DO THE RIGHT THING
by
Spike Lee

Second Draft
March 1, 1988; Brooklyn, N.Y.

Forty Acres and a Mule Filmworks, Inc.
YA-DIG SHO-NUFF
BY ANY MEANS NECESSARY
WGA #45816

"The greatest miracle Christianity has achieved in America is that the black man in white Christian hands has not grown violent. It is a miracle that 22 million black people have not risen up against their oppressors—in which they would have been justified by all moral criteria, and even by the democratic tradition! It is a miracle that a nation of black people has so fervently continued to believe in a turn-the-other-cheek and heaven-for-you-after-you-die philosophy! It is a miracle that the American Black people have remained a peaceful people, while catching all the centuries of hell that they have caught, here in white man's heaven! The miracle is that the white man's puppet Negro 'leaders,' his preachers and the educated Negroes laden with degrees, and others who have been allowed to wax fat off their black poor brothers, have been able to hold the black masses quiet until now."

--THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF MALCOLM X

TITLES--WHITE ON BLACK

PLACE
Brooklyn, New York

CUT TO:
TIME
Present

CUT TO:

WEATHER
Hot as shit!

CUT TO:

INT: WE LOVE RADIO STATION STOREFRONT--DAY
EXTREME CLOSE UP
WE SEE only big white teeth and very Negroidal (big) lips.

MISTER SEÑOR LOVE DADDY
Waaaake up!
Wake up! Wake up! Wake up!
Up ya wake! Up ya wake! Up ya wake!

CAMERA MOVES BACK SLOWLY TO REVEAL MISTER SEÑOR LOVE DADDY, a DJ, a radio personality, behind a microphone.

MISTER SEÑOR LOVE DADDY
This is Mister Señor Love Daddy. Your voice of choice. The world's only twelve-hour strongman, here on WE LOVE radio, 108 FM. The last on your dial, but the first in ya hearts, and that's the truth, Ruth!

The CAMERA, which is STILL PULLING BACK, shows that Mister Señor Love Daddy is actually sitting in a storefront window. The control booth looks directly out onto the street. This is WE LOVE RADIO, a modest station with a loyal following, right in the heart of the neighborhood. The OPENING SHOT will be a TRICK SHOT--the CAMERA PULLING BACK through the storefront window.

MISTER SEÑOR LOVE DADDY
Here I am. Am I here? Y'know it. It ya know. This is Mister Señor Love Daddy, doing the nasty to ya ears, ya ears to the nasty. I'se play only da platters dat matter, da matters dat platter and that's the truth, Ruth.

He hits the cart machine and we hear a station jingle.

VO
L-O-V-E RADIO.

MISTER SEÑOR LOVE DADDY
Doing da ying and yang da flip and flop da hippy and hoppy
(he yodels)
Yo da lay he hoo. I have today's forecast.
(he screams)
HOT!

He laughs like a madman.

INT: DA MAYOR'S BEDROOM--DAY

An old, grizzled man stirs in the bed, his sheets are soaked with sweat. He flings them off his wet body.

    DA MAYOR

    Damn, it's hot.

INT: JADE'S APARTMENT--DAY

CAMERA MOVES IN ON a young man sitting at the edge of a sofa bed.

CLOSE UP--HIS SMALL HANDS

WE SEE him counting his money. This isn't any ordinary counting of money, he's straightening out all the corners of the bills, arranging them so the bills--actually the "dead presidents"--are facing the same way. This is MOOKIE. Once he's finished with that task, counting his money, he sneaks into his sister's bedroom.

INT: JADE'S BEDROOM--DAY

CLOSE UP--JADE

JADE, Mookie's sister, is fast asleep. Mookie's fingers ENTER THE FRAME and start to play with her lips. Jade pushes his hands away. Mookie waits several beats and he continues. Jade wakes up--mad.

    JADE

    Don't you have enough sense not to bother people when they're sleeping?

    MOOKIE

    Wake up!

    JADE

    Wake up? Saturday is the lone day I get to sleep late.

    MOOKIE

    It's gonna be hot today.

    JADE

    Good! Leave me alone when I'm sleeping. I'm gonna get a lock on my door, to keep ya ass outta here.

    MOOKIE

    Don't ya love ya brother Mookie anymore? I loves ya, Jade.

    JADE

    Do me a favor. Go to work.

    MOOKIE

    Later. Gotta get paid.
He plants a big fat juicy on his sister's forehead.

EXT: SAL'S FAMOUS PIZZERIA--DAY

A 1975 El Dorado pulls up in front of the neighborhood pizzeria--Sal's Famous Pizzeria.

From out of the car comes the owner, SAL, a slightly overweight man in his early fifties, and his two sons, PINO, 22, and VITO, 20. It's time for them to go to work at Sal's Famous Pizzeria in the heart of Black Brooklyn. Sal's sits on the corner of The Block. The Block being where this film on the hottest day of the summer takes place.

Pino kicks a beer can in his path into the gutter.

SAL
Pino, get a broom and sweep out front.

PINO
Vito, get a broom and sweep out front.

VITO
See, Pop. That's just what I was talkin' about. Every single time you tell Pino to do something, he gives it to me.

PINO
He's nuts.

SAL
The both of youse, shaddup.

VITO
Tell Pino.

PINO
Get the broom.

VITO
I ain't getting shit.

SAL
Hey! Watch it.

PINO
I didn't want to come to work anyway. I hate this freakin' place.

SAL
Can you do better? C'mere.

Pino is now silent. Sal walks over to him.

SAL
Can you do better?

I didn't think so. This is a respectable business. Nuthin'
wrong with it. Get dat broom.

PINO

Tell Vito.

VITO

Pop asked you.

SAL

I'm gonna kill somebody today.

EXT: MOOKIE'S BROWNSTONE--DAY

Mookie comes down his stoop and walks to work.

EXT: STREET--DAY

The Block is beginning to come to life. Those unlucky souls who have to work this Saturday drag themselves to it, and the kids are out on the street to play in the hot sun all day long.

EXT: MOTHER SISTER'S STOOP--DAY

Mookie stops to say hello to MOTHER SISTER. She leans out her window on the parlor floor. In the summertime, the only time when she's not perched in her window is when she's asleep.

MOTHER SISTER

Good morning, Mookie.

MOOKIE

Good morning to you.

MOTHER SISTER

Now, Mookie, don't work too hard today. The man said it's gonna be HOT as the devil. I don't want ya falling out from the heat. You hear me, son?

MOOKIE

I hear ya, Mother Sister. I hear you.

MOTHER SISTER

Good. I'll be watching ya, son. Mother Sister always watches.

INT: SAL'S FAMOUS PIZZERIA--DAY

Mookie enters the pizzeria and Pino is on him before the door closes.

PINO

Mookie, late again. How many times I gotta tell you?

MOOKIE

Hello, Sal. Hello, Vito.

SAL
How ya doin', Mookie?

VITO

Whaddup?

MOOKIE

Just coolin'.

PINO

You're still late.

SAL

Pino, relax, will ya.

PINO

Here, take the broom. The front needs sweeping.

MOOKIE


VITO

That's right.

PINO

Shaddup, Vito.

MOOKIE

F*ck dat shit. I deliver pizzas. That's what I get paid for.

PINO

You get paid to do what we say.

MOOKIE

What we say. I didn't hear Sal say nuthin'.

Pino looks at his father. He wants to be backed up on this; all he gets is an amused look, and a smirk from Vito.

PINO

Who's working for who?

There's a knock on the door and Da Mayor enters.

SAL

Come on in, Mayor.

DA MAYOR

Good morning, gentlemens. It's gonna be a scorcher today, that's for sure. Need any work done around here?

Sal looks at Pino, who reluctantly gives Da Mayor the broom.

DA MAYOR

It will be the cleanest sidewalk in Brooklyn. Clean as the Board of Health.
Da Mayor almost runs out of the pizzeria in his hurry; soon as he finishes he'll be able to get a bottle.

    PINO
    Pop, I don't believe this shit. We runnin' welfare or somethin'? Every day you give dat bum--

    MOOKIE
    Da Mayor ain't no bum.

    PINO
    Give dat bum a dollar for sweeping our sidewalk. What do we pay Mookie for? He don't even work. I work harder than him and I'm your own son.

    MOOKIE
    Who don't work? Let's see you carry six large pies up six flights of stairs. No elevator either and shit.

    SAL
    Both of youse--shaddup. This is a place of business.

    VITO
    Tell 'em, Pop.

    PINO
    Me and you are gonna have a talk.

    VITO
    Sez who?

    PINO
    Sez me.

    SAL
    Hey! What did I say?

    MOOKIE
    Who doesn't work? Don't start no shit, won't be no shit.

    SAL
    Mookie, no cursing in the store.

    MOOKIE
    Talk to your son.

EXT: SAL'S FAMOUS PIZZERIA--DAY

Da Mayor sweeps the sidewalk, happy as can be. As soon as he finishes he can get that money and get that bottle.

EXT: STOOP--DAY

A group of youths sit on a stoop, waiting for someone. They are CEE, PUNCHY, and the lone female, ELLA.
ELLA
What's keeping him?

PUNCHY
You call him, then.

Ella stands up and yells.

ELLA
Yo, Ahmad!

PUNCHY
I coulda done dat.

ELLA
Yo, Ahmad!

She looks up into his window, then sits down.

ELLA
Punchy, if ya want to do some more screaming, be my guest. I'm too through.

The door swings open at the top of the stoop and AHMAD appears.

AHMAD
Who's yelling my name?

ELLA
Punchy told me to.

AHMAD
Don't listen to him, it will get ya in trouble.

ELLA
Heard that, Punchy.

Ahmad sits down with them.

AHMAD
Ella, you have a brain, use it.

In the BG, we hear the dum-dum-dum of a giant box. The sound gets louder as the box gets closer. The youths look down the block and see a tall young man coming towards them. He has a very distinct walk, it's more like a bop. This is RADIO RAHEEM. The size of his box is tremendous and one has to think, how does he carry something that big around with him? It must weigh a ton, and it seems like the sidewalk shakes as the rap music blares out. The song we hear is the only one Radio Raheem plays.

MEDIUM SHOT--RADIO RAHEEM

Radio Raheem stops in front of the group, looks at them, and turns down the volume. It's quiet again.

RADIO RAHEEM

Peace, y'all.
ELLA
Peace, Radio Raheem.

CEE
Peace.

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PUNCHY
You the man, Radio Raheem.

AHMAD
It's your world.

CEE
In a big way.

Radio Raheem nods and turns up the volume. Way up.

AHMAD
My people. My people.

EXT: WE LOVE STOREFRONT--DAY
Radio Raheem waves to Mister Señor Love Daddy as he walks by.

INT: WE LOVE CONTROL BOOTH--DAY
Mister Señor Love Daddy gives Radio Raheem a clenched-fist salute.

EXT: FRUIT-N-VEG DELIGHT--DAY
Da Mayor walks into a newly opened fruit and vegetable deli stand that is owned by Koreans.

INT: FRUIT-N-VEG DELIGHT--DAY
Da Mayor is looking for his beer in the refrigerated cases, his ice-cold beer.

DA MAYOR
Where's the Bud? Where's the Bud?

KOREAN CLERK
No mo' Bud. You look what we have and buy.

DA MAYOR
No more Bud. What kind of joint is this? How come no mo' Bud? Doctor, this ain't Korea, China, or wherever you come from. Get some Budweiser in this motherfucker.

KOREAN CLERK
You buy 'nother beer.

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DA MAYOR
Alright. Alright. Y'know you're
asking a lot to make a man change his beer, that's asking a lot, Doctor.

EXT: MOTHER SISTER'S STOOP--DAY

Da Mayor has his can of beer (not Budweiser) and the brown paper bag is twisted into a knot at the bottom. He stops and takes a long swig.

MOTHER SISTER
You ole drunk. What did I tell ya about drinking in front of my stoop? Move on, you're blocking my view.

Da Mayor lowers the can from his mouth and looks up at his heckler. It's obvious from the look on his face he's heard this before. Da Mayor contorts his face and stares at her.

MOTHER SISTER
You ugly enough. Don't stare at me.

Da Mayor changes his face into a more grotesque look.

