I get done with him he'll have more productive things to spend his money on!

[DANA]

Yeah whatever, we're going to Drive out tonight and come back Sunday Night - is that cool with you?

[NeeNee]

Call me when you get off work and I'll pick you
up.

[DANA]

Alright - Peace!

[NeeNee]

Peace!

(The phone line went dead. DANA finish getting
Dressed, puts on her designer sun glasses, and then left for
work).

ACT 2

INT. MAIN LOBBY OF DANA'S BUILDING

In the lobby DANA is greeted by the Door Man MR.
CHARLES as he opens the door leading to the Street allowing
DANA to pass through. (The sound of cars and the morning rush

hours fills the air).

[MR. CHARLES]

Good Morning DANA! (MR. CHARLES speaks with an unwavering charm, something the Vietnam Veteran has had since as far back as his days of coming home in Uniform on Leave from a Tour of Duty).

DANA]

Good Morning to you MR. CHARLES. (DANA pauses in the door way). Its suppose to be a nice one today.

[MR. CHARLES]

Sure does... 70's they say!

[DANA]

Gotta enjoy it while it last!

[MR. CHARLES]

Yeah, I'm going to have my lunch in the Park this afternoon.

[DANA]

Sounds like a good idea, have a nice one. (DANA continues out the door).

[MR. CHARLES]

You too DANA!

EXT. SIDE WALK ON BROAD STREET, DOWNTOWN PHILADELPHIA.

PEDESTRIANS MAKE THEIR WAY BACK AND FORTH AS DANA LEAVES HER BUILDING.

(DANA exists the Building and walks along the sidewalk closes to the building. In her mind she counts her steps - 1,2,3,4. She stops at the News Paper Stand at the corner next to the steps to the Underground Subway Entrance).

[PEREZ, News Stand Owner]

Greetings MS. DANA! (PEREZ hands DANA a Quarter and a pack of Bubble-Gum).

[DANA]

Good Morning PEREZ. (DANA hands PEREZ the Dollar Bill she already had folded up in her hand and took the Quarter and Gum).

PEREZ]

(PEREZ reads from a News Paper with broken english).

Paper say OBAMA money work MS. DANA, but Republican still say No.

(Look of confusion)

[DANA]

They're only saying No because if they say Yes they'll be admitting they were wrong.

PEREZ]

They say No to Money, No to Doctor Visit, and No to schools. OBAMA make Government too big they say!

[DANA]

Small Government is only good when people are able to take care of themselves PEREZ... we're in a recession and most people can't make it on their own, when things are like that the Government has to step in and help out - that's what they're for. Republicans don't understand that and that's why they lost. Government has to get a little bigger when things are like it is.

[PEREZ]

They out of touch!

[DANA]

Right! That's it... they're out of touch with most of the Country. The only people who agrees with them is those

who can afford to agree.

[PEREZ]

It get better, OBAMA make it better!

[DANA]

Yeah, but we have to help each other also.

(DANA turns to walk down the steps to the Subway).

[DANA - CONT.]

See you tomorrow PEREZ, have a nice day.

[PEREZ]

You to MS. DANA.

(DANA disappears down the steps, as she leaves a Guy walks up to the News Stand with his Head-Set blasting - DANA says to herself: "He's gonna blow a ear drum one day)."

ACT 3

INT. OFFICE BUILDING AT BROAD AND WALNUT, PHILADELPHIA - FIRST FLOOR SUITE. TWO MEN IN JUMPERS WORKING FOR A CLEANING SERVICE, (ONE and Older Black Man: HASAN, the other a Younger White Man ERIC). THEY'RE AT THE END OF THEIR SHIFT

HASAN]

Last room... call it in the air - Heads or tails? Loser vacuums and the winner empties the trash cans. (HASAN holds a coin in the palm of his hand).

[ERIC]

Don't worry about it, I'll do the floor, its no biggie. (He grabs the vacuum and begins to unwrap the cord enthusiastically).

[HASAN]

It kills me how happy you be about doing this job. (HASAN removes new trash bags from the cleaning cart).

[ERIC]

I'm not happy, I just enjoy doing my job and I take pride in it.

[HASAN]

Yeah I know. (look and tone of sarcasm).

[ERIC]

Look, there's nothing wrong with enjoying your job and appreciating your work. I provide a service to others, and in the process I'm able to pay my bills. That's a win - win. Its bad out there, people are losing jobs every day; you have to be thankful for what you have.

[HASAN]

What bills? (HASAN - laughs).

[ERIC]

My dorm rent, my cell phone, and my living

expenses. (ERIC has a "What else" look on his face pausing in between vacuum strokes).

[HASAN]

Those aint bills, you do that by choice. Your Dad would pay your rent, cell, and living expenses; which aint much cause you don't go no where but school, work, and then you're home in front of the computer. I think you spend more money on Hip Hop than anything else, and your Dad would gladly pay for it just like he pays that University of Penn Tuition. Me... I got child support, rent, living expenses, and if I'm not working the parole Man will be trying to send me back to jail - there's no choice involved.

[ERIC]

Why do you always make it seem as though I'm the privileged White Kid who's seeking some form of an identity by living in Poverty. (ERIC pauses the vacuum).

[HASAN]

I like how you put that, I had the thought but I

couldn't find the words; I like how you broke that down.

