

BOWZIE

Hey, Sally. You think Evelyn proud of me?

SALLY

Proud of you? What kind of question is that.

BOWZIE

Just a question.

SALLY

Course she proud of you. Made sure your whole family came from Dry Creek to celebrate your acceptance letter. And you know that gang don't leave they house for much.

BOWZIE

Trifling. You can say it.

SALLY

I ain't gon' speak ill of nobody, but a few choice words do come to mind.

BOWZIE

Tri-ful-ling!

SALLY

Well!

BOWZIE

Naw, I mean do you think she *proud* though?

SALLY

Where's this coming from? She say something? You know Evelyn just be talking.

BOWZIE

I'm just saying. You think she'd be more proud if I did something else? What if I signed up to be an astronaut? Be the first man on Mars?

SALLY

Man on Mars? Bowzie Brandon, I can't think of nothing on God's earth that could possibly make Evelyn more proud than you being the first man in this whole neighborhood to go to college.

BOWZIE

Shucks, I guess you right.

Tony enters.

TONY

How you gon' be early to dinner, Negro?

SALLY
Distracting me from cooking.

TONY
Hey, baby.

Sally and Tony kiss.

SALLY
Glad you made it home at a decent hour tonight.

TONY
(*Diverting.*) Don't you know that's rude, man.

BOWZIE
What's rude.

TONY
Company showing up to folk' house early.

BOWZIE
So I'm "company" now?

SALLY
Let him alone.

TONY
Family or company, you here. Let's play some cards.

They start playing cards. Evelyn enters.

EVELYN
I ain't miss nothing did I?

SALLY
Not a thing.

BOWZIE
Apparently, I'm rude.

TONY
Could take a cue from your wife here and arrive at folk house at a Godly hour.

SALLY
If y'all don't hush up. Evelyn, come taste this.

EVELYN
Girl, let me get a drink first. I already run a little hot. The sun's trying to explode out there.

EVELYN grabs a cold drink from the fridge.

SALLY

Bowzie say when the temperature get higher than ninety degrees, you supposed to start stripping.

BOWZIE

Oh Lord.

EVELYN

Bowzie, put your clothes on. You think this was your house the way you carry on.

TONY

I tried to tell him.

BOWZIE

You ain't nothing.

EVELYN

Oh, Sally-girl. I swung by Giant Foods to grab some snap beans and tomatoes-

SALLY

You grab me some?

EVELYN

You know I did. Anyway, they was going on and on about your graduation. You got all Davidson County talking about it.

TONY

That ceremony was something else, wasn't it?

SALLY

Well, it was something alright.

TONY

Something out of sight.

SALLY

If you don't quit. That was over a week ago-

BOWZIE

Folks still talking about how they stopped traffic on Jefferson Street. Jefferson Street! For a whole mess of Negro women in their cap and gowns headed to the big old Howard Church! I thought pigs was gonna be flying.

TONY

I tell you who was the *foxiest* lady in the number.

BOWZIE

Who? 'Cause I put money it was that Martha Scruggs. *Whew boy!*

TONY

Martha Scruggs couldn't hold a candle to this one. Let me tell it.

SALLY

Go'n now.

TONY

Men lining up here to yonder to see this young thing rolling out of a *Pretty Green Chevy*. Would say its Eartha Kitt exceptin' she got *hips*!

SALLY

Evelyn, I sure wish these men would hush already.