MOTHER SISTER
The evil eye doesn't work on me.

DA MAYOR
Mother Sister, you've been talkin' 'bout me the last eighteen years. What have I ever done to you?

MOTHER SISTER
You're a drunk fool.

DA MAYOR
Besides that. Da Mayor don't bother nobody. Nobody don't bother Da Mayor but you. Da Mayor just mind his business. I love everybody. I even love you.

MOTHER SISTER
Hold your tongue. You don't have that much love.

DA MAYOR
One day you'll be nice to me. We might both be dead and buried, but you'll be nice. At least civil.

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Da Mayor tips his beat-up hat to Mother Sister and takes a final swig of beer just for her.

INT: TINA'S APARTMENT--DAY

An elderly Puerto Rican woman, CARMEN, is telling off her daughter TINA in Spanish. Tina, having heard enough, closes the door on her mother's ranting and raving.
Tina bends down and scoops her baby son HECTOR up from the bed and holds him for dear life to her breasts. She talks to her son while walking around the room.

TINA

Hector, I shouldn't be telling you this but you would find out sooner or later. Ya father ain't no real father. He's a bum, a two-bit bum in a hundred-dollar world. Your father is to the curb. You're smart. I see that look on ya face. You're saying if he's such a bum why am I with him? Good question. Like I said before, you're no dummy. He talked his way into my panties, I thought being a mother would make me happy, make me whole. He's a mistake, but you are not.

Tina kisses her son. Tina is seventeen years old, another teenage parent.

EXT: STREET CORNER--DAY

Every day on this corner, summer or winter, spring or fall, a small group of men meet. They have no steady employment, nothing they can speak of; they do, however, have the gift of gab. These man can talk, talk, and mo' talk, and when a bottle is going round and they're feeling "nice," they get philosophical. These men become the great thinkers of the world, with solutions to all its ills; like drugs, the homeless, and AIDS. They're called the Corner Men: SWEET DICK WILLIE, COCONUT SID, and ML. All three are sitting in folding chairs up against a wall in the shade.

ML

The way I see it, if this hot weather continues, it will surely melt the polar caps and the whole wide world--the parts that ain't water already--will be flooded.

COCONUT SID

You a dumb-ass simple motherfucker. Where did you read that?

ML

Don't worry about it. But when it happens and I'm in my boat and ya black ass is drowning, don't ask me to throw you a lifesaver either.

SWEET DICK WILLIE

Fool, you're thirty cents away from a quarter. How you gonna get a boat?
Don't worry about it.

SWEET DICK WILLIE
You're raggedy as a roach. You eat
the holes out of donuts.

ML
I'll be back on my feet. Soon
enough.

SWEET DICK WILLIE
So when is all this ice suppose to
melt?

INT: SAL'S FAMOUS PIZZERIA--DAY

Customers are in Sal's; it's lunchtime and it's fairly busy.
Sal puts a hot slice down on the counter in front of BUGGIN' OUT, a b-boy.

SAL
You paying now or on layaway?

Buggin' Out looks at the slice.

BUGGIN' OUT
How much?

SAL
You come in here at least three
times a day. You a retard? A buck
fifty.

BUGGIN' OUT
Damn, Sal, put some more cheese on
that motherfucker.

Extra cheese is two dollars.
Y'know dat.

BUGGIN' OUT
Two dollars! Forget it!

Buggin' Out slams his money down on the counter, takes his
slice and sits down.

ANGLE--TABLE

All around Buggin' Out, peering down from the WALL OF FAME,
are signed, framed, eight by ten glossies of famous Italian
Americans. WE SEE Joe DiMaggio, Rocky Marciano, Perry Como,
Frank Sinatra, Luciano Pavarotti, Liza Minnelli, Governor
Mario Cuomo, Al Pacino and, of course, how can we forget
Sylvester Stallone as Rocky Balboa: THE ITALIAN STALLION,
also RAMBO.

CLOSE UP--BUGGIN' OUT

He looks at the pictures hovering above him.
MOOKIE
What?

BOUGGIN' OUT
How come you ain't got no brothers up?

MOOKIE
Ask Sal.

PIZZERIA

BOUGGIN' OUT
Sal, how come you ain't got no brothers up on the wall here?

SAL
You want brothers up on the Wall of Fame, you open up your own business, then you can do what you wanna do. My pizzeria, Italian Americans up on the wall.

VITO
Take it easy, Pop.

SAL
Don't start on me today.

BOUGGIN' OUT
Sal, that might be fine, you own this, but rarely do I see any Italian Americans eating in here. All I've ever seen is Black folks. So since we spend much money here, we do have some say.

SAL
You a troublemaker?

Pino walks over to Buggin' Out.

PINO
You making trouble.

BOUGGIN' OUT
Put some brothers up on this Wall of Fame. We want Malcolm X, Angela Davis, Michael Jordan tomorrow.

Sal comes from behind the counter with his Louisville Slugger Mickey Mantle model baseball bat. Vito is by his
side, but Mookie intercepts them, and takes Buggin' Out outside.

SAL
Don't come back, either.

BUGGIN' OUT
Boycott Sal's. Boycott Sal's.

EXT: SAL'S FAMOUS PIZZERIA--DAY

MOOKIE
Buggin' Out, I gotta work here.

BUGGIN' OUT
I'm cool. I'm cool.

MOOKIE
Come back in a week, it will be squashed.

They give each other five.

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INT: SAL'S FAMOUS PIZZERIA--DAY

Mookie enters.

SAL
Mookie, if your friends can't behave, they're not welcome.

MOOKIE
I got no say over people.

PINO
You talk to 'em.

MOOKIE
People are free to do what they wanna do.

SAL
I know, this is America, but I don't want no trouble.

EXT: STREET--DAY

Mookie walks down the block with pizza box in hand when he sees Da Mayor sitting on his stoop.

DA MAYOR
Mookie.

MOOKIE
Gotta go.

DA MAYOR
C'mere, Doctor.

Mookie turns around and goes back.
DA MAYOR
Doctor, this is Da Mayor talkin'.

MOOKIE
OK. OK.

DA MAYOR
Doctor, always try to do the right thing.

MOOKIE
That's it?

DA MAYOR
That's it.

MOOKIE
I got it.

INT: TENEMENT BUILDING--DAY

Mookie is hiking up a flight of stairs.

ANGLE--STAIRCASE
He puts the pizza box down and takes a breather.

CLOSE UP--MOOKIE
Sweat drips off his face.

ANGLE--MOOKIE
He bends down to pick up the pizza box and tackles the last few flights.

CLOSE UP--DOORBELL
Mookie pushes the buzzer.

ANGLE--DOOR
A young Puerto Rican woman opens the door.

NILDA
I hope it's not cold.

Mookie hands her the pizza.

MOOKIE
No, it's not cold. Twelve dollars for the pie.

Nilda hands him a handful of singles. Mookie looks at the crumpled mess. Nilda attempts to close the door, but Mookie's foot says, "Hell no."

MOOKIE
Hold it. Let me count this first.

First he straightens out the dollars, then counts the bills.
MOOKIE
You're short.

NILDA
I counted the twelve dollars myself.

MOOKIE
Twelve is right, but no tip.

NILDA
No tip.

MOOKIE
Look, lady. I carried your pizza up five flights of stairs and shit. The cheese didn't slide over to one side like it sometimes does with delivery people who don't care. I do care. May I get paid?

Nilda looks at him and sees right away he's not going anywhere.

NILDA
Wait here.

MOOKIE
I'll wait.

Nilda goes into the apartment and we hear her talking in Spanish to a male.

ANGLE--MOOKIE
Mookie bends down to tie his sneakers.

ANGLE--DOOR
Nilda reappears and holds out a lonely lone dollar for him. Mookie has her hold it out for awhile, then he takes it.

MOOKIE
Gracias mucho.

Nilda slams the door.

MOOKIE
A dollar! Cheap bastard! Your pizza is gonna be fucked next time.

EXT: MOTHER SISTER'S STOOP--DAY
Jade sits down next to Mother Sister on the stoop.

MOTHER SISTER
Jade, you're late.

JADE
I know, Mother Sister, but I'm here now. Where's the stuff?
Mother Sister hands her a bag that is at her side.

MOTHER SISTER

Seen your brother, just walked by.

Jade unwraps a head scarf from around Mother Sister's head and a full head of long black hair falls to her shoulders.

JADE

This might take some time.

MOTHER SISTER

I got nowhere to go. We haven't had a good sit-down for a long while.

Jade begins to part, grease, and comb out Mother Sister's hair.

MOTHER SISTER

Tender-headed runs in my family. You tender-headed?

JADE

Yeah, me too.

MOTHER SISTER

That's why I don't fool with it. Only let you touch it...Ouch!

JADE

Sorry, comb got caught.

MOTHER SISTER

Be gentle, child. Mother Sister is an old woman.

JADE

How are you holding up in this weather?

MOTHER SISTER

I'll do.

JADE

I don't know why you still haven't bought an air conditioner.

MOTHER SISTER

Don't like 'em. A fan will do.

ANGLE--DA MAYOR

Da Mayor stands in front of the stoop, he's smiling for days.

DA MAYOR

I didn't know you had such beautiful hair.
MOTHER SISTER
Fool, there's a lot in this world you don't know.

DA MAYOR
I'm not stopping. I'm on my way.

The Mayor tips his hat and heads up the block.

MOTHER SISTER
I'm not studying no Mayor. Besides, he reminds me of my least favorite peoples. My tenants and my ex-husband--Goddamn-bless his soul.

They both laugh.

MOTHER SISTER
Number One: I got some jive, late-rent-paying trifling Negroes in this house. Every year I keep threatening to sell it.

JADE
And move to Long Island...

MOTHER SISTER
And move to Long Island. Number Two: my ex-husband lost all my property, all my money in his scheme to build a Black business empire. Needless to say what happened, this house is it, all I got. I'm too through with yar people.

JADE
Whew!

She looks up at the white-hot sun.

MOTHER SISTER
She does the same.
Right now, folks, we're gonna suspend the narrative and show how people are coping with the oppressive heat.

People are taking cold showers.

Sticking faces in ice-cold, water-filled sinks.

Heads stuck in refrigerators.

A wife tells her husband, "Hell no, I'm not cooking. It's too hot. The kitchen is closed."

Men downing six-packs of ice-cold brew.

Faces stuck directly in front of fans.

A young kid cracks an egg on Sal's Cadillac. The moment the egg hits the car hood it starts to cook. The kid looks directly INTO THE CAMERA and smiles, then looks up to see Sal, mad as a motherfucker, chasing after him.

And how can I forget the papers, the newspaper headlines.

New York Post: "A SCORCHER"
New York Daily News: "2 HOT 4 U?"
New York Newsday: "OH BOY! BAKED APPLE"
New York Times: "RECORD HEATWAVE HITS CITY"

EXT: STREET--DAY

CLOSE UP--JOHNNY PUMP

POW! A powerful gush of water flies out RIGHT AT THE CAMERA.

Ahmad has just turned on the johnny pump and the white stream of water flies across the street.

This attracts all the people of the block. It's a chance to cool off and momentarily beat the killer heat.

ANGLE--CEE AND PUNCHY

They both scrape beer cans on the sidewalk.

ANGLE--ELLA

She stands with caution away from the fire hydrant. Ella does not want to get wet.

ANGLE--CEE AND PUNCHY

They're still scraping away.

ANGLE--STREET

Folks, young and old, begin to get in the water and play.

ANGLE--CEE AND PUNCHY

Both now have cans with the ends scraped away, and go to the johnny pump. Punchy bends down behind the hydrant and places the can over the water. The can now directs the
Ahmad sneaks up behind Ella and picks her up. She's kicking and screaming furiously.

ELLA
Ahmad! Put me down! Put me down!
I can't get wet! I'm not playing!

Ahmad is not having it. He carries a kicking Ella into the middle of the street in direct line of fire.

AHMAD
Yo!

ELLA
No!

They both are hit with a blast of water and are soaked to the bone. Ella starts to punch Ahmad, and chases after him.

ANGLE--STREET
We hear the familiar rap music of Radio Raheem's box.

