

BLACK HISTORY LUNCH

Written by

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INT. CONCORD HIGH SCHOOL OFFICE - DAY

PRINCIPAL APPLETON, SUPERINTENDENT TRUMAN and LUNCH SPECIALIST CAMERON sit in the office going over lunch schedules. They're all super white.

A Black History Month poster hangs on one of the walls.

APPLETON

I guess my question is, why do they have to have so many school days?

TRUMAN

That's the kind of talk we wouldn't want leaving this office, Principal Appleton. Let's get back to programming the student lunches for Black History Month. We can do this! It's just twenty lunches. What do we have so far, Cameron?

Cameron reviews the notes.

CAMERON

Monday, February 3rd, Fried Chicken and Collard Greens.

APPLETON

What exactly are Collard Greens?

CAMERON

To tell you the truth, I'm not really sure.

TRUMAN

I wonder if you can make them with Kale? We eat a lot of Kale lately.

CAMERON

It's supposed to be good for you.

APPLETON

I don't know that I've ever eaten Kale.

TRUMAN

We're getting side tracked! We have nineteen more lunches to figure out. The inner city school beats your teams in sports every year, the least we can do is beat them in cultural sensitivity.

APPLETON
Yes, Superintendent. What do their
kind like to eat?

CAMERON
Watermelon?

TRUMAN
As a meal?

APPLETON
The poorer ones maybe.

CAMERON
That gives me an idea! How about
we dumpster dive behind a
restaurant? Get left overs!

TRUMAN
Write it down.

APPLETON
I wonder if that's offensive.

TRUMAN
Nonsense! We're just recognizing
their struggle.

APPLETON
Hm.

TRUMAN
All I see is Cameron coming up with
ideas and you shooting them down.

APPLETON
I've got it! I'll call in our
black student and get his input.

TRUMAN
Now that's offensive.
(Beat)
They like to be called Afro-
Americans.

APPLETON
Sorry sir.

Appleton pops out of the room.

TRUMAN
I would never have promoted him to
Principal, but he's a quarter Dutch
and...well...Affirmative Action.

CAMERON

I understand. How about this, I heard the bla...er...Afro-Americans like Flaming Hot Cheetos and Grape Drink. Maybe we can do something with that?

TRUMAN

Good thinking. Look into getting a discount with the...oh! Speaking of discounts, how about stale bread and expired milk? But you know, not too expired. Just about-to-go-bad, expired.

Appleton reenters with a student named JACOB.

APPLETON

I'm back. This is J'coob.

JACOB

Jacob.

APPLETON

Ja Kobe?

JACOB

Jacob.

TRUMAN

Jenga?

JACOB

Jacob.

CAMERON

Jamma-lamma Ding Dong?

JACOB

That's not even close.

TRUMAN

J-Dawg, the reason you're here is because we're trying to program the school lunches for Black History Month. What do you people eat?

JACOB

Food?

TRUMAN

But what kind?

JACOB
Sometimes we go out to eat.

APPLETON
Oh! Like at a Soul Food
Restaurant, Jamiroquai?

JACOB
No. My family really likes Sushi.

APPLETON
Sushi?

JACOB
It's Asian. Raw fish and rice.

APPLETON
Asian? Thank God we don't have a
Yellow History Month.

TRUMAN
Appleton!

APPLETON
Oops!

TRUMAN
J'Quille, what kind of food does
your mother like to cook?

JACOB
J'Quille? You mean, me? My mom is
the chief of surgery at the
hospital, so my dad usually cooks.

TRUMAN
Oh! You know your father! Well,
what does he cook, boy? I mean,
son.

JACOB
Pizza. Barbecues in the summer.
He makes great Sesame Asparagus.

CAMERON
That reminds me. What are Collard
Greens, Jam-On?

JACOB
I don't know. And it's Jacob.

APPLETON
I'm assuming your father is
unemployed.

(MORE)

APPLETON (CONT'D)

Has your phone been shut off or do you think we could give him a call and pick his brain about the lunch schedule?

CAMERON

"Unemployed" gave me a great idea! Instead of passing out lunch vouchers for all the students, we could pass out mock food stamps!

JACOB

That's a horrible idea. And He's not unemployed, he's a professor at the University.

TRUMAN

African History?

JACOB

Literature.

TRUMAN

African Literature?

JACOB

No, the classics. Like Shakespeare, Austen, Dickens. This is really offensive. Just have regular lunches.

CAMERON

Oh Jumanji, don't think of your people as irregular.

JACOB

I don't! Can I go back to class?

Appleton waves him off. Jacob leaves.

CAMERON

Looking at the schedule, I think I may have found us a break. Don't the kids have off on Lincoln's birthday?

TRUMAN

No. And if it weren't for him, we wouldn't be in this mess.

FADE TO BLACK.