

nick  
 jayvon  
 his brotha  
 i ain't never know his name  
 c-money  
 julio  
 andre

**MOSES.** nigga  
 which andre

**KITCH.** my nigga both  
 tyleak

**MOSES.** okay man damn

**KITCH.** man i ain't finished  
 justin  
 yo dat tall dude got dat elbow rash  
 day-shawn  
 day-kwan  
 dat nigga martin  
 kev  
 oh shit  
 dat otha kev  
 there's more my nigga damn  
 i know they is

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**START**            (*a moment*)  
                       (*then up, out*)  
 yo reverend missus  
 how da fuck  
 you spect  
 we fixta git up off dis block  
 pass ovuh  
 when deez fuckin red white blues  
 keep passin over us  
**MOSES.** (*also up, out*) also  
 we never liked yo potato salad

**KITCH.** yo mozes

**MOSES.** what

my nigga damn

**KITCH.** i kinda did

**MOSES.** naw

my nigga damn

no mustard

feel me

hold dat mustard

**KITCH.** yo

you right

**MOSES.** yo kitch

**KITCH.** what nigga damn

**MOSES.** less say dem po-pos

come back

keep comin back

you and me

never git off dis block

man

what'cho ass gon do

**KITCH.** niggaaa

**MOSES.** what nigga damn

i'm askin

**KITCH.** i'on know man

take it i guess

**MOSES.** yeah for how long

**KITCH.** niggaaa

told you i'on know

**MOSES.** yo kitch man

you my nigga right

**KITCH.** mos def

**MOSES.** a'ight then nigga

one mo try

less do dis shit right here

pass ovuh

**KITCH.** yeah my nigga  
less git up off dis block

**MOSES.** naw nigga  
pass ovuh

**KITCH.** pass ovuh

**MOSES.** pass ovuh

**KITCH.** pass ovuh

**MOSES.** naw nigga  
pass ovuh

**KITCH.** what

**MOSES.** you herd me  
nigga damn  
pass ovuh

*(A moment.)*

**KITCH.** yo  
you mean

**MOSES.** yeah

**KITCH.** .....

**MOSES.** what nigga  
you scared

**KITCH.** .....

**MOSES.** spent  
my whole damn life thinkin  
why niggas  
so fixated on heaven  
nigga damn  
i want dat good life now  
you feel me  
now  
but i'on know man  
maybe there is  
somethin to it  
why niggas stay killin each otha  
cuz in deez red white blues

dat river don't part for niggas like us  
 dat river crash on us  
 drown us whole  
 we ain't chosen nigga damn  
 we egypt  
 feel me  
 egypt

**KITCH.** .....

**MOSES.** but i understand  
 if you don't –

**KITCH.** naw nigga damn  
 iss good  
 but what we fixta  
 do it with tho  
 ain't got no gun  
 really we ain't got nuthin