CLOSE--RADIO RAHEEM
Radio Raheem is too cool. By the way he's dressed, it could be fall, not the hottest day of the year. But you could never tell it from him. He's too cool.

CLOSE--RADIO RAHEEM

Raheem looks at Cee, he wants to get by and he doesn't want to get wet either. And if his box gets wet, somebody is gonna die. Cee knows this too.

ANGLE--JOHNNY PUMP
Cee stands in front of the hydrant, blocking the water so Radio Raheem can pass.

ANGLE--RADIO RAHEEM
He slowly bops across the street as all eyes watch. When he's clear, Cee moves and the water gushes out again as folks play.

ANGLE--STREET
We hear a car horn blowing. People move out of the way as the vehicle speeds through the spray.

ANGLE--WHITE CONVERTIBLE
An older man, CHARLIE, stops his white convertible and blows his horn.

CHARLIE
I'm not playing. There's gonna be
trouble if you fuck around.

CLOSE--CEE AND PUNCHY

PUNCHY

Go 'head. You got it. You got it.

CLOSE--CHARLIE

CHARLIE

This is an expensive car.

CLOSE--CEE

CEE

You won't get wet.

ANGLE--HYDRANT

Both Punchy and Cee sit in front of the hydrant once again, blocking the water.

ANGLE--WHITE CONVERTIBLE

The car cautiously eases forward. Charlie doesn't trust Cee and Punchy at all.

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CLOSE--CHARLIE

CHARLIE

I'm warning you.

CLOSE--CEE AND PUNCHY

PUNCHY

C'mon.

CEE

Hurry up. We ain't got all day.

ANGLE--STREET

The people all move to the car, for they know what is about to happen.

ANGLE--HYDRANT

Cee and Punchy leap off the hydrant, unleashing a jet blast that flies directly into Charlie's car. The whole block is dying.

ANGLE--STREET

Charlie pulls his flooded car over to the curb, jumps out, and runs to get hold of Cee and Punchy. Of course, he's slow, as the kids turn into track stars and make like Carl Lewis.

ANGLE--STREET

Charlie, a wet mess, tries to buy some sympathy from the folks; none is to be bought.
CHARLIE
I'm fucking soaked. If I ever
catch those fucks they'll be sorry.
Cocksucking sonabitches!

The ranting continues, and people laugh at him.

CHARLIE
You people make me sick.

A cop car screeches to a halt in front of the man. Two
officers, LONG and PONTE, get out.

CHARLIE
Officers, I want an arrest made.
Now.

OFFICER PONTE
What happened?

CHARLIE
Two Black kids soaked me and my car.
It's fucking ruined.

OFFICER LONG
Where are they?

CHARLIE
Where are they? What kind of
fucking asshole question is that?
They ran the fuck away.

OFFICER PONTE
Do you wish to file a complaint?

CHARLIE
A complaint. I want those fucks
locked under the jail.

Officer Long goes into his car and gets a wrench.

ANGLE--JOHNNY PUMP

Officer Long turns off the hydrant, then puts the cap back on.

OFFICER PONTE
This hydrant better not come back
on or there's gonna be hell to pay.

CHARLIE
What about my car? I want justice.

Officer Long sides up to Da Mayor who's been looking on.

OFFICER LONG
You know anything about this?

Da Mayor is quiet.

CHARLIE
He knows. He's a witness. They all know. He saw the whole thing.

Officer Ponte goes to Da Mayor's other side.

OFFICER LONG
Who were the punks?

DA MAYOR
Those who'll tell don't know.
Those who know won't tell.

A wise guy.

Mookie emerges from the crowd and leads Da Mayor away from the interrogation.

MOOKIE
Let's go, Mayor.

OFFICER LONG
Keep this hydrant off. You want to swim, go to Coney Island.

CHARLIE
He's leaving? What about me?

OFFICER PONTE
I suggest you get in your car quick, before these people start to strip it clean.

The man looks at the crowd of Blacks and Puerto Ricans around him and he considers what he just heard.

OFFICER LONG
Let's go, break it up. Go back to your jobs.

OFFICER PONTE
What jobs?

Both cops laugh.

ANGLE--STREET
Charlie drives away, fuming.

INT: ROOFTOP--DAY
Cee and Punchy look down from a roof on all the havoc and confusion they've started. Both laugh.

INT: SAL'S FAMOUS PIZZERIA--DAY
Mookie enters.

SAL
Mookie, what took you so long? I got a business to run.
MOOKIE
Run it then.

SAL
Here, this goes to the radio station.

He gives Mookie a bag full of food.

VITO
Pop, I'm gonna go with Mookie.

SAL
Good, make sure he don't jerk around.

PINO
Yeah, hurry back, it's getting crowded.

EXT: STREET--DAY

Vito and Mookie walk down the block.

VITO
Mister Señor Love Daddy is cool.

MOOKIE
Ya like him, huh?

VITO
Yeah.

MOOKIE
Y'know, Vito, I know Pino is ya brother and shit, but the next time he hits ya, the next time he touches ya, you should "house him." Kick his ass.

VITO
I don't know.

MOOKIE
If you don't make a stand, he's gonna be beating ya like a egg for the rest of your life.

VITO
That's what you think?

MOOKIE
That's what I think.

VITO
I don't like to fight.

MOOKIE
Do it this one time and he'll never
touch you again.

EXT: WE LOVE RADIO--DAY

Mookie and Vito wave at Mister Señor Love Daddy through the storefront window and he buzzes them in.

OMIT

INT: CONTROL BOOTH--DAY

Mookie and Vito very quietly walk in; the man is on the air.

MISTER SEÑOR LOVE DADDY

Peoples, my stomach's been grumbling but help has arrived. My main man Mookie has saved the day, straight from Sal's Famous Pizzeria, down the block. Come up to the mike, Mookie.

Mookie goes to the mike.

MISTER SEÑOR LOVE DADDY

C'mon, don't be shy. Mmm, smells good. This is ya Love Daddy talkin' to ya, starvin' like Marvin. Say something, Mookie.

MOOKIE

Mister Señor Love Daddy, I'd like to dedicate the next record to my heart, Tina.

MISTER SEÑOR LOVE DADDY

Alright. Let me play this record while I go to work on my chicken Parmigiana hero with extra cheese and extra sauce.

He hits the cart machine...

VO

I just looove you so much Mister Señor Love Daddy. WE LOVE RADIO, 108 FM.

...then cues up the record.

MISTER SEÑOR LOVE DADDY

Here ya are.

(he hands Mookie a twenty-dollar bill)

Keep the change.

MOOKIE

That's right on time. This is my friend, Vito. His pops is Sal.

MISTER SEÑOR LOVE DADDY

Tell ya father he makes the best
VITO
I'll do that.

MOOKIE
We're outta here.

MISTER SEÑOR LOVE DADDY
Thanks for stopping by. WE LOVE
Radio, 108 FM.

EXT: STREET--DAY

On a stoop, a group of Puerto Ricans sits talking, drinking cerveza frío, and playing dominoes. One of their cars is parked near the stoop, and blasts salsa music.

ANGLE--RADIO RAHEEM

As usual we hear the rap music of Radio Raheem, but underneath the salsa music. Radio Raheem does not like to be bested; the salsa music from the parked car is giving him competition, this is no good. Radio Raheem stands in front of the stoop and raises his decibel level.

ANGLE--STOOP

The Puerto Rican men look at him, then begin to yell at him in Spanish. There is a standoff, the rap and salsa clashing in a deafening roar. One of the men, STEVIE, gets off the stoop and goes to the car.

ANGLE--CAR

Stevie turns the car radio off.

CLOSE--RADIO RAHEEM

Radio Raheem smiles, nods, turns his box to a reasonable listening level, and bops down the block. Radio Raheem still the loudest. Radio Raheem still the king.

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STEVIE
You got it, bro.

ANGLE--STOOP

The men curse in Spanish and shake their heads in bewilderment and Stevie turns the salsa back on.

EXT: STREET--DAY

Vito and Mookie see Buggin' Out on their way back to Sal's.

MOOKIE
You the man.

BUGGIN' OUT
You the man.
MOOKIE
No, you the man.

BUGGIN' OUT
No. I'm just a struggling Black man trying to keep my dick hard in a cruel and harsh world.

Buggin' Out gives Mookie five and a menacing look at Vito.

MOOKIE
Vito is down.

EXT: STREET--DAY
Buggin' Out is walking down the block when CLIFTON, a yuppie, accidentally bumps into him, stepping on his new sneakers.

CLOSE--BUGGIN' OUT
He looks at his sneakers.

CLOSE--SNEAKERS
There is a big black smudge on his new white unlaced Air Jordans.

ANGLE--BUGGIN' OUT
He runs down the block after Clifton.

BUGGIN' OUT
Yo!

Clifton turns around.

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BUGGIN' OUT
Yo!

CLIFTON
Yes?

BUGGIN' OUT
You almost knocked me down. The word is "excuse me."

CLIFTON
Excuse me. I'm very sorry.

BUGGIN' OUT
Not only did you knock me down, you stepped on my new white Air Jordans that I just bought and that's all you can say, "Excuse me?"

This commotion has attracted a crowd, including Ahmad, Cee, Punchy, and Ella.

BUGGIN' OUT
I'll fuck you up quick two times.
HERE WE GO!

BUGGIN' OUT
Who told you to step on my sneakers?
Who told you to walk on my side of the block? Who told you to be in my neighborhood?

CLIFTON
I own a brownstone on this block.

BUGGIN' OUT
Who told you to buy a brownstone on my block, in my neighborhood on my side of the street?

The crowd likes that one and they laugh and egg him on.

BUGGIN' OUT
What do you want to live in a Black neighborhood for? Motherfuck gentrification.

CLIFTON
I'm under the assumption that this is a free country and one can live where he pleases.

BUGGIN' OUT
A free country?

AWWW SHIT! Why did he get Buggin' started?

BUGGIN' OUT
I should fuck you up just for that stupid shit alone.

Buggin' Out looks down at his marred Air Jordans. The crowd, smelling blood, wants to see some.

AHMAD
Your Jordans are dogged.

CEE
You might as well throw 'em out.

PUNCHY
They looked good before he messed them up.

ELLA
You used to be so fine.

AHMAD
How much did you pay for them?

CEE
A hundred bucks.

AHMAD
A hundred bucks!

BUGGIN' OUT
You're lucky the Black man has a loving heart. Next time you see me coming, cross the street quick.

AHMAD
He's dissing you.

BUGGIN' OUT
Damn, my brand-new Jordans. You should buy me another pair.

CLIFTON
I'm gonna leave now.

BUGGIN' OUT
If I wasn't a righteous Black man you'd be in serious trouble. SERIOUS.

The crowd gives their approval.

BUGGIN' OUT
Move back to Connecticut.

INT: SAL'S FAMOUS PIZZERIA--DAY
Mookie and Vito enter the shop.

SAL
I should have Vito go with you all the time.

PINO
Yeah, no more ninety-minute deliveries around the corner.

MOOKIE
Pino, I work hard like everybody in here.

VITO
He's right.

PINO
C'mere. (Pino smacks his brother)
Don't get too friendly with da Mook.

SAL
That's gonna be the last time you hit Vito.

MOOKIE
Smack him back.

PINO
What?
Mookie

Remember what I said.

Vito stands frozen in front of his brother.

Pino

Are you gonna listen to this Mook?
Listen to him tell you to smack me?
Your only brother?

Vito walks away and Mookie is disgusted.

Pino

I didn't think so.

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Ext: Street--Day

Officers Ponte and Long drive down the block and at the corner they stop, glare at the Corner Men.

Close--Officer Ponte

Close--Sweet Dick Willie

Close--Officer Long

Close--Coconut Sid

Angle--Police Car

Officer Ponte

What a waste.

Angle--Corner

Sweet Dick, ML, and Coconut Sid stare right back at the cops.

Angle--Police Car

It drives off.

Angle--Corner

Coconut Sid

As I was saying before we were so rudely interrupted by the finest.

ML

What was you saying?

Coconut Sid blanks.

Sweet Dick Willie

Motherfucker wasn't saying shit.

ML

Look at that.

Coconut Sid

Look at what?

ML points across the street to the Korean fruit and vegetable
It's a fucking shame.