(HASAN speaks out loud while looking in the air with a trash bag in hand) "Privileged White Kid" - "seeking identity."

(HASAN laughs).

[ERIC]

(ERIC shakes his head and continues vacuuming).

[HASAN - CONT.]

Real Rap, though, I know you got a good heart
Little Buddy. I know you aint one of those Wiggers who'll grow
out of it in Five years. Its just that some time I think you
got your priorities mixed up; you be sincere, but you be mixed
up.

[ERIC]

(ERIC shuts off the vacuum and turned to HASAN
with his arms crosses over his chest). Exactly what do you
mean by that?

[HASAN]

Com'on wit the attitude, I told you before; if we talk with attitudes neither one of us will listen. What I'm saying is that I know you're a smart and conscious Dude, me and you have had enough conversations about poverty, America, and the Struggle for me to know that. But sometimes you a bit off! You say this job is a win - win because you're doing a service for others and at the same time its a source of income in a bad economy. The contradiction in that is if you know people are losing jobs, and you're sincere about doing service to other's, why not give up this job so that some one who's lost one and needs one can get it - and as far as doing service to other's, you could be a Volunteer some where like the rest of the Rich College kids who are socially conscious. You don't need this job, you choose to have it because you rebelling against your Dad.

[ERIC]

I'm not rebelling against my Dad, I work to ease the burden on my Dad, and to be responsible for myself. I have two little Sister's and I'm Old enough to take care of myself, there's no need for me to be an extra burden on my Dad.

[HASAN]

That sounds good, but it aint no burden on your Dad. He wants to pay for everything you need but you rejecting it because you think accepting it means you have to be the person he wants you to be. All kids think like that, but you'll see when you have Children of your own. You'll see what its like to want to provide for your Childs every need - not to make them a little you, but to build a stage so they can perform and have the freedom to be them.

[ERIC]

That's not my -----

(HASAN cuts him off mid sentence)

[HASAN]

Yes it is, you already told me. He wants you to work at his firm, but you don't want to be a Lawyer you want to do graphic Designing, so you try to avoid him and everything he offers instead of talking to him about what you really want.

(ERIC continues to vacuum in silence looking down at the floor).

[HASAN - CONT.]

All that's fine and good, I hope you and your Dad work it out. But here's my problem... because of this situation with you and your Dad, some single Mother or Struggling Father can't get this job; a job "that you don't need!" and some Peace Corps or other volunteer Organization out there don't have enough hands because you're here with me; "When you don't have to be!" All the while, you saying you doing a service to other's. Either you're not as conscious as you thought and can't see the real potential you have to help other's, or the thing with your Dad has you blinded to it.

[ERIC]

Why you so hard on me? (ERIC finishes the floor and begins to wrap up the cord).

[HASAN]

Because I like you, and its better than dealing

with my own stuff. (Laugh)

[ERIC]

Come on HASAN, your life's not that bad, I'm sure there's some things that please you and that you're grateful for - you just don't see it; its a matter of perception.

[HASAN]

You're right DR. ERIC, one day I'll lay back on your couch and talk to you about it. (HASAN speaks in sarcasm)

(ERIC laughs pushing the cleaning cart into the closet. They grab their belongs and exit).

EXT. ERIC AND HASAN EXIT THE BUILDING AND ARE STANDING ON BROAD STREET. THEY SHAKE HANDS AND WALKS OFF IN OPPOSITE DIRECTIONS.

[ERIC]

See you tonight.

[HASAN]

Alright... you take it easy.

(ERIC puts his Head-Set on and turns the volume up. He walks to the corner of the Street and stops at PEREZ'S News Stand. DANA and PEREZ are finishing their conversation and DANA begins to go down the Steps of the Subway Station).

[DANA]

He's gonna blow a ear drum one day. (DANA speaks to herself while going down the steps).

PEREZ]

Good morning Sir.

[ERIC]

Good morning to you MR. PEREZ. Give me the usual.

[PEREZ]

Bottle of Water and News Paper?

[ERIC]

Yes Sir., What's Today's Head Lines? (ERIC hands PEREZ money to pay for his order).

PEREZ]

President say Yes, Republicans say No.

(PEREZ looks at the News Paper in ERIC'S hand as if scanning for content).

[PEREZ - CONT.]

Oh Yes, Boston Tea Party in Texas! No Tax... No Tax... all over!

(PEREZ waves his hand indicating all over the Country).

[ERIC]

Yeah, you talking about the Tea Bagger's Protest, they're suppose to be at City Hall Today.

PEREZ]

Lot of People bring business!

(PEREZ looks enthused).

[ERIC]

It might.

(ERIC turns to walk to down the Subway steps.

[ERIC - CONT.]

Be careful, though, it may bring riots. You don't
want to get caught in that MR. PEREZ.

[PEREZ]

Yes... be careful.

(PEREZ smiles and waves good bye).

ACT 4

INT. RUN DOWN ONE BED ROOM APARTMENT IN SOUTH PHILADELPHIA.
ROY (A BLACK MAN IN HIS LATE 40'S) STANDS IN THE KITCHEN
COOKING BREAKFAST AT THE STOVE. A TELEVISION SITS ON THE
CORNER TOP WITH SPORTS NEWS PLAYING. THE ANNOUNCER REPORTS
THAT PHILADELPHIA SEVENTY SIXERS LOST BY 4 POINTS LAST NIGHT.

