

CONDITIONAL
Michelle Tyrene Johnson

Cast of Characters:

BETTY: black woman (any age)

WILLA: white woman (an age that would have a young child)

Setting: Bare stage, sound of speeding car at the top. Betty faces the audience, not looking at Willa as she calmly speaks. Willa, standing sideways, speaks urgently to Betty.

BETTY: He wasn't very nice to me when we were in the store.

WILLA: Please! He's just a little boy!

BETTY: I do like kids. Don't have any of my own, but I like them.

WILLA: You've got to do something!

BETTY: But I care about children. Always stop at lemonade stands. Buy Girl Scouts cookies.

WILLA: You are standing right there! I can't reach him in time.

BETTY: I'm still thinking. Just don't know. It's important for children to be polite to adults.

WILLA: Just grab him! Pull him out of the way.

BETTY: I don't like your tone. Seems to me since it's your kid, you might want to talk nicer to me too.

WILLA: You're going to not pull a kid out of the way of a speeding car because I'm not being polite to you?

BETTY: Look, I believe in the whole "it takes a village thing" but....

WILLA: Shut the fuck up and just pull my kid out of the way!

BETTY: See? That language. The emotional intensity is why I'm thinking.

WILLA: Why do you have to think you heartless idiot. Just....

(Sound of a crashing car.)

THE END