What is?

Sweet Dick Willie. That's my name.

Do I have to spell it out?

Make it plain.

OK, but listen up. I'm gonna break it down.

Let it be broke.

Can ya dig it?

It's dug.

Look at those Korean motherfuckers across the street. I betcha they haven't been a year off da motherfucking boat before they opened up their own place.

It's been about a year.

A motherfucking year off the motherfucking boat and got a good business in our neighborhood occupying a building that had been boarded up for longer than I care to remember and I've been here a long time.
It has been a long time.

CLOSE--COCONUT SID

COCONUT SID

How long?

CLOSE--ML

ML

Too long! Too long. Now for the life of me, I haven't been able to figger this out. Either dem Koreans are geniuses or we Blacks are dumb.

This is truly a stupefying question and all three are silent. What is the answer?

COCONUT SID

It's gotta be cuz we're Black. No other explanation, nobody don't want the Black man to be about shit.

SWEET DICK WILLIE

Old excuse.

ML

I'll be one happy fool to see us have our own business right here. Yes, sir. I'd be the first in line to spend the little money I got.

Sweet Dick Willie gets up from his folding chair.

SWEET DICK WILLIE

It's Miller time. Let me go give these Koreans s'more business.

ML

It's a motherfucking shame.

COCONUT SID

Ain't that a bitch.

EXT: STOOP--DAY

Da Mayor sits on his stoop and a kid, EDDIE, runs by.

DA MAYOR

Sonny! Sonny!

Eddie stops.

DA MAYOR

Doctor, what's your name?

EDDIE
Eddie Lovell.

How old are you?

Ten.

What makes Sammy run?

My name is Eddie.

What makes Sammy run?

I said my name is Eddie Lovell.

Relax, Eddie, I want you to go to the corner store. How much will it cost me?

How would I know how much it's gonna cost if I don't know what I'm buying?

Eddie, you're too smart for your own britches. Listen to me. How much do you want to run to the store for Da Mayor?

Fifty cents.

You got a deal.

He gives Eddie some money.

Git me a quart of beer, Budweiser, say it's for your father, if they bother you.

Eddie runs down the block just as Ahmad, Cee, Punchy, and Ella pass him.

Who told him he was Da Mayor of this block?

He's self-appointed.

Leave him alone.
PUNCHY
Shut up.

DA MAYOR
Go on now. Leave me be.

AHMAD
You walk up and down this block like you own it.

CEE
Da Mayor.

PUNCHY
You're old.

AHMAD
A old drunk bum.

Da Mayor stands up from his seat cushion on the stoop.

AHMAD
What do you have to say?

DA MAYOR
What do you know 'bout me? Y'all can't even pee straight. What do you know? Until you have stood in the doorway and heard the hunger of your five children, unable to do a damn thing about it, you don't know shit. You don't know my pain, you don't know me. Don't call me a bum, don't call me a drunk, you don't know me, and it's disrespectful. I know your parents raised you better.

The teenagers look at Da Mayor.

ELLA
He told you off.

Da Mayor sits back down on his seat cushion on his stoop.

INT: SAL'S FAMOUS PIZZERIA--DAY

ANGLE--PAY PHONE ON WALL

Mookie is on the phone.

MOOKIE
I know I haven't seen you in four days. I'm a working man.

TINA (VO)
I work too, but I still make time.

MOOKIE
Tina, what do you want me to do?
TINA (VO)
I want you to spend some time with me. I want you to try and make this relationship work. If not, I'd rather not be bothered.

MOOKIE
Alright. Alright. I'll be over there sometime today.

TINA (VO)
When?

MOOKIE
Before I get off work.

TINA (VO)
Bring some ice cream, I'm burning up. Do you love me?

MOOKIE
Do I love you?

CLOSE--SAL

SAL
Mookie, get offa da phone.

CLOSE--MOOKIE

MOOKIE
Be off in a second. Tina, I dedicated a record on Mister Señor Love Daddy's show to you.

TINA (VO)
Big deal.

CLOSE--SAL

SAL
Mookie! How is anybody gonna call in?

CLOSE--MOOKIE

MOOKIE
Big deal? If that's not LOVE, I don't know what is.

CLOSE--PINO

PINO
You deaf or what?

CLOSE--MOOKIE

MOOKIE
Gotta go. See ya soon.
(he hangs up)
Everybody happy now?

The phone rings right away and Pino picks it up.

ANGLE--PINO

PINO

Sal's Famous Pizzeria, yeah, two large pizzas, pepperoni and anchovies, hold on... See, Pop, Mookie fucking talking on the phone and people are trying to call in orders. He's making us lose business.

CLOSE--SAL

SAL

Mookie, you're fucking up.

PINO

Twenty minutes.

(he hangs up the phone)

How come you niggers are so stupid?

CLOSE--MOOKIE

MOOKIE

If ya see a nigger here, kick his ass.

CLOSE--PINO

PINO

Fuck you and stay off the phone.

CLOSE--VITO

VITO

Forget it, Mookie.

ANGLE--PIZZERIA

MOOKIE

Who's your favorite basketball player?

PINO

Magic Johnson.

MOOKIE

And not Larry Bird? Who's your favorite movie star?

PINO

Eddie Murphy.

Mookie is smiling now.

MOOKIE

Last question: Who's your favorite
rock star?

Pino doesn't answer, because he sees the trap he's already fallen into.

Mookie

Barry Manilow?

Mookie and Vito laugh.

Mookie

Pino, no joke. C'mon, answer.

Vito

It's Prince. He's a Prince freak.

Pino

Shut up. The Boss! Bruuuucce!!!!

Mookie

Sounds funny to me. As much as you say nigger this and nigger that, all your favorite people are "niggers."

Pino

It's different. Magic, Eddie, Prince are not niggers, I mean, are not Black. I mean, they're Black but not really Black. They're more than Black. It's different.

With each word Pino is hanging himself even further.

Mookie

Pino, I think secretly that you wish you were Black. That's what I think. Vito, what do you say?

Pino

Y'know, I've been listening and reading 'bout Farrakhan, ya didn't know that, did you?

Mookie

I didn't know you could read.

Pino

Fuck you. Anyway, Minister Farrakhan always talks about the so-called "day" when the Black man will rise. "We will one day rule the earth as we did in our glorious past." You really believe that shit?

Mookie

It's e-vit-able.

Pino

Keep dreaming.
MOOKIE
F*ck you, f*ck pizza, and f*ck
Frank Sinatra, too.

PINO
Well, f*ck you, too, and f*ck
Michael Jordan.

CUT TO:

RACIAL SLUR MONTAGE

The following will be a QUICK-CUTTING MONTAGE of racial
slurs, with different ethnic groups pointing the finger at
one another. Each person looks directly INTO THE CAMERA.

CLOSE--MOOKIE

MOOKIE
Dago, wop, garlic-breath, guinea,
pizza-slinging, spaghetti-bending,
Vic Damone, Perry Como, Luciano
Pavarotti, Sole Mio, nonsinging
motherfucker.

CUT TO:

CLOSE--PINO

PINO
You gold-teeth, gold-chain-wearing,
fried-chicken-and-biscuit-eatin',
monkey, ape, baboon, big thigh,
fast-running, three-hundred-sixty-
degree-basketball-dunking spade
Moulan Yan.

CUT TO:

CLOSE--STEVIE

STEVIE
You slant-eyed, me-no-speak-
American, own every fruit and
vegetable stand in New York,
Reverend Moon, Summer Olympics '88,
Korean kick-boxing bastard.

CUT TO:

CLOSE--OFFICER LONG

OFFICER LONG
Goya bean-eating, fifteen in a car,
thirty in an apartment, pointed
shoes, red-wearing, Menudo, meda-
meda Puerto Rican cocksucker.
CLOSE--KOREAN CLERK

KOREAN CLERK
It's cheap, I got a good price for you, Mayor Koch, "How I'm doing," chocolate-egg-cream-drinking, bagel and lox, B'nai B'rith asshole.

CUT TO:

INT: WE LOVE RADIO STATION CONTROL ROOM--DAY

CLOSE--MISTER SEÑOR LOVE DADDY

MISTER SEÑOR LOVE DADDY
Yo! Hold up! Time out! Time out! Y'all take a chill. Ya need to cool that shit out... and that's the truth, Ruth.

CUT TO:

CLOSE--WHITE-HOT SUN

INT: SAL'S FAMOUS PIZZERIA--DAY

Mookie picks up his two pizza pies for delivery.

MOOKIE
Sal, can you do me a favor?

SAL
Depends.

MOOKIE
Can you pay me now?

SAL
Can't do.

MOOKIE
Sal, just this once, do me that solid.

SAL
You know you don't get paid till we close tonight. We're still open.

MOOKIE
I would like to get paid now.

SAL
Tonight, when we close.

Mookie leaves.

EXT: STREET--DAY

Mookie walks down the block. The streets are filled with kids playing. WE SEE stoop ball, double dutch, hand games, bike-riding, skateboarding, etc.
Radio Raheem approaches Mookie.

MOOKIE
Whaddup. Money?

RADIO RAHEEM
I was going to buy a slice.

MOOKIE
I'll be back after I make this delivery.

RADIO RAHEEM
On the rebound.

Mookie stares at the gold "brass knuckles" rings Radio Raheem wears on each hand. Spelled out across the rings are the words "LOVE" on the right hand and "HATE" on the left hand.

MOOKIE
That's the dope.

RADIO RAHEEM
I just copped them. Let me tell you the story of Right-Hand--Left-Hand--the tale of Good and Evil.

MOOKIE
I'm listening.

RADIO RAHEEM
HATE!

He thrusts up his left hand.

RADIO RAHEEM
It was with this hand that Brother Cain iced his brother. LOVE!

He thrusts up his right hand.

RADIO RAHEEM
See these fingers, they lead straight to the soul of man. The right hand. The hand of LOVE!

Mookie is buggin'.

RADIO RAHEEM
The story of Life is this...

He locks his fingers and writhes, cracking the joints.
STATIC! One hand is always fighting
the other. Left Hand Hate is
kicking much ass and it looks like
Right Hand Love is finished. Hold
up. Stop the presses! Love is
coming back, yes, it's Love. Love
has won. Left Hand Hate KO'ed by
Love.

Mookie doesn't know what to say, so he doesn't say anything.

RADIO RAHEEM
Brother, Mookie, if I love you I
love you, but if I hate you...

MOOKIE
I understand.

RADIO RAHEEM
I love you, my brother.

MOOKIE
I love you, Black.

INT: SAL'S FAMOUS PIZZERIA--DAY
Radio Raheem enters Sal's with music blaring.

RADIO RAHEEM
Two slices.

SAL
No service till you turn dat shit
off.

RADIO RAHEEM
Two slices.

PINO
Turn it off.

SAL
Mister Radio Raheem, I can't even
hear myself think. You are
disturbing me and you are disturbing
my customers.

Sal grabs his Mickey Mantle bat from underneath the counter.
Everyone, Sal, Vito, Pino, Radio Raheem, and the customers
are poised for something to jump off, STATIC.

CLOSE--RADIO RAHEEM

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He smiles and turns off the beat.

RADIO RAHEEM
Two slices, extra cheese.

CLOSE--SAL

Sal puts Mickey Mantle back into its place.
SAL
When you come in Sal's Famous
Pizzeria, no music. No rap, no
music. Capisce? Understand?...
This is a place of business. Extra
cheese is two dollars.

INT: TENEMENT HALLWAY--DAY
Mookie hands the pizzas over and takes the money and counts it.

MOOKIE
Thanks.

EXT: STREET--DAY
Mookie walks, says hello to the people he knows.

EXT: STOOP--DAY
Mookie runs up stoop.

INT: MOOKIE'S APARTMENT--DAY
We hear a key in the door, the lock turns and Mookie enters.

MOOKIE
Jade.

JADE (OS)
I'm in here.

INT: JADE'S BEDROOM--DAY
Jade sits in a chair directly in front of an air conditioner going full blast.

JADE
How come you're not at Sal's?

MOOKIE
I'm working.

JADE
Is this another one of your patented two-hour lunches?

MOOKIE
I just come home to take a quick shower.

JADE
Sal's gonna be mad.