[ROY]

(Talking out load to himself)

I know he's pissed about that!

(After the report he turned the television off. He
only watched for the score so he'd have something to talk to
his son about later on.)

The phone rings. ROY looks at the clock on the
wall wondering who would be calling this early in the morning.

[ROY CONT.]

Hello! (Pause)

(Sign of disappointment comes across his face)

And Good morning to you to GWEN! (Pause).

No! (Pause)

If you--- (Pause)

Its always--- (Pause)

GWEN... GWEN... Can I speak please? They deduct it directly from my check, as soon as I cash my check the money goes directly to your account--- (Pause)

Child support and the alimony... (Pause)

Because its Friday morning GWEN, that's why its not in your account. It'll be there this afternoon when I cash my check. That's how its been every week for the last two years. (Pause)

No---

Damn it!" (Pause)

(ROY turns off the Stove and stops his sausage and eggs from burning).

I'm not talking to you, I burnt my food. (Pause)

That's not true GWEN, I just find it strange how you call like clock work on pay day, but you never return my calls on visit days. (Pause)

I'll be there tonight. (Pause)

Why not GWEN? (Pause)

(ROY displays a look of frustration)

I understand that... but when you made that plan you should have factored in that I'd be picking him up Friday Night. (Pause)

I am being considerate, I just ask that you do the same. (Pause)

I never put the Group before you and him, that's

just how you saw it.

(ROY looks at the piano in the hall was with mail and news papers piled on top of it).

Well what could I have done better GWEN? I stopped playing with the Group because you said I was financially and emotionally unavailable. I got the job and you said I was physically unavailable. What else can--- (Pause)

You asked for the Divorces... not me! (Pause)

He's right there - let me speak to him.

What's up Buddy? (Pause)

(ROY smiles and rubs his hand through his hair).

You Mom said I have to wait until tomorrow morning. I'll be there bright and early, though, so be ready. (Pause)

Yeah... four points, they can still make the play-offs though. (Pause)

I got a surprise for Sunday. (Pause)

(He pulls the tickets to Sundays Game out off his pocket).

Naw... don't give her back the phone. Just tell her to try it again this afternoon - after 1:00 PM, and I'll be there in the morning. (Pause)

Alright, I love you Boy. Be safe and keep your eye's open going back and forth to school, its crazy out there, be mindful of what's going on around you and watch out for the crowds and stuff.

(ROY hangs up the phone and leans against the counter top with his arms crossed over his chest looking at the floor in deep thought. After a moment he snaps out of his daze and picks up the frying pan on the Stove. He looks at the food - shakes his head - and then dumps it in the trash. He puts on his work shirt, grabs his jacket and hat, check his pocket for his keys and leaves the apartment).

[PASSENGER 1]

I was watching some Movie and when the Commercials came I started flicking through stations. I stopped at one of those News Channels and they were showing a replay of Barack and Michelle's speeches over the weekend at those College Graduations. She almost brought tears to my eyes... its just the way she speaks, its like one of my Cool Ass Aunts being in the White.

[PASSENGER 2]

I know exactly what you talking about, she really down to earth right?

[PASSENGER 1]

Yeah... she was telling them about how they had to appreciate the opportunities they had going to College because there's a lot of kids out there that can't go, and will never go. She said they had to think about them, and think about what they could do to change that reality. When was the last

time you heard some body in a high position like that say something about appreciating what you got and looking out for those who don't have? Well other than Barack!

[PASSENGER 2]

I noticed that a few weeks ago, you know she goes to schools in the Hood all over the Country talking to Kids letting them know its possible, telling them they can make it if they work hard. The News people be trying to talk about her but they can't find nothing. They keep trying to squeeze her into a box but the only thing they know about Black Women is what they've seen in the Movies, Video's, and that Lady Rice wit Bush and them. Now that they're getting a chance to really see how Black Women work and operate they can't figure it out.

[PASSENGER 1]

You absolutely right, and that's the same thing with Barack. We know there's some good, strong Black Men out here - it mite be only a few, but they out here. (They Laught) We seen Barack before, he's Mr. Steve down the Street,

he's my Girlfriends Father, and he's my Cousin in College. But like you said, they aint seen him before so they don't know how to take him, they can't figure him out. While he was giving his speech there was some people protesting in there.

[PASSENGER 2]

You talking about that Notre Dame thing?

[PASSENGER 1]

Yeah...

[PASSENGER 2]

They mad because he supports the right to have an abortion, but at the same time they the same people supporting the Death Penalty screaming pro life.

[PASSENGER 1]

In a way I agree... if I get pregnant I'm having the Baby, I'm not killing my child! But at the same time I don't think other people have a right to say what somebody can or can't do in that situation. Especially if they're

grown, if its a little young girl that would be another story,
but somebody grown... that's none of my business.

[PASSENGER 2]

That's the real problem...

[PASSENGER 1]

What!

[PASSENGER 2]

People making other peoples business their
business instead of minded their own.

[PASSENGER 1]

I think most of the Students at Notre Dame felt
the same way because when the protesters started their stuff
during his speech everybody else drowned them out yelling "Yes
We Can," and "We Are Notre Dame." And out of all the people

that were there only about twelve people got up and left.