**MOSES.** we got dat rock

**KITCH.** yo what

**MOSES.** dat rock  
 my nigga  
 less jess use dat

**KITCH.** .....

**MOSES.** come on  
 my nigga

*(KITCH gets the rock and gives it to MOSES.)*

**KITCH.** a'ight then  
 after you

*(MOSES gives the rock back to KITCH.)*

**MOSES.** naw nigga  
 damn man  
 after you

*(KITCH gives it back to MOSES.)*

**KITCH.** man after you

**MOSES.** nigga

**KITCH.** okay nigga damn  
iss juss...

**MOSES.** you iz scared ain'tchu?

**KITCH.** yeah nigga damn  
i hit'chu wit dat rock  
den what  
you pass ovuh  
leave me here  
all by my lonesome

**MOSES.** shit

**KITCH.** yeah nigga  
ain't thought uh dat  
now did you

**MOSES.** no i ain't

**KITCH.** a'ight then  
shit

**MOSES.** i got it  
how bout we don't do dat whole thang  
all at once

**KITCH.** yo what

**MOSES.** i sed my nigga damn  
not all at once  
i hit'chu  
juss a little  
then when iss yo turn  
you hit me

**KITCH.** but juss a little

**MOSES.** yeah my nigga damn man  
juss a little  
dat way  
you and me  
we still

**KITCH.** but what if dat don't –

**MOSES.** percy  
man  
i believe in you

**KITCH.** yo werd

**MOSES.** yes dawg  
i do

**KITCH.** man  
thank you man  
i'm touched

*(MOSES offers KITCH the rock.)*

**MOSES.** so what  
my nigga  
you in

*(KITCH takes the rock.)*

**KITCH.** yeah nigga  
less do dis thang  
yo reverend missus  
git them fish eggs ready  
you hear

*(singing the theme song from The Jeffersons)*

CUZ WE UH  
MOVIN ON UP

**MOSES.** movin on up

**MOSES & KITCH.** we finally got uh piece  
uh the pie

**MOSES.** a'ight then nigga  
less do dis shit

*(MOSES considers his immediate surroundings,  
then kneels down facing KITCH.)*

*(KITCH picks up the rock and raises it above  
his head.)*

*(A moment.)*

man  
waitwaitwaitwaitwaitwaitwaitwaitwait

**KITCH.** nigga!

**MOSES.** what nigga damn

**KITCH.** man

what'chu want

**MOSES.** iss juss

i think dat i shud face dis way

**KITCH.** yeah nigga damn

dat might be better

*(MOSES turns to face away from KITCH.)*

*(A longish silent moment.)*

**MOSES.** yo kitch

**KITCH.** what nigga damn

**MOSES.** sorry

i ain't da nigga

you thought i was

**KITCH.** man

dis shit

don't change nuthin

feel me

don't change nuthin

**MOSES.** pass ovuh

**KITCH.** pass ovuh

*(KITCH raises the rock above his head to strike.)*

*(OSSIFER clears his throat offstage.)*

*(KITCH hesitates.)*

yo moses man

you hear dat dawg

**MOSES.** yo

kill me now

**KITCH.** i can't

my nigga

**MOSES.** why not

**KITCH.** i think somebody here

**MOSES.** yo how you figure

**KITCH.** yo somebody here

*(OSSIFER enters as before.)*

*(KITCH flinches.)*

**OSSIFER.** you

going somewhere

*(OSSIFER approaches KITCH and takes the rock out of his hand.)*

**KITCH.** no sir

*(KITCH assumes the position.)*

**MOSES.** .....

*(But MOSES does not. He just sits there on his knees.)*

**OSSIFER.** *(to MOSES)* i said

you going somewhere

**MOSES.** .....

**OSSIFER.** what's the matter alpha dog  
can't talk

**MOSES.** .....

**OSSIFER.** alright then boy  
stand up

*(MOSES stands up.)*

come on boy

you know the drill

*(MOSES assumes the position.)*

*(OSSIFER pats him down.)*

i don't know why

you boys

insist

on making me treat you

like this

what i do know is  
 i can't go  
 one  
 fucking  
 day  
 without problem  
 after problem  
 after problem  
 you boys  
 enjoy this shit  
 hey boy  
 don't act like  
 you don't hear me  
 i said  
 you / boy –

**MOSES.** kill me now

**OSSIFER.** what the fuck  
 did you say to me boy

**MOSES.** you heard me nigga

**KITCH.** yo moses –

**OSSIFER.** i say  
 you could talk

**KITCH.** no sir

*(OSSIFER takes out his baton and runs the tip over MOSES' face and body. It's a threat. But it's not not sexual.)*

**OSSIFER.** i suggest  
 you think about  
 how you talk to me boy  
 last thing i want  
 is for this to get ugly

**MOSES.** kill  
 me  
 now

**OSSIFER.** i'm the one giving orders here nigger  
not you

*(OSSIFER hits MOSES with the baton.)*

*(MOSES falters.)*

*(Then he laughs.)*

what the fuck  
is so funny

**MOSES.** you  
i'm standin here  
sayin kill me  
sayin i'd rather die  
than put up wit'cho shit  
for one mo day  
but'chu won't do it  
wuss da matter  
you scared?