MOOKIE
Later for Sal. Y'know, sometimes I think you're more concerned with him than me.
JADE
I think no such a thing. Sal pays you, you should work.

MOOKIE
Slavery days are over. My name ain't Kunta Kinte. Sis, I don't want to argue, stop pressing me.

JADE
I just don't want you to lose the one job you've been able to keep, that's all. I'm carrying you as it is.

MOOKIE
Don't worry 'bout me. I always get paid.

JADE
Yeah, then ya should take better care of your responsibilities.

MOOKIE
What responsibilities?

JADE
I didn't stutter. Take care of your responsibilities. Y'know exactly what I'm talking about.

INT: BATHROOM--DAY
Mookie turns on the shower and screams; the water is ice cold.

EXT: MOTHER SISTER'S STOOP--DAY
Mother Sister sits in her window looking out at the block.

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EXT: DA MAYOR'S STOOP--DAY
Da Mayor has fallen asleep sitting on his stoop. His hands loosely hold a brown paper bag that is tightly twisted around a beer can.

EXT: CORNER--DAY
Sweet Dick, ML, and Coconut Sid each hold an umbrella for protection from the hot and harsh rays.

EXT: FIRE ESCAPE--DAY
Ahmad, Punchy, Cee, and Ella sit on a fire escape, trying to keep still, trying to find a cool spot in the shade. No one says a word.

INT: SAL'S FAMOUS PIZZERIA--DAY
Sal takes a seat at one of the tables.

SAL
I'm beat.

Pino sits down next to his father.

PINO
Pop, I think we should sell this place, get outta here while we're still ahead...and alive.

SAL
Since when do you know what's best for us?

PINO
Couldn't we sell this and open up a new one in our own neighborhood?

SAL
Too many pizzerias already there.

PINO
Then we could try something else.

SAL
We don't know nuthin' else.

PINO
I'm sick of niggers, it's a bad neighborhood. I don't like being around them, they're animals.

VITO
Some are OK.

PINO
My friends laugh at me all the time, laugh right in my face, tell me go feed the Moulies.

SAL
Do your friends put money in your pocket? Pay your rent? Food on ya plate?

Pino is quiet.

SAL
I didn't think so.

PINO
Pop, what else can I say? I don't wanna be here, they don't want us here. We should stay in our own neighborhood, stay in Bensonhurst.

SAL
So what if this is a Black neighborhood, so what if we're a minority. I've never had no trouble with dese people, don't
want none either, so don't start none. This is America. Sal's Famous Pizzeria is here for good. You think you know it all? Well, you don't. I'm your father, you better remember that.

INT: BATHROOM--DAY

Mookie pulls the shower curtain back and steps out.

INT: MOOKIE'S ROOM--DAY

Mookie sits on his bed, still wet.

ANGLE--JADE

JADE

Hurry up and get dressed.

MOOKIE

I'm coming.

JADE

I'm going with you.

BUGGIN' OUT BOYCOTT MONTAGE

EXT: STREET--DAY

BUGGIN' OUT

Da Mayor, we need your leadership.

DA MAYOR

Doctor, what are you talkin' bout?

BUGGIN' OUT

I'm organizing a boycott of Sal's Famous Pizzeria.

DA MAYOR

Keep walkin', Doctor. I don't want to hear none of your foolishness.

CUT TO:

CLOSE--CORNER MEN

ML

No!

COCONUT SID

No!

SWEET DICK WILLIE

Hell no! Goddamnit. Sal ain't never done me no harm. You either.

CUT TO:

CLOSE--BUGGIN' OUT
Would you like to sign a petition to boycott Sal's Famous Pizzeria.

CLOSE--AHMAD, CEE, PUNCHY, and ELLA
They DOG him out (ADLIB)

CLOSE--BUGGIN' OUT
BUGGIN' OUT
I'll do it without your help.

EXT: WE LOVE RADIO--DAY
Buggin' Out waves at Mister Señor Love Daddy as he walks by the storefront.

INT: SAL'S FAMOUS PIZZERIA--DAY
Buggin' Out sticks his head in and yells:

BUGGIN' OUT
Sal, we're gonna boycott ya fat ass.

Before Sal and his two sons can answer, Buggin' Out is gone.

EXT: STREET--DAY
Buggin' Out has one foot up on a fire hydrant and tries to clean his soiled Air Jordan.

ANGLE--JADE AND MOOKIE
Jade and Mookie walk up to Buggin' Out.

BUGGIN' OUT
It's so nice to see a family hanging out together.

MOOKIE
We're not hanging out. I'm being escorted back to work.

JADE
That's not even true. I just want a slice.

BUGGIN' OUT
Jade, you don't know this, but I'm organizing a boycott of Sal's Famous Pizzeria.

JADE
What did he do this time?

BUGGIN' OUT
Y'know all those pictures he has hanging on the Wall of Fame?

JADE

So?

BUDDIN' OUT

Have you noticed something about them?

JADE

No.

MOOKIE

(interjects)

Yo, I'm gone.

JADE

I'll see ya there.

BUDDIN' OUT

Peace.

Mookie leaves.

BUDDIN' OUT

Every single one of those pictures is somebody Italian.

JADE

And?

BUDDIN' OUT

And I--we--want some Black people up.

JADE

Did you ask Sal?

BUDDIN' OUT

Yeah, I asked him. I don't want nobody in there, nobody spending good money in Sal's. He should get no mo' money from the community till he puts some Black faces up on that motherfucking wall.

Jade looks at Buggin' Out like "Are you serious?"

JADE

Buggin' Out, I don't mean to be disrespectful, but you can really direct your energies in a more useful way.

BUDDIN' OUT

So, in other words, you are not down.

JADE

I'm down, but for a worthwhile cause.

BUDDIN' OUT
Jade, I still love you.

JADE

I still love you too.

INT: SAL'S FAMOUS PIZZERIA—DAY

SAL

Mookie, you are pushing it. You're really pushing it. I'm not paying you good money to fucking jerk me around.

Mookie has nothing to say.

SAL

You're gonna be in the street with the rest of your homeboys.

PINO

'Bout time, Pop.

ANGLE--DOOR

Jade enters, and Sal looks up. He stops blasting Mookie and a very noticeable change comes over him.

SAL

Jade, we've been wondering when ya would pay us a visit.

JADE

Hi, Sal, Pino, Vito.

JADE

What's happening, Jade?

JADE

Nuthin' really. How are you treating my brother?

SAL

The Mook? Great. Mookie's a good kid.

PINO

Pop, stop lying.

SAL

Shaddup! Jade, what can I fix you?

JADE

What's good?

SAL

Everything, but for you I'm gonna make up something special. Take a seat. There, that's a clean table.
Sal moves behind the counter and goes to work. Pino and Mookie look at each other in agreement, neither likes what he has seen. This happens to Sal every time Jade is in Sal's Famous Pizzeria.

ANGLE--TABLE

Vito sits down with Jade.

    JADE
    You still letting Pino push you around?

    VITO
    Who told you that? He doesn't push me, who told you, Mookie tell you that? I hold my own.

    JADE
    Forget about it, Vito. Forget I even brought it up.

    VITO
    Pino picks on me, but I don't let him push me around. Mookie tell you that?

    JADE
    Alright already.

EXT: ROOFTOP--DUSK

The once white-hot sun is now turning into a golden orange glaze as it begins to set. Ahmad, Cee, Punchy, and Ella dance on the roof around a box that is turned into WE LOVE. Each one is trying to come up with some new moves, a new dance, and a name for it.

EXT: STREET--DUSK

Radio Raheem is walking down the block and there is something wrong, something is not quite right. AHA! His music is not loud; the rap song begins to drag and finally stops altogether.

CLOSE--RADIO RAHEEM

He looks at his box and presses the battery level indicator.

CLOSE--BATTERY LEVEL INDICATOR

The needle doesn't move. His batteries have had it.

INT: FRUIT-N-VEG DELIGHT--DUSK

CLOSE--RADIO RAHEEM

    RADIO RAHEEM
    Twenty "D" Duracells.
CLOSE--KOREAN CLERK

KOREAN CLERK

Twenty "C" Duracells.

CLOSE--RADIO RAHEEM

RADIO RAHEEM

D, not C.

CLOSE--KOREAN CLERK

KOREAN CLERK

C Duracell.

CLOSE--RADIO RAHEEM

RADIO RAHEEM

D!  D!  D!  You dumb motherfucker.  
Learn how to speak English first.  D.

Radio Raheem points to the D batteries behind the counter.

CLOSE--KOREAN CLERK

KOREAN CLERK

How many you say?

CLOSE--RADIO RAHEEM

RADIO RAHEEM

Twenty!  Motherfucker!  Twenty!

CLOSE--KOREAN CLERK

KOREAN CLERK

Motherfucker you.

Radio Raheem has to laugh at that one.

CLOSE--RADIO RAHEEM

RADIO RAHEEM

Motherfucker you.  You're alright. 
You're alright.  Just gimme my 
twenty Duracells, please.

EXT: FRUIT-N-VEG DELIGHT--DUSK

Da Mayor is looking at a bunch of cut flowers when Radio Raheem comes out with batteries in hand--finally.

EXT: MOTHER SISTER'S STOOP--DUSK

ANGLE--WINDOW

Mother Sister is sitting in her window as usual.

ANGLE--STOOP

Da Mayor walks up the stoop with a bunch of fresh-cut flowers in a discarded wine bottle for a vase.

ANGLE--DA MAYOR
Da Mayor holds them out for Mother Sister, who does not acknowledge him at all.

    DA MAYOR
    I'd thought you might like these...
    I guess not.

Da Mayor takes a seat on the stoop and puts the flowers to his face.

    DA MAYOR
    Ain't nuthin' like the smell of fresh flowers. Don't you agree, Miss Mother Sister?

Mother Sister does not answer. He puts the flowers down.

    DA MAYOR
    Summertime, all ya can smell is the garbage. Stink overpowers everything, especially soft sweet smells like flowers.

He looks up at Mother Sister who immediately turns away.

    DA MAYOR
    If you don't mind, I'm gonna set right here, catch a breeze or two, then be on my way.

Da Mayor looks up at the setting sun.

    DA MAYOR
    Thank the Lord, the sun is going down, it's hot as blazes. Yes Jesus.

CLOSE--SUN

The sun is an orange and purple glaze.

EXT: STREET--DUSK

Radio Raheem is back in action. He's alive, he's bad and he got his twenty "D" Duracell batteries, his box is kicking.

ANGLE--CORNER


CLOSE--COCONUT SID, ML, and SWEET DICK WILLIE

All three shake their heads in bewilderment as Radio Raheem goes by.

    ML
    What can you say?
    COCONUT SID
    I don't know how he does it.
Sweet Dick Willie gets up from his chair and goes to the corner, zips down his pants, and urinates.

    SWEET DICK WILLIE
    ML?
    ML
    What?
    SWEET DICK WILLIE
    ML, hold this for me.

Sweet Dick Willie and Coconut Sid laugh.

    ML
    That's OK. At least my moms didn't name me Sweet Dick Willie.

Sweet Dick Willie zips up his pants and returns to his seat.

    SWEET DICK WILLIE
    Why you gotta talk 'bout my moms?
    ML
    Nobody talkin' 'bout ya moms.

    SWEET DICK WILLIE
    I didn't say nobody, I said you.
    ML
    Sweet Dick, I didn't mean it like that.
    SWEET DICK WILLIE
    Yes you did.
    COCONUT SID
    Squash it.
    ML
    I just wanted to know who named ya Sweet Dick Willie?
    SWEET DICK WILLIE
    It's just a name.
    COCONUT SID
    And what does ML stand for?
    ML
    ML stands for ML. That's it.
    SWEET DICK WILLIE
    Naw, that's some stupid shit. Now you know how I got that name.
    ML
    Negroes kill me, always holdin' onto, talkin' 'bout their dicks.
    COCONUT SID
I don't know 'bout you, but it's too hot to fuck.

SWEET DICK WILLIE
Never too hot, never too cold for fucking.

EXT: STREET--DUSK
An old Puerto Rican man rings a bell as he pushes a cart on wheels. On the side of the cart is hand-lettered HELADO DE COCO, and a big block of ice rests on top surrounded by different colored bottles of flavors.