(THE TRAIN COMES TO A STOP AT THE NEXT STATION. THE DOORS SLIDE OPEN AND A BLACK WOMEN IN HER 40's WEARING A HILARY CLINTON PANTS SUITE AND CARRYING A LARGE POCKETBOOK WALKS ON WITH "ROY" WALKING ON BEHIND HER, A CROWD OF PASSENGERS FOLLOWED BEHIND THEM. "ROY" NERVOUSLY FOLLOWS BEHIND THE WOMEN IN THE PANTS SUITE. HE FOLLOWS HER TO HER SEAT AND SITS NEXT TO HER. "ERIC" FOLLOWS BEHIND THEM AND STANDS NEXT TO THEIR SEAT HOLDING ON TO THE BAR. THE TRAIN BEGINS TO MOVE ON TO THE NEXT STOP, PEOPLE BEGAN TO CHATTER)

(PASSENGER 3 & 4, Two Black Males in their Early 20's sitting towards the front of the Train having a conversation)

PASSENGER 3]

I'm telling you... no matter which channel it is, no matter if they Black, White or what ever else, they either some kind of Models or they Strippers.

[PASSENGER 4]

I'm wit you on that, I'm not saying that aint true... I'm just saying what else are they going to do?

[PASSENGER 3]

What you mean?

[PASSENGER 4]

If you look at any of those Reality Shows - well the ones we talking about - "the looking for love joints," most of them Chicks be dumb as bricks. They be cute but slow as I don't know what.

[PASSENGER 3]

They know that! They don't put them on there for no spelling bees, they know Dudes just watch to look at the Chicks and can care less about they Brains - even the ones with some brains is going to dumb them selves down because

they know what type of show they on. It aint about Love, its about a check.

[PASSENGER 4]

That's what I'm talking about, them girls be chasing checks, so can you really knock them? Dudes in the Hood with no job, no education, and no skills turn to the Street to eat. But what do the Chicks with no job, no education, and no skills have to turn to?

[PASSENGER 3]

They get wit the Dudes getting the paper!

[PASSENGER 4]

Yeah, but then you got the ones that go that extra step and start swinging on them poles, making the videos, and go on Reality Shows to get that check. We see them and call them Whores, and we say we'll hit on the low but we can't wife 'em. We know what they doing, we know they just chasing a check, but we front on them. At the same time we get mad at

the Chick's who got themselves together and say they don't want to rock wit us because we in the Street. Its crazy... that's all I'm saying.

[PASSENGER 3]

My Sister dumb as hell and she aint on no pole, she do that Welfare to Work thing. So what you saying don't cover every body.

[PASSENGER 4]

You right, there's also some Dudes who don't turn to the Street, but I'm not talking about that. I'm talking about the chicks who do end up going that far and who we look at them.

[PASSENGER 3]

Man! they all.....

(THE LIGHTS ON THE TRIAN GOES OUT. THE ENGINE

GOES DEAD, AND ALL SOUND OF POWER FADES. THE TRAIN SLOWLY COMES TO A STOP. THERE'S NO LIGHT ON THE TRAIN OR OUTSIDE THE TRAIN IN THE SUBWAY TUNNEL. ITS PITCH BLACK, THE PASSENGERS CAN'T SEE THEIR HANDS IN FRONT OF THEIR FACES. PANIC FILLED VOICES ARE HEARD THROUGHOUT THE TRAIN)

[PASSENGER 3]

What was that?

[PASSENGER 4]

I don't know... it seems like everything just went dead.

[VOICES, A FEMALE FROM THE BACK OF THE TRAIN IS HEARD SCREAMING OVER HYSTERICAL VOICES]

Is the train still moving?

[VOICE]

Can anybody see anything out their window.

[VOICE]

I can't see "nothing" out there!

[VOICE]

Nothing over here!

[PEOPLE BEGIN TO USE THEIR CELL PHONES AS A SOURCE
OF LIGHT. BLUE AND GREEN LIGHTS BEGIN TO POP UP ALL OVER THE
TRAIN]

[VOICE]

Something's go'in on!

[VOICE]

It may be a test or something... some kind of a

drill.

[VOICE]

Did anybody here about a drill going on today?
News... Radio... anything?

[VOICE]

Yeah, that could be it... it could be one of those
terrorist drills they do in New York!

[VOICE]

A drill! We don't know what's going on up there,
there's no telling what's going on.

[VOICE]

Up there!!! I seen a few Muslims down here!

[VOICE - FEMALE]

That's vary inappropriate, we can't...

[VOICE]

Nah... he got a point. I seen some Nerdy White-Boy's with glasses on get on the train. We could be in the middle some Mass Serial Killer stuff. If we're worrying about Muslim's we got to think about them crazy White Boy's too.

[VOICE - MALE]

People... People... there's no need'for us to get besides our selves, lets just remain calm. There has to be an explanation as to what's going on. I'm sure we'll be hearing something shortly - what ever's going on I'm certain they wont just leave us down here.

[VOICE - MALE]

What if they don't have a choice? What if its so messed up out there that they can't get down here. I say we get off this train and walk to the next station.

[VOICE - MALE]

I tried the door back here and its sealed shut, I can't even pry anything in the cracks.

[VOICE - FEMALE]

These side doors are the same way.

[VOICE - MALE]

These windows are shatter proof.