*(OSSIFER hits MOSES again.)*

*(Again MOSES falters.)*

**OSSIFER.** no  
i'm just getting warmed up

**MOSES.** a'ight then nigga  
no time like the present  
bang bang

**OSSIFER.** you'd like that  
wouldn't you

**MOSES.** you wud too  
or maybe you wudn't  
maybe  
huntin niggas ain't fun  
unless niggas run away

**OSSIFER.** start running  
nigger  
let's find out

**MOSES.** naw nigga  
 imma make you  
 do dat shit up close  
 cuz where i'm standin  
 my black ass dead already  
 all dat's left  
 is how it happens  
 and who gets to bury  
 dat body  
 so come on nigga  
 less go

**OSSIFER.** alright boy  
 i warned you

*(OSSIFER hits KITCH with the baton.)*

*(KITCH falters.)*

**KITCH.** moses

**MOSES.** what *his* crime is  
 breathin while black

**OSSIFER.** don't worry bout it nigger  
 just keep those hands  
 where i can see them

*(A moment.)*

**MOSES.** no

*(OSSIFER takes out his gun and points it  
 squarely at MOSES.)*

**OSSIFER.** watch it boy

*(The space changes.)*

*(Then, MOSES changes too.)*

*(Then, the plagues against OSSIFER begin.)*

**MOSES.** against my body  
 black and free  
 these weapons that you wield

have no more strength  
not your gun

*(OSSIFER attempts to shoot MOSES, pulling the trigger twice in rapid succession.)*

*(Bang Bang.)*

*(He can't.)*

**OSSIFER.** what the fuck

*(Again OSSIFER pulls the trigger twice in rapid succession.)*

*(Bang Bang.)*

*(Again, he can't.)*

fuck that  
i'm taking you in

**MOSES.** not your stick

*(OSSIFER attempts to brandish his baton.)*

*(He can't.)*

**OSSIFER.** what the fuck

what the fuck  
what the fuck is going on  
you stupid nig-

**MOSES.** not your words

*(OSSIFER attempts to say the n-word.)*

*(He can't.)*

you nig-  
you nig-

*(KITCH, bearing witness, lowers his hands.)*

**KITCH.** holy shit

you moses man  
you moses

**MOSES.** dis shit's changin now

you feel me  
now

cuz we are not  
 the people that'chu  
 think we are  
 not stupid  
 not lazy  
 not violent  
 not thug  
 We Are Men  
 Two Black Men  
 we standin here  
 and we ain't doin shit

**OSSIFER.** don't hurt me  
 i was just doing my job

**MOSES.** you scared

**OSSIFER.** i'm terrified alright  
 and when i see you  
 when i can't quite see you  
 then the terror only grows  
 please  
 i'll do anything  
 i will  
 just make it stop

**MOSES.** you want all this to stop  
 these plagues  
 dat eat'cho whole damn life like locusts  
 stop killing us  
 stop killing us  
 stop killing us  
 thus sayeth my God  
**STOP KILLING US**  
 and get'cho goddamn house in order

*(MOSES purges the evil from OSSIFER's body.)*

*(OSSIFER spews black bile from his mouth.)*

*(Then he inhales.)*

*(Then he proclaims.)*

**OSSIFER.** YOU'RE MEN!

*(The plagues stop.)*

you're men i say

you're men

you're men

and you are free to go

*(OSSIFER tries to stand up, but he can't. He's too weak.)*

*(MOSES helps him up.)*

*(OSSIFER exits.)*

END

*(The sun begins to rise.)*

**MOSES.** yo kitch man

you a'ight

**KITCH.** yeah nigga

you

**MOSES.** i'm good

i'm real good shit

**KITCH.** nigga

plagues

**MOSES.** i know

nigga damn

**KITCH.** yo

plagues

**MOSES.** i know

**KITCH.** yo reverend missus

dis nigga

called down plagues

you feel me

plagues

**MOSES.** yo

i ain't felt dis good since

i'on know man