ANGLE--CART
A group of kids eagerly waits for the ices. The man scrapes the block of ice, puts the shavings in a paper cup, and drowns it with syrup.

ANGLE--DA MAYOR
Da Mayor is walking down the street.

ANGLE--MISTER SOFTEE TRUCK
We hear the familiar tune from the Mister Softee truck as it comes down the street.

ANGLE--EDDIE LOVELL
Eddie, the young kid who earlier ran an errand for Da Mayor, looks up from the sidewalk where he's playing and runs out into the street in pursuit of Mister Softee.

EDDIE
Ice cream. Ice cream.

Eddie is running in pursuit of the truck, unaware of the oncoming speeding car.

ANGLE--DA MAYOR
Da Mayor sees speeding car bearing down on Eddie.

ANGLE--STREET
Da Mayor runs across the street and knocks Eddie down, out of the way of the car. Both are thrown as they are hit by the reckless driver.

CLOSE--EDDIE AND DA MAYOR
Eddie is crying as Da Mayor picks him up.

DA MAYOR
Doctor, you know better to run out in the street... Stop crying, son.

ANGLE--STREET
A crowd gathers.
DA MAYOR

Doctor, there's nothing to cry about. You're OK.

A woman in her twenties, LOUISE, Eddie's mother, breaks through the crowd and hugs her baby.

LOUISE

What's wrong?

EDDIE

Mayor knocked me down.

LOUISE

You should be ashamed of yourself.

DA MAYOR

Ma'am, the boy is just scared to death. What actually happened is that I was minding my business when I saw your son about to be run over. I ran into the street to save him and I had to knock him down to keep the both of us from getting hit.

The crowd agrees "That's the way it happened," and Louise stands up.

LOUISE

Eddie, is that the truth?

Eddie is quiet.

LOUISE

Eddie, you hear me talkin' to you?

Eddie is still mum.

LOUISE

I'm talkin' to you, boy.

DA MAYOR

Miss, the boy is fine.

WHAP! Louise hits Eddie on da butt. Eddie starts to dance, as his mother hits hard; she's heavy-handed.

LOUISE

What I tell you 'bout lying?

WHOP!

LOUISE

What did I tell you 'bout playing in the street?

WHAP!

EDDIE

Mommy! Mommy! I'm sorry. I'm
Louise goes away, probably to give her son another "whooping."  Da Mayor tips his hat to her.

INT: SAL'S FAMOUS PIZZERIA--DUSK

Sal sits at a table talking to Jade as she finishes her "special" slice.

JADE
Sal, that was delicious.

SAL
Anytime.

Vito, Pino, and Mookie look on, watching Sal have the time of his life.

JADE
Thanks.

Jade gets up and Mookie helps her.

MOOKIE
I'll see you out.

JADE
See ya around.

SAL
Don't wait too long to come back.
EXT: SAL'S FAMOUS PIZZERIA--DUSK

Mookie takes Jade by the hand and pulls her out of view from Sal.

ANGLE--MOOKIE AND JADE

MOOKIE
Jade, I don't want you coming in here no mo'.

JADE
Stop tripping.

MOOKIE
No, you're tripping. Don't come in Sal's. Alright, read my lips.

JADE
What are you so worked up about?

MOOKIE
Over Sal, the way he talks and the way he looks at you.

JADE
He's just being nice.

MOOKIE
Nice!

JADE
He's completely innocent.

MOOKIE
Innocent!

JADE
I didn't stutter. You heard me.

MOOKIE
You should see the way he looks at you. All Sal wants to do is hide the salami.

JADE
You are too crude.

MOOKIE
I might be, but you're not welcome here.

JADE
Stop trying to play big brother. I'm a grown woman. You gotta lotta nerve. Mookie, you can hardly pay your rent and you're gonna tell me what to do. Come off it.

MOOKIE
One has nuthin' to do with the other.
JADE
Oh, it doesn't, huh! You got your little 250 dollars a week plus tips...

MOOKIE
I'm getting paid...

JADE
...peanuts.

MOOKIE
Pretty soon I'll be making a move.

JADE
I truly hope so. I'm tired of supporting a grown man.

INT: CONTROL BOOTH--DUSK

CLOSE--MISTER SEÑOR LOVE DADDY

MISTER SEÑOR LOVE DADDY
As the evening slowly falls upon us living here in Brooklyn, New York, this is ya Love Daddy rappin' to you. Right now we're gonna open up the Love Lines. Hello, you're on Love Daddy's Love Line. No names, please. Let's keep it anonymous.

FEMALE VOICE #1 (VO)
Hi, Mister Señor Love Daddy. I'd kiss your feet every morning, that's how much I love you.

MISTER SEÑOR LOVE DADDY
How nice of you.

FEMALE VOICE #2 (VO)
I think you have the sexiest voice in the world. All you have to do is talk.

FEMALE VOICE #4 (VO)
Love Daddy, I'd work in Mickey D's 24, 7, and 365 just to call you my own. Give you all my money, honey.
MISTER SEÑOR LOVE DADDY

That was the last call for tonight
on Mister Señor Love Daddy's Love
Line. I love you. You I love.

EXT: MOTHER SISTER'S STOOP--NIGHT

Da Mayor is walking by Mother Sister in her window when she
calls him.

CLOSE--MOTHER SISTER

MOTHER SISTER
Mister Mayor, I saw what you did.

ANGLE--DA MAYOR

Da Mayor stops and looks at her. A smile comes to his face;
after eighteen years has he finally broken down her defenses?

CLOSE--MOTHER SISTER

MOTHER SISTER
That was a foolish act, but it was
brave. That chile owes you his life.

CLOSE--DA MAYOR

DA MAYOR
I wasn't trying to be a hero. I
saw what was about to happen and I
reacted, didn't even think. If I
did, I might not have done it in
second thought. Da Mayor is an old
man, haven't run that fast in years.
(MORE)

DA MAYOR (CONT'D)
I went from first to home on a bunt
single, scored the winning run, the
bottom of the ninth, two out,
August 1, 1939, Snow Hill, Alabama.
(he is warming up now)
Maybe I should be heroic more often.

CLOSE--MOTHER SISTER

MOTHER SISTER
Maybe you shouldn't. Don't get
happy. This changes nothing
between you and me. You did a good
thing and Mother Sister wanted to
thank you for it.

ANGLE--STOOP

DA MAYOR
I thank you.

MOTHER SISTER
You're welcome.
Da Mayor tips his hat.

INT: SAL'S FAMOUS PIZZERIA--NIGHT

Mookie enters.

    MOOKIE
    Sal, I don't care if you fire me
    this exact minute, leave my sister
    alone.

    SAL
    Mookie, I don't know what you're
    talking about, plus I don't want to
    hear it.

    MOOKIE
    Sal, just do me a favor, leave Jade
    alone.

    SAL
    Here, you gotta delivery.

Mookie takes the pie and looks at the address.

    MOOKIE
    Is this the right name and address?

    SAL
    Yeah, do you know 'em?

    MOOKIE
    No, just checking.

INT: HALLWAY--NIGHT

Mookie rings the bell and a fine Puerto Rican sister answers
the door.

    MOOKIE
    Delivery from Sal's Famous Pizzeria.

    TINA
    What took you so long? Is it hot?

    MOOKIE
    Hot. Hot.

    TINA
    Come in then.

INT: TINA'S APARTMENT--NIGHT

Tina watches Mookie watch her. When she's through watching,
she takes the pizza from his hands and puts it on the floor.
Mookie grabs her and starts to kiss. Tina is Mookie's
woman, the one he's been on the phone with earlier. We've
heard the voice and now SEE the person.

    MOOKIE
Tina, you are too slick.

TINA
How else was I going to get you here? I haven't seen you in a week.

MOOKIE
I've been working hard, getting paid.

TINA
Where's the ice cream? The Häagen-Dazs butter pecan?

MOOKIE
Shit! I forgot.

TINA
Your memory is really getting bad.

MOOKIE
I just forgot.

TINA
And I really wanted some ice cream too.

MOOKIE
I can run out and get it.

TINA
No! No! You won't come back either.

MOOKIE
I can't be staying long anyway.

TINA
How long then?

MOOKIE
Long enough for us to do the nasty.

TINA
That's out. No! It's too hot! You think I'm gonna let you get some, put on your clothes, then run outta here and never see you again in who knows when?

MOOKIE
A quickie is good every once in a blue moon.

TINA
You a blue-moon fool.

MOOKIE
Then we'll do something else.

TINA
What else?
MOOKIE

Trust me.

TINA
Trust you? Because of trusting you we have a son. Remember your son?

MOOKIE
Trust me.

Mookie pushes Tina back into her bedroom.

INT: TINA'S BEDROOM--NIGHT

Mookie sits Tina down on her futon bed, turns off the lights, and turns on WE LOVE RADIO as Mister Señor Love Daddy serenades them with slow jams.

MOOKIE
I'm gonna take off ya clothes.

TINA
Mookie, I told you already it's too fucking hot to make love.

MOOKIE
Why you gotta curse?

TINA
I'm sorry, but no rawness is jumping off tonight.

MOOKIE
No rawness.

He laughs his sinister laugh.

ANGLE--MOOKIE AND TINA

Mookie unsnaps her bra, then pulls her panties off. Tina is naked as a jaybird.

MOOKIE
Tina, you're sweating.

TINA
Of course I'm sweating. I'm burning up. It's hot, moron, only a hundred degrees in here.

MOOKIE
Lie down, please.

He gets up.

INT: TINA'S KITCHEN

Mookie walks into the kitchen and sees CARMEN, Tina's mother, fixing some food on the stove.

MOOKIE
Hello, Mrs. Rampolla.

Carmen stares at him, it's a look that would definitely stop traffic, she mutters some Spanish and goes into her bedroom, slamming the door behind her.

70.

ANGLE--MOOKIE

He opens the refrigerator and takes out all the trays of ice.

INT: TINA'S BEDROOM--NIGHT

Mookie sits down on the bed with a bowl filled with ice cubes.

CLOSE--TINA'S FOREHEAD

Mookie rubs an ice cube on her forehead.

   TINA
   It's cold.

   MOOKIE
   It's 'pose to be cold.

   TINA
   Later for you.

   MOOKIE
   Meda. Meda.

   TINA
   What?

   MOOKIE
   Tina, you don't have a forehead, you got a eight-head.

CLOSE--TINA'S NECK

Mookie rubs an ice cube on her neck.

CLOSE--TINA'S LIPS

Mookie rubs an ice cube on her full moist lips, then puts it in her mouth.

   MISTER SEÑOR LOVE DADDY (VO)
   Yes, children, this is the Cool Out Corner. We're slowing it down for all the lovers in the house. I'll be giving you all the help you need, musically, that is.

CLOSE--TINA'S THIGHS

He rubs an ice cube up and down her thighs.

   MOOKIE (VO)
   Thank God for thighs.

71.
CLOSE--TINA'S BUTTOCKS
He rubs an ice cube on her round, firm buttocks.

MOOKIE (VO)
Thank God for buttocks.

CLOSE--TINA'S BREAST
He rubs an ice cube on her breast.

MOOKIE (VO)
Thank God for the right nipple...
Thank God for the left nipple...

Both Tina and Mookie are dying. Mookie now has an ice cube on the left and right nipples and WE SEE before our very own eyes both get swollen, red, and erect.

TINA (VO)
Feels good.

MOOKIE (VO)
Yes, yes, Lord. Isn't this better than Haagen-Dazs butter pecan ice cream?

CLOSE--TINA'S MOUTH
Mookie kisses her.

MOOKIE
I'll be back tonight.

INT: SAL'S FAMOUS PIZZERIA--NIGHT
Officers Ponte and Long are awaiting their orders.

SAL
It's almost ready.

OFFICER LONG
What time you closing tonight?

SAL
Ten.

Sal goes over to the oven, takes out their food and wraps it up.

SAL
Here you go.

OFFICER PONTE
What do we owe you?

SAL
Nine-fifty.

OFFICER PONTE
Here.
SAL
Thanks. Enjoy.

OFFICER LONG
Vito, Pino, see ya later.

The officers leave just as Mookie enters.