[VOICE - MALE]

I would suggest that we stay on the train, there's

obviously been some sort of power failure throughout the entire subway system. The question is whether or not its intentional, how serious is it, and who's causing it. We don't know what we'd be walking into by getting off the train. We should stay on the train and give who's ever responsible an opportunity to straighten things out.

[VOICE - FEMALE]

He's right... we should give them a minute before we try to do anything.

[VOICE - MALE]

We should also try to keep the noise down... its one thing for help to come and they hear us but we don't hear them. But what if somebody looking to do harm comes?

[A NUMBER OF VOICES AGREES SAYING, "HE'S RIGHT" - "YEAH... THAT'S A GOOD MOVE"]

[VOICE - FEMALE]

I'm sure that applies to who ever that is blasting that music, they should have been turned it down. I don't know what's wrong with you people, a situation as serious as this and you're still oblivious to what's going on around you with your mind stuck in that gutter music.

[VOICE - MALE]

Yo... what do you mean you people?

[VOICE - MALE]

Don't mind her, she probably hate Black's and Rap Music because her son is hooked on drugs and Hip Hop, and her daughter's one of those Jerry Springer "Who's your Baby-Daddy" Chics.

[VOICE - MALE]

People, can we not go that route, I'm sure we're

adult enough to make it through this experience without going at each other's necks.

[VOICE - FEMALE]

You aint saying that to her, how you gonna tell them how to act but you aint saying nothing about what she said.

VOICE - MALE]

That's cause he's White like her!

[VOICE - MALE]

And we can tell what you are!

[VOICE - MALE]

We know what you is too Cracker!

[VOICE - MALE]

My point exactly... the Man is trying to maintain some civility and you automatically take the victim position.

[VOICE - MALE]

What the Hell you mean victim position. You White Folk's kills me with that... what is it that makes you believe you can tell us how we're suppose to feel or act when you slip up and show how racist you is. You know what she ment when she said what she said.

[VOICE - MALE]

Right or wrong, I'm simply saying this is not the place or time to reduce this to an attack against the Black Man situation. I don't know what her intent was with her statement, I just don't believe this is the appropriate time

for this discussion.

[VOICE - MALE]

I don't see what's so... "inappropriate" about it. Like the man said, we adults... we should be able to hold an adult conversation about why she felt the need to say what she said.

[A NUMBER OF OTHER VOICES SPEAK IN AGREEMENT]

[VOICE - MALE, CONT.]

Anything else would be "inappropriate." Its like you saying "Yah we know we do you dirty, but not right now - we'll talk about it later, for now just suck it up - you should be use to it any way.

[VOICE - FEMALE]

Hay lady! What did you mean (PAUSE) why

don't you speak up for yourself. You was grown enough to say
it, you should be grown enough to speak for yourself.

[THERE WAS SILENCE THROUGHOUT THE TRAIN]

[VOICE - MALE]

Now you aint got nothing to say!

[VOICE - MALE]

You don't have to entertain this madness, don't
let them intimidate you.

[VOICE - MALE]

Man who is you! You got everything to say... keep
taking so I can find you.

[VOICE - MALE]

What you gonna do, assault me. One minute you don't want the stereo type, the next you want to live it.

[VOICE - MALE]

I'm sure you're aware that a lot of the stereo types Whites place on Blacks can easily go both ways. Kennsington looks just like North Philly, Teen Pregnancy and High School Drop out rates are the same in the Hood as it is in the Trailer Park, and they're using just about the same amount of Drugs in the Suburbs as in the Ghetto.

[VOICE - FEMALE]

We don't do all kinds of vicious stuff to children like they do, we don't go to school or work with guns and kill everybody for no reason, and we definitely don't kill our parents. White People don't never talk about those stereo types.

[VOICE - MALE]

Black Men see it as a badge of owner to have children and leave the Mother to raise the child. You so bad there's actually programs out there - that we tax payers pay for - just to teach you how to be a Father and how to treat your Women with respect. You're the only race like that... other peoples tax dollars has to be used to teach you how to be a Man. The crazy thing is that you were all raised by your Mother's with no Father, and you still treat your Women like trash, sometimes just like your Father did your Mother. You get mad when one of us get one, though.

[VOICE - FEMALE]

That's absurd! Your only support for that statement is the White Media. White people control what gets seen or heard, and they make more money promoting nonsense than positive depiction of Black Men.

[VOICE - MALE]

The Election of President Obama brought in a change to that negative perception of Black Men. I'm a White Man and I for one was proud to see our Country finally began to acknowledge Black Men for the Human Beings they are.

[A WOMEN SCREAMS IN THE BACK OF THE TRAIN]

[VOICE - FEMALE]

Stop... stop... let go! Somebody help, somebody's pulling on my pocket book... get off.

[VOICE - MALE]

Hay, leave that Women alone. We don't need that type of stuff going on!

[A GUN SHOT RINGS OUT. PEOPLE SCREAM AND THE SOUND OF FEET SHUFFLING AND PEOPLE DROPPING LOW TO THE FLOOR IS HEARD THROUGHOUT THE TRAIN]

[VOICE - MALE]

That one went to the roof, if I hear some more shit the next one is going in any direction I hear it come from. I'm trying to go from point A to point B with no trouble in between. If something happens on this train there's

going to be police asking questions... I don't want that, and I'll do what ever's necessary to prevent it. So leave that Lady alone and sit back and chill until we get off this thing.

[VOICE - MALE]

You aint the only one with a Gun Player!

[VOICE - MALE]

You wanna test me Pop-Off!

[SILENCE FILLS THE AIR]

[VOICE - FEMALE]

Ya'll can handle y'all thing when we get off,
y'all aint gotta get us caught up in it.

[VOICE - MALE]

She's right Guy's, think about the innocent people
around you.

[VOICE - MALE]

We got this... we don't need no keep the peace
speech!

[VOICE - MALE]

Just listen to him, there's Women and children on
this train.

[A BRIEF MOMENT OF SILENCE]

[VOICE - FEMALE]

I have a question... They just tried to get New

Gun Laws in Philadelphia and they denied it because people in the Small Towns outside the City was scared it would take their guns. Why is that? They know people are dying in the City, Kids are dying, and they scared they wont be able to kill some deer. Why is that?

[A NUMBER OF PEOPLE BEGIN TO VOICE THEIR OPINION AT ONCE]

[VOICE - MALE]

I'll answer that question if I may. Every U.S. Citizen has a Constitutional right to bare arms.

[VOICE - MALE]

Unless you're a convicted felon!

[VOICE - MALE CONT.]

He's right, if you're a convicted felon you're prohibited from possessing or owning a fire arm. The dilemma in Philadelphia is that 1.) changing the laws at the City

level to affect a specific class may open the door to challenge the right in its entirety, and 2.) the changes that has been suggested at the State Government Level, limiting the amount of guns that can be purchased, directly affects the rights.

[VOICE - MALE]

There's also a problem at the City level when you talk about changing a law for a specific class of people. You just had the Crack Cocaine Laws get changed because it was obvious that it was only affecting a specific class of people, you would run into the same problem with guns Laws that was made that way.

[VOICE - MALE]

Y'all forgetting the fact that gun violence is every where. I just got out of prison, I was in a Jail in Huntingdon, Pa. out in Central Pennsylvania. Watching the six or eleven O'clock News out there you see the same thing you see on the City News, the only difference is White Faces.

[VOICE - FEMALE]

The problem isn't the guns, its the people. Over the last (15) to (20) years there's been a lost for the value of life in this Country. We've been desensitized to death and Murder, and all other forms of violence. Because of that its easy for some one to pick up a Gun and kill some one... Black, White, or what ever. It doesn't matter what kind of gun laws get passed.

[VOICE - MALE CONT]

What she said is actually one aspect of the argument the Gun Rights Advocates are putting forth. Guns down kill, people do. There's no need for new laws, just enforce the laws that already exist.

[VOICE - FEMALE]

Those laws don't save lives or stop the guns from getting in the hands of people that will take a life, those

laws lock people up after they kill, or after they already had the gun and get caught with it. I watched a show on T.V. where this guy went to one of those guns shows in one of those rural areas, this guy had a Sister who was killed at that College shooting in Virginia. He didn't even have to go in the building to buy guns... people sold him guns in the parking lot. No license no nothing, bags full of guns. They said they know this type of stuff happens at them gun shows but they wont make no law for it.

[VOICE - MALE]

You know I always wondered how people always look at people in the Inner City as being uneducated, unlearned, and unskilled. But they never question how a group of people with so little resources manages to get thousands of guns and tons of drugs into their communities. How are they able to pull that off? And why we don't hear any talk about preventing

that? Like she said, we only hear about them getting caught with it or using it, but we never here them say, "They got it in their community like this and the Authorities are doing this, that, and this here to stop it from happening again."

[VOICE - MALE]

Here we go with the left behind community talk.

[VOICE - MALE]

Wont you shut your racist ass up! I bet you don't even know why you hate Black People... you do it because you White and you picking a side. I met White Folks like you before, you don't know no History and you can't name one reason why you hate... all you know is you White, Racism exist, and you following the pack. What your dumb ass can't see is that you hating for nothing and can't do nothing about it. You aint got no Power, you can't deny no Black People no Job - shit you can barely get a job your damn self. You can't deny no Black People a house, you barely paying the mortgage on your own house. And you definitely can change no Laws, the Politicians is putting the squeeze on you just like they doing

everybody else. So you just mad as hell with nothing to do about it. (LAUGH) Broke ass racist! (LAUGH)

[VOICE - MALE]

Come on fellas, he's right, what exactly is being done to prevent the proliferation of guns and drugs in the Black Community? Does any one know?

[VOICE - FEMALE]

I have another question... why is it that guns in the Black Community is automatically considered bad? Better yet, why is the thought of a Black Man having a gun automatically considered bad?

[VOICE - FEMALE]

Slavery Girl! They know them Brothas is mad as hell from Slavery and they don't want them walking around wit guns. [LAUGH]

[VOICE - FEMALE]

My Husband is a convicted felon, we live in Germantown and we have two Teenage Children. He's a convicted felon because of a conviction for selling drugs and carrying a gun back in 1998, eleven years ago. He can't have a gun but we keep one in the house, neither of us have a gun license but we walked right in the gun store and brought it. Why? because there's gun shots going off in my Neighborhood every half hour, there's drugs sold at the corner of my street, and my Neighbor's are too scared to come together to do anything about it. I feel safe knowing my Husband can protect me and my children and has a weapon if he needs it. Fifteen out of the twenty guy's standing on the corner of my street selling drugs has a gun, without having a gun himself how can my Husband stop them from running in my house or harming my Son or Daughter on their way home from school?