MOOKIE
Sal, if you want me to deliver any faster, get me a jet rocket or something, cuz I can't run with pizzas, all the cheese ends up on one side and shit.

SAL
I didn't say nuthin'. You must have a guilty conscience. What are you guilty of?

MOOKIE
I'm not guilty of nuthin'.

SAL
You must be guilty of something or you would have never come in saying the things you said.

MOOKIE
C'mon, Sal.

SAL
Where we goin'?

While Sal laughs at his corny joke, Pino pulls Vito into the back.

INT: STOREROOM--NIGHT

PINO
Vito, I want you to listen to me. I'm your brother. I may smack you around once in awhile, boss you around, but I'm still your brother.

VITO
I know this.

PINO
I love you.

VITO
I'm listening.

PINO
Good. I want you to listen.

VITO
Jesus Christ on the cross, I said I'm listening.
PINO
Good. Vito, you trust that Mook too much. So does Pop.

VITO
Mookie's OK.

PINO
You listening to me?

VITO
Stop busting my balls. I said I'm listening ten fucking times already.

PINO
Mookie is not to be trusted. No Moulan Yan can be trusted. The first time you turn your back, boom, a knife right here.
(Pino gestures)
In the back.

VITO
How do you know this?

PINO
I know.

VITO
You really think so?

PINO
I know so. He, them, they're not to be trusted.

VITO
So what do you want me to do?

PINO
Be on guard. Mookie has Pop conned already, so we have to look out for him.

VITO
I like Mookie a lot.

PINO
And that's exactly what I'm talkin' 'bout.

SAL (OS)
Vito! Pino! Let's go.

PINO
Be right there, Pop. Listen to what I said.

VITO
You don't listen to me, never have.
JUST RUN YOUR BIG F*CKING MOUTH  
ALWAYS PLAYING BIG BROTHER. YOU  
DON'T LISTEN, BUT MOOKIE DOES.

HOT CITY NIGHT MONTAGE

THE BLOCK. WE'VE SEEN it at daytime, but now WE SEE it at  
night. Even though the white-hot sun is gone, nonetheless  
the heat is still stifling. And in a peculiar, funny sort  
of way, it's worse. You expect it to be hot during the  
light of day when the sun is beating down on the cement and  
tar, but at night it should be considerably cooler; well,  
not tonight, it's hot. All the residents of The Block: the  
Corner Men, Mother Sister, Da Mayor, Jade, etc., all the  
people WE'VE SEEN throughout the day are now coping with the  
night-time heat, plus it's humid as shit. Everyone is  
outside, sitting on stoops, on cars and you know the kids  
are playing, running up and down the block. Now it's the  
hottest night of the year.

EXT: STREET--NIGHT

Buggin' Out sits down on a car next to Radio Raheem; as  
usual, his box is blasting.

BUGGIN' OUT

HOW YOU BE?

RADIO RAHEEM

I BE. I'M LIVING LARGE.

BUGGIN' OUT

IS THAT THE ONLY TAPE YOU GOT?

RADIO RAHEEM

YOU DON'T LIKE PUBLIC ENEMY? IT'S  
THE Dope shit.

BUGGIN' OUT

I LIKE 'EM, BUT YOU DON'T PLAY  
ANYTHING ELSE.

RADIO RAHEEM

I DON'T LIKE ANYTHING ELSE.

BUGGIN' OUT

CHECK THIS OUT. Y'know Sal's.

RADIO RAHEEM

Yeah, I know dat motherfucker.

BUGGIN' OUT

I'M TRYING TO ORGANIZE A BOYCOTT OF  
Sal's PIZZA JOINT. YA SEE WHAT I'M  
sAYING?

RADIO RAHEEM

I ALMOST HAD TO YOKE HIM THIS  
AFTERNOON. TELL ME, TELL ME, RADIO  
RAHEEM, TO TURN MY MUSIC DOWN.
Didn't even say please. Who the fuck he think he is? Don Corleone and shit.

BUGGIN' OUT
He makes all his money off us Black people and I don't see nuthin' but Italians all up in there, Sylvester Stallone and motherfuckers. Ya see what I'm saying, homeboy?

RADIO RAHEEM
Talk to me.

BUGGIN' OUT
We shouldn't buy a single slice, spend a single penny in that motherfucker till some people of color are put up in there.

RADIO RAHEEM
That's what I'm talkin' 'bout. That's what I'm talkin' 'bout.

BUGGIN' OUT
You got my back.

76.

RADIO RAHEEM
Ya back is got.

BUGGIN' OUT
My brother.

RADIO RAHEEM
My brother.

INT: SAL'S FAMOUS PIZZERIA--NIGHT
Vito, Pino and Mookie are cleaning up.

MOOKIE
Sal, it's almost quitting time so please start counting my pay. I gotta get paid.

Sal is looking into the cash register.

SAL
We did good business today. We got a good thing going. Nothing like a family in business working together. One day the both of you will take over...and Mookie, there will always be a place for you at Sal's Famous Pizzeria. Y'know, it should be Sal's and Sons Famous Pizzeria.

ANGLE--VITO, PINO, AND MOOKIE
All three look at each other. The horror is on their faces,
with the prospect of working, slaving in Sal's and Sons Famous Pizzeria, trapped for the rest of their lives. Is this their future? It's a frightening thought.

ANGLE--DOOR

Ahmad, Cee, Punchy, and Ella enter.

SAL
We're about to close.

AHMAD
Just four slices, regular slices. Please. To go!

SAL
OK, but that's it. It's been a long day.

Mookie goes over to the table where Ahmad, Cee, Punchy, and Ella sit.

MOOKIE
Look, I want you to get your slices, then outta here. No playing around.

AHMAD
You got it.

MOOKIE
Good. No joke. We all wanna go home.

OH NO! We hear the dum-dum-dum of Radio Raheem's box. As everyone turns their heads to the door, Buggin' Out and Radio Raheem are inside already. We have never heard the rap music as loud as it is now. You have to scream to be heard and that's what they do.

SAL
What did I tell ya 'bout dat noise?

BUGGIN' OUT
What did I tell ya 'bout dem pictures?

SAL
What da fuck! Are you deaf?

BUGGIN' OUT
No, are you? We want some Black people up on the Wall of Fame.

SAL
Turn that JUNGLE MUSIC off. We ain't in Africa.

Ahmad, Cee, Punchy, and Ella start to dance while Mookie takes a seat, the impartial observer that he is.
BUGGIN' OUT
Why it gotta be about jungle music
and Africa?

SAL
It's about turning that shit off
and getting the fuck outta my
pizzeria.

PINO
Radio Raheem.

RADIO RAHEEM
Fuck you.

SAL
What ever happened to nice music
with words you can understand?

RADIO RAHEEM
This is music. My music.

VITO
We're closed.

BUGGIN' OUT
You're closed alright, till you get
some Black people up on that wall.

Sal grabs his Mickey Mantle bat from underneath the counter
and brings it down on Radio Raheem's box, again and again
and again. The music stops.

CLOSE--RADIO RAHEEM'S BOX
Radio Raheem's pride and joy is smashed to smithereens.
It's going to the junkyard quick.

ANGLE--PIZZERIA
There is an eerie quiet as everyone is frozen, surprised by
the suddenness of Sal's action, the swings of his Mickey
Mantle bat. All look at Radio Raheem and realize what is
about to happen.

ANGLE--RADIO RAHEEM
Radio Raheem screams, he goes crazy.

RADIO RAHEEM
My music!

Radio Raheem picks Sal up from behind the counter and starts
to choke his ass. Radio Raheem's prized possession--his
box, the only thing he owned of value--his box, the one
thing that gave him any sense of worth--has been smashed to
bits. (Radio Raheem, like many Black youth, is the victim of
materialism and a misplaced sense of values.) Now he doesn't
give a fuck anymore. He's gonna make Sal pay with his life.

Vito and Pino jump on Radio Raheem, who only tightens his
grip around Sal's neck. Buggin' Out tries to help his 
friend. Mookie just stands and watches as Ahmad, Cee, 
Punchy, and Ella cheerlead.

EXT: SAL'S FAMOUS PIZZERIA--NIGHT 
The tangled mass of choking, biting, kicking, screaming 
confusion flies through the door of Sal's out onto the 
sidewalk. 
CLOSE--EDDIE 
The kid yells: 

    EDDIE
    Fight! Fight! 

CUT TO: 
CLOSE--DA MAYOR 
He looks up. 
CUT TO: 
CLOSE--MOTHER SISTER 
She looks up. 
CUT TO: 
CLOSE--SWEET DICK WILLIE 
He also looks up. 
ANGLE--STREET 
The people on The Block run to Sal's Famous Pizzeria to see 
the STATIC. 
ANGLE--SAL'S FAMOUS PIZZERIA 
Radio Raheem, Buggin' Out, Sal, Vito, and Pino are still 
entangled, rolling around on the sidewalk, but now before an 
entertained crowd of onlookers: 
ANGLE--DA MAYOR 

    DA MAYOR
    Break it up. This is crazy. 

The fight continues. Da Mayor is smart enough not to get in 
the middle of this war. We hear sirens, somebody has called 
DA COPS. 
ANGLE--STREET 

80. 

The cop cars come right through the crowd, almost running 
over some people. The cops get out with nightsticks and
guns drawn. WE RECOGNIZE two of the faces, Officers Long and Ponte. Any time there is a skirmish between a Black man and a white man, you can bet the house on who the cops are gonna go for. You know the deal! Buggin' Out is pulled off first, then Vito and Pino, but Radio Raheem is a crazed man. It takes all six cops to pull him off Sal, who is red as a beet from being choked.

ANGLE--COPS

Handcuffs are put on Buggin' Out as he watches the other cops put a choke hold on Radio Raheem to restrain him.

ANGLE--RADIO RAHEEM

Radio Raheem is still struggling, then he just stops, his body goes limp and he falls to the sidewalk like a fifty-pound bag of Idaho potatoes.

ANGLE--STREET

Officers Long and Ponte kick him.

       OFFICER LONG

       Get up! Get up!

Radio Raheem just lies there like a bump on a log.

ANGLE--CROWD

The crowd stares at Radio Raheem's still body. He's unconscious or dead.

CLOSE--OFFICER LONG

       OFFICER LONG

       Quit faking.

ANGLE--STREET

The officers all look at each other. They know, they know exactly what they've done. The infamous Michael Stewart choke hold.

       OFFICER PONTE

       Let's get him outta here.

The officers pick up Radio Raheem's limp body and throw him into the back seat. Buggin' Out is pushed into another car. The cop cars speed off; in their haste to beat it, they have left the crowd. It's at this point the crowd becomes an angry mob.

ANGLE--MOB

The mob looks at...

ANGLE--MOB POV

Sal still on the sidewalk, being helped to his feet by Vito and Pino, who are in bad shape themselves.
The mood/tone of the mob is getting ugly. Once again they have seen one of their own killed before their eyes at the hands of the cops. We hear the murmurs of the folks go through the crowd.

**VOICES OF MOB**

THEY KILLED HIM
THEY KILLED RADIO RAHEEM
IT'S MURDER
DID IT AGAIN
JUST LIKE THEY DID MICHAEL STEWART
MURDER
ELEANOR BUMPERS
MURDER
IT'S NOT SAFE
NOT EVEN IN OUR OWN NEIGHBORHOOD
IT'S NOT SAFE
NEVER WAS
NEVER WILL BE

The cops, in their haste to get Radio Raheem out of there, have left an angry mob of Black folks with a defenseless Sal, Vito, and Pino.

The mob looks at them.

**VOICES OF MOB**

WON'T STAND FOR IT
THE LAST TIME
FUCKIN' COPS
THE LAST TIME
IT'S PLAIN AS DAY
DIDN'T HAVE TO KILL THE BOY

**HIGH ANGLE**

Mookie looks at the crowd and notices he's on the wrong side. He leaves Sal and his two sons.

**ANGLE--STREET**

Da Mayor walks in front of the crowd.

**DA MAYOR**

Good people, let's all go home. Somebody's gonna get hurt.

**CROWD (OS)**

Yeah, you!