[VOICE - MALE]

Why is it that you people have such a problem with

calling the police?

[VOICE - FEMALE]

What will the police do? They come after something has already happen, and they usually do that too late. Then after they come and go we still have to live there - aint no witness protection in the ghetto! You bring more danger to your self calling the police than you do standing up to them. If you stand up to them and let them know you're willing to kill them to protect your family just as much as they're willing to kill you, they respect you. They say, "that's so and so... they good people, leave them a lone." You call the police on them they call you a snitch and now you're a threat. That's when they start to fire booming you house and harassing your children.

[VOICE - MALE]

There's a lot of families like that in the Black Community, they're just trying to raise their children and maintain their house hold. One, or both of the Leader's in

the household may have a criminal record due to past mistakes, however, since that time they haven't had any run ins with the law, they work everyday and pay their bills, and as this Women has mention, they have a right to protect their family, especially when they live in a community where guns and violence is prevalent and authorities typically leaves them to do for themselves.

[VOICE - MALE, SPEAKING IN A DEEP FOREIGN ACCENT]

American People don't follow America Constitution... that's why America have so much problem. American Constitution say American's have right to pursue happiness - Constitution does not say all American's will be happy, only they have right to pursue. Don't matter if Black or White, some American will be poor and some will be rich - that's America. Instead of appreciate what they have, America fight each other for what they want. In my Country we know we come to America and go to school, own business, be doctor, and live beautiful life because America don't want what they have. My Brother in America five year, he go to school and he doctor now. He have two neighbor been in America all they life and

they poor, they do work for my Brother.

[VOICE - MALE]

Yo... that's some deep shit. Mostly all the doctor's out there is from other countries. Mostly all the stores is own by foreigner's. I wonder if they all look at us like nuts because they come over and come right up while we struggling and we been here? That's probably why they act the way they act.

[VOICE - MALE ACCENT CONT.]

First people in America Immigrants... now Immigrant County don't want Mexican's to work, but let Dominican play Baseball to Entertain America. American Constitution say all people equal but some American get doctor's and some don't. Some people marry but gay can't marry. Like Lady say, people live in Country can protect family with gun in America, but people in City with crime can't protect family with gun. Crime in America unequal, America prosecute Soldier's who torture terrorist in Iraq

Prison, but they don't Prosecute Prison Guard in America
Prison.

[VOICE - FEMALE]

Those Soldiers in Iraq was Prison Guards here in
the U.S.! One of them worked in a Jail here in Pa.

[VOICE - MALE ACCENT CONT.]

America don't follow America Constitution... only
First Constitution Amendment, Freedom of Speech so they can
disagree with how each other feel, disagree with how each
other think, and fight each other. In my Country School teach
that America Land of the Free. We learn American History about
American Slave set free in 19th Century, and Martin Luther
King have a Dream, and Micheal Jackson and Micheal Jordon vary
Great Men. We learn Jew and Italian come to America and make
good life. My Brother come to America and say America too much
free... too much Freedom make America Bad. In America you have
freedom not to speak to your neighbor, you have freedom not to
feed the needy - a Woman can live in the Street with her

Children in America and other American have freedom to leave her with no help. My Brother say America's have freedom not to love and care for each other - that makes America Bad place.

[VOICE - MALE]

Where you from, you saying America this and American's that but you sound like you from one of those Countries with no water or bathroom and stuff like that.

[VOICE - MALE ACCENT CONT.]

I'm from---

(THE LIGHTS ON THE TRAIN COMES BACK ON AND THE TRAINS ENGINES BEGINS TO HUM. PEOPLE LOOK AROUND AT EACH OTHER IN SILENCE, THERE ARE PEOPLE SITTING ON THE FLOOR IN THE ISLE AND IN BETWEEN THE SEATS CLUTCHING THEIR BELONGINGS, THEY BEGIN TO STAND TO THEIR FEET - SOME WITH LOOKS OF FEAR, SOME WITH LOOKS OF RELIEF, AND SOME WITH A LOOK OF CONFUSION.

THERE'S STILL NO WORDS SPOKEN.)

[VOICE OVER THE PA. SYSTEM]

Attention Passengers, we are experiencing technical difficulties with our Power Supply throughout the entire Subway System. All Passengers will be instructed to Exit the Train at the Next Station, Shuttle Buses will be waiting at the Street Level to Continue the Route. We apologize for the inconvenience, voucher forms will be distributed to you to reimburse the cost of your commute. Thank you for your patience.

(THE TRAIN BEGINS TO ROLL)

(PASSENGERS BEGIN TO GET UP FROM THEIR SEATS WHILE GATHERING THEIR BELONGINGS AND PREPARE TO GET OFF THE TRAIN. SOME OF THEM BEGIN TO SPEAK TO EACH OTHER EXPRESSING RELIEF THAT ITS JUST A POWER ISSUE.)

[A MAN - (Black Male Mid 40's, Well Worn Tan Suite, Tie, and Brown Penny Loafers, Salt and Pepper Hair and Beard, wearing Wire Frame Glasses) - STANDS AND BEGINS TO SPEAK TO HIS FELLOW PASSENGERS AS HE PREPARES TO GET OFF THE TRAIN.]

See, People... I told you there was no need to panic... I knew there was a reasonable explanation behind this. We needed only to remain calm and all would be well. There was no need for us to respond with such extremes.

[A FEW PASSENGERS ACKNOWLEDGED HIM, HOWEVER, THE MAJORITY IGNORED HIM.]

(DANA RISES TO HER FEET IN THE BACK OF THE SUBWAY CAR CLAPPING HER HANDS.)

[DANA - With a sarcastic giggle]

Well Done... Well Done...

(DANA STEPS INTO THE MIDDLE ISLE, REMOVED HER CANE FROM HER PURSE, UNFOLDED IT, THEN BEGAN TO WALK TOWARD THE DOORS. "Tap-Tap-Tap-Tap..." THE SOUND OF HER CANE ECHOED IN THE NOW QUIET SUBWAY CAR AS PEOPLE WATCHED IN CONFUSION AND OTHERS WHISPER TO EACH OTHER.)

[WHISPERING VOICES #1, Female]

That's the blind girl that sits in the back

everyday!!!

(WHISPERING VOICE #2, Male in front of train)

Hay... isn't that the Blind Girl? When she start using a Cane... she never used a Cane... did she?

(WHISPERING VOICE #3, Male)

Not that I can remember. I've been riding this train for almost a year and I've never seen her with a Cane.

[DANA]

It was good seeing you all finally show your true selves to each other...

(DANA REMOVES HER SUN-GLASSES FROM HER EYE'S REVEALING AN EMPTY STARE. SOMETHING SHE SELDOM DOES, AND IS QUICKLY ACKNOWLEDGED BY THE OTHER PASSENGERS.)

[DANA - CONTINUES]

I've seen you... I've seen what you are, what you've been hiding from each other - your ignorance, your

hatred, and your prejudice. I've seen how you rush on the Train every Morning shuffling and dragging your Boots so you can sit next to a Woman you're scared to talk too.

(DANA POINTS HER CAME IN THE DIRECTION OF ROY)

[DANA - CONTINUES]

I see how you nervously dig in your Purse because you're afraid the Kid with the loud Music is going to try to take it from you.

(A FEW PASSENGERS TURN THEIR ATTENTION TOWARD ERIC. ERIC STANDS MOTIONLESS WITH A CONFUSED LOOK ON HIS FACE.)

[DANA - CONTINUES]

What you can't see is that he stands in front of you to protect you, he thinks you're suffering from some kind of a OCD because of the way you constantly fidget around in you Purse every morning, and he feels a need to stand around you in the event that someone attempts to bother you or take advantage of you. He blocks people from getting to that seat every morning so you can get it... you're so self absorbed you

can't see who's trying to help you or out to hurt you.

(DANA POINTS HER CAN TOWARD THE WOMAN IN THE PANTS SUITE NOW STANDING NEXT TO ROY WAITING TO EXIST THE TRAIN.)

[DANA - CONTINUES]

You all ride this Train every Morning, you sit in the same seats, next to the same people, yet you never talk to each other - you make a lot of noise, but you don't talk. You gossip about how this person or that person had the same Pants on two days in a row, but in the same breath you talk about how you're worried about getting your check on time to pay your bills because you're late. Who's better... the one wearing the same pants twice a week - or the one who wears a different pair everyday but can't pay their bills on time?

[DANA PAUSES AND THERE WAS SILENCE THROUGHOUT THE TRAIN.]

[DANA - CONTINUES]

It wasn't until you couldn't see each other that you decided to talk to each other - when you did, you seen

what I see - the worst in you. Its one thing to stick to your Beliefs, Love your Race, and hold firm to your Religion - its an entirely different story when we use that to Hate other Peoples belief's, Race's, and Religion's. There shouldn't be a thin line between Love for Self and prejudice of Other's, Our Love for Self is suppose to be reflected through Our Treatment of Other's - we're not understanding that and its Killing Us. Deep down all of you know, though, that's why you couldn't speak or look each other in the eye's when the lights came on - you're open in the dark but hide in the light!

(THE TRAIN COMES TO A STOP AND THE DOORS SLIDE OPEN. DANA MAKES HER WAY TO THE EXIT, THE TRAIN IS STILL SILENT, HOWEVER, THE OTHER PASSENGERS CREATE A LANE FOR HER STRAIGHT TO THE DOOR. DANA PLACES HER GLASSES OVER HER EYE'S AND SPEAKS WHILE STANDING IN THE EXIT.)

Hopefully we'll get it together more sooner than later... the only thing holding Us back is Us. Deep down We Love each other, and know We need each other, some of Us just can't see it that clearly. Just imagine where we would be at this vary moment if we just spent that time talking about the goodness in each of us and coming up with ways to help each other with our struggles. How many of us you think would be

leaving this Train right now feeling a little relieved, or a little bit better about themselves? Every one of us has something to offer each other, and everyone of Us needs help with something or another going on in our lives.

(SHAKING HER HEAD LIKE A COACH FED UP WITH HIS TEAM, DANA DISAPPEARED INTO THE CROWD OF PASSENGERS WALKING ALONG THE PLATFORM MAKING THEIR WAY TO THE STREET LEVEL.)

THE END

WRITER'S SUGGESTION:

After Curtain Call, ask the Audience to turn to the person sitting to the Left and Right of them and say, "Hi... I'm a Human Being just like you... Nice to Meet You!"