**DA MAYOR**

If we don't stop this now, we'll all regret it. Sal and his two boys had nothing to do with what the police did.
Get out of the way, old man. You a Tom anyway.

DA MAYOR

Let 'em be.

ANGLE--STREET

Mookie picks up a garbage can and dumps it out into the street. He walks through the crowd, up to Da Mayor, Sal, Vito, and Pino.

CLOSE--MOOKIE

He screams.

MOOKIE

HATE!!!!

SLOW MOTION

Mookie hurls the garbage can through the plate glass window of Sal's Famous Pizzeria. That's it. All hell breaks loose. The dam has been unplugged, broke. The rage of a people has been unleashed, a fury. A lone garbage can thrown through the air has released a tidal wave of frustration.

ANGLE--STREET

Da Mayor pushes Sal, Vito, and Pino out of the way as the mob storms into Sal's Famous Pizzeria.

INT: SAL'S FAMOUS PIZZERIA--NIGHT

The people rush into Sal's Famous Pizzeria, tearing it up.

CLOSE--CASH REGISTER

The cash register is opened. WE SEE only coins, Sal has the paper.

83.

EXT: DA MAYOR'S STOOP--NIGHT

Da Mayor leads Sal, Vito, and Pino back to his stoop where they watch in horror.

SAL

There it goes. Why?

DA MAYOR

You was there. First white folks they saw. You was there.

PINO

Fuckin' niggers.

INT: SAL'S FAMOUS PIZZERIA--NIGHT

Someone lights a match. WHOOOSH!

EXT: SAL'S FAMOUS PIZZERIA--NIGHT
Sal's Famous Pizzeria is going up in flames and now it's a carnival.

                    MOTHER SISTER
    Burn it down. Burn it down.

One might have thought that the elders—who through the years have been broken down, whipped, their spirits crushed, beaten into submission—would be docile, strictly onlookers. That's not true except for Da Mayor. The rest of the elders are right up in it with the young people.

INT: SAL'S FAMOUS PIZZERIA--NIGHT

CLOSE--PHOTOS ON WALL OF FAME

The photos of famous Italian-Americans are burning.

EXT: FRUIT-N-VEG DELIGHT--NIGHT

The mob now moves across the street in front of the Korean fruit and vegetable stand. Sweet Dick Willie, Coconut Sid, and ML stand at the head of the mob.

                    ML
    It's your turn.

CLOSE--KOREAN CLERK

He's scared to death, as the mob is poised to tear his place up too. The clerk wildly swings a broom to hold them off.

                    KOREAN CLERK

CLOSE--ML

                    ML
    Me Black. Me Black.

The mob starts to laugh; they feel for him.

ANGLE--MOB

                    SWEET DICK WILLIE
    Korea man is OK. Let's leave him alone.

                    ML
    Him no white. Him no white.

                    COCONUT SID
    Him Black. Him Black.

EXT: DA MAYOR'S STOOP--NIGHT

Sal, Vito, and Pino look on as Sal's Famous Pizzeria goes up in smoke.

DISSOLVE TO:
CLOSE--VITO

DISSOLVE TO:

CLOSE--PINO

DISSOLVE TO:

CLOSE--SAL

EXT: STREET--NIGHT

ANGLE--STREET

Jade is running through the mob, looking for her brother.

JADE

Mookie! Mookie!

ANGLE--MOOKIE

Mookie is running around with the rest of the mob.

ANGLE--STREET

The wail of fire trucks and police sirens is now added to the night.

EXT: SAL'S FAMOUS PIZZERIA--NIGHT

The mob moves back to in front of Sal's as the fire trucks and police, in full riot gear, pull up in the street behind them.

POLICE LOUDSPEAKER (VO)

Good people. Please disperse.
Please disperse.

The firemen rush to hook up their hoses, the police force themselves between the crowd and the burning Sal's Famous Pizzeria.

POLICE LOUDSPEAKER (VO)

Please disperse! Please disperse!

The mob doesn't listen, they will not be moved. The mob will not be moved until they see Sal's Famous Pizzeria burn to the ground.

ANGLE--SAL'S FAMOUS PIZZERIA

The firemen douse the pizzeria, trying desperately to stop the fire from spreading into the adjoining buildings.

POLICE LOUDSPEAKER (VO)

Good people, we're giving you one more warning. Please go back home.

CLOSE--MOOKIE

MOOKIE
This is our home.

CLOSE--MOTHER SISTER

MOTHER SISTER

This is our neighborhood.

ANGLE--MOB

It will take force to move this mass of people.

POLICE LOUDSPEAKER (VO)

You've had your warning!

POW!

The hoses are turned on the mob.

WE SEE Mookie, Mother Sister, Sweet Dick Willie, ML, Coconut Sid, Jade, Ahmad, Cee, Punchy, and Ella, etc., go down before the powerful blast of the firehouse.

Now we've come full circle. We're back to Montgomery or Birmingham, Alabama. The only thing missing is Sheriff Bull Connor and the German shepherds.

It would take force to move them and that's exactly what the mob got. People are trying to hold on to each other, cars, railings, anything to keep from being swept away.

EXT: DA MAYOR'S STOOP--NIGHT

Da Mayor, Sal, Vito, and Pino watch in disbelief. It's unbelievable what is happening before their eyes.

CUT TO:

THE STREET--NIGHT

THEIR POV

People are screaming, kids and women are not being spared from the brute force of the firehoses either.

EXT: WE LOVE STOREFRONT--NIGHT

WE SEE the reflection of the fire in the storefront window as Mister Señor Love Daddy looks on.

EXT: STREET--NIGHT

ANGLE--JADE AND MOTHER SISTER

Jade and Mother Sister try to hold on to a streetlamp as a gush of water hits them; their grips loosens, the water is too powerful, and they slide away down the block and Da Mayor runs after them.

INT: SAL'S FAMOUS PIZZERIA--NIGHT

CLOSE--PHOTOS

Some burnt photos on the floor.
The Mickey Mantle bat burns.

Radio Raheem's box has melted into a black mass of goo.

As WE MOVE IN TIGHTER ON the melted box, we begin to hear the rap song that we've hear throughout. All other sound drops as the rap song gets louder and louder until it's deafening.

Smiley sits up from where he hid during the burning and looting of Sal's Famous Pizzeria. Smiley looks around and goes directly to the smoldering Wall of Fame. He stands there. Smiley pins one of his Malcolm X/Martin Luther King, Jr., cards to the Wall of Fame.

We're on Smiley's face and a smile slowly travels across. It's the first time Smiley has smiled in years and nobody is there to see this event.

FADE TO BLACK

THE MORNING AFTER

FADE IN:

EXT: THE STREET--TO INT: RADIO STATION STOREFRONT--DAY

The CAMERA, FROM HIGH ABOVE, CRANES DOWN ON The Block. The sidewalk is deserted, broken glass is everywhere, and it looks exactly as how one expects it to look, the morning after an uprising.

The CAMERA NOW MOVES IN ON the WE LOVE storefront where Mister Señor Love Daddy is in his familiar place behind the mike.

MISTER SEÑOR LOVE DADDY

My people. My people. What can I say? Say what I can. I saw it but I didn't believe it. I didn't believe it what I saw. Are we gonna live together? Together are we gonna live? This is ya Mister Señor Love Daddy here on WE LOVE RADIO, 108 FM on your dial, and that's the truth, Ruth.
MISTER SEÑOR LOVE DADDY

Today's weather.

(he yells)

HOT!

CLOSER--MISTER SEÑOR LOVE DADDY

He screams:

MISTER SEÑOR LOVE DADDY

WAKE UP!

CUT TO:

INT: TINA'S BEDROOM--DAY

Mookie jumps out of her bed; Tina sleeps by his side and their son Hector is between them.

MISTER SEÑOR LOVE DADDY (VO)

WAKE UP!

MOOKIE

Fuck! My money!

TINA

Where are you going?

MOOKIE

To get my money.

TINA

Mookie, you must think I'm stupid or something. You're gonna run outta here and I won't see your black ass for another week.

MOOKIE

Tina, it's not like that.

Mookie is putting on his clothes.

TINA

You don't care about me and you definately don't care 'bout your son.

MOOKIE

Tina, I'll be right back.

TINA

Be a man.

MOOKIE

I am a man.

TINA

Act like one then. Be a man.
MOTHER SISTER'S BEDROOM--DAY

Da Mayor wakes up in Mother Sister's big brass bed (she was born in it). At first he has no idea where he's at, then sees Mother Sister sitting down across the room smiling at him.

MOTHER SISTER
Good morning.

DA MAYOR
Is it a good morning?

MOTHER SISTER
Yes indeed. You almost got yourself killed last night.

DA MAYOR
I've done that before.

Da Mayor gets up out of her big brass bed.

DA MAYOR
Where did you sleep?

MOTHER SISTER
I didn't.

DA MAYOR
I hope the block is still standing.

MOTHER SISTER
We're still standing.

Da Mayor and Mother Sister both look out the parlor window to see THE BLOCK and Mookie.

EXT: SAL'S FAMOUS PIZZERIA--DAY

Mookie walks up to Sal's Famous Pizzeria as it still smoulders in the morning light. Sal emerges from the wreckage; he looks like he might have slept there.

SAL
Whatdafuck do you want?

MOOKIE
I wants my money. I wants to get paid.

Sal looks at Mookie in disbelief.
SAL
Mookie, I always liked you. Not the smartest kid, but you're honest. Don't make me dislike you.

MOOKIE
Sal, I want my money.

SAL
Don't even ask about your money. Your money wouldn't even pay for that window you smashed.

MOOKIE
Motherfuck a window, Radio Raheem is dead.

SAL
You're right, a kid is dead, but Mook, this isn't the time.

MOOKIE
Fuck dat. The time is fuckin' now. Y'know I'm sorry 'bout Sal's Famous Pizzeria, but I gotta live, too. I gotta get paid.

SAL
We both do.

MOOKIE
We all know you're gonna get over with the insurance money anyway! Ya know da deal.

SAL
Do we now?

MOOKIE
Quit bullshitting.

SAL
You don't know shit about shit.

MOOKIE
I know I wants to get my money.

Sal has had it.

SAL
How much? How much do I owe you?

MOOKIE
My salary. Two-fifty.

Sal pulls out a wad and quickly peels off hundred dollar bills.

SAL
One, two, three, four, five.
Sal throws the "C" notes at Mookie, they hit him in the chest and fall to the sidewalk.

SAL
Are you happy now? That's five fucking hundred dollars. You just got paid. Mookie, you are a rich man, now ya life is set, you'll never have another worry, a care in the world. Mookie, ya wealthy, a fuckin' Rockefeller.

Mookie is stunned by Sal's outburst. He picks up the bills.

SAL
Ya just got paid, so leave me the fuck alone.

MOOKIE
You only pay me two-fifty a week. (he throws two "C" notes back at him) I owe you fifty bucks.

SAL
Keep it.

MOOKIE
You keep it.

SAL
Christmas came early.

Both look at the two hundred-dollar bills on the sidewalk and refuse to pick them up. It's a stalemate.

MOOKIE
This is the hottest Christmas I've known.

Mookie counts his money.

SAL
It's supposed to be even hotter today.

MOOKIE
You gonna open up another Sal's Famous Pizzeria?

SAL
No. What are you gonna do?

MOOKIE
Make dat money. Get paid.

SAL
Yeah!...I'm goin' to the beach for the first day in fifteen years. Gonna take the day off and go to
the beach.

MOOKIE
I can dig it. It's gonna be HOT as a motherfucker.

SAL
Mookie?

MOOKIE
Gotta go.

SAL
C'mere, Doctor.

Mookie turns around and goes back.

SAL
Doctor, this is Sal talkin'.

MOOKIE
OK. OK.

SAL
Doctor, always try to do the right thing.

MOOKIE
That's it?

SAL
That's it.

Mookie thinks about it, looks at the two "C" notes still smiling up at him. He quickly scoops them up.

MOOKIE
I got it.

EXT: STREET--DAY

HIGH ANGLE

As Mookie turns and walks away, Sal goes back into Sal's Famous Pizzeria to salvage what is salvageable, and The Block begins to awake from its slumber, ready to deal once again with the heat of the hottest day of the year.

FADE OUT.

ROLL CREDITS.