

Prisons
A play
by
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WGA# 2047233

Cast List

Young Donny
Old Donny
Young Devere
Old Devere
Carol
Steve
Simmer Down
Joe-Joe
Wyatt
Rabbi Tam
Lawyer
Correctional Officer
Biker
White Woman
Young Teen
Clerk

NOTES:

- Young Devere may be double cast as Young Teen
- Carol may be double cast as Woman
- Wyatt may be double cast as Clerk
- Lawyer may be double cast as Biker

SCENE ONE

A driveway with a BASKETBALL HOOP set up. Suburban house in the background with a STOOP out front to sit down. DONNY (12, white, Bulls jersey) and DEVERE (11, BLACK, athletic clothes) shoot hoops in a game of one on one. Devere is the better athlete.

(Donny dribbles the ball, goes for a layup)

DONNY

Michael Jordan play! Here we *go!*

(Donny shoots the ball, Devere gets the rebound)

DEVERE

Nice shot. But, you're more like Mark Price!

(Devere sinks one)

DEVERE

I, on the other hand... Pippen! That's game!

DONNY

Man, one of these days I swearda *God* I'mma get your ass, D.

DEVERE

(laughing)

Keep dreaming, boy.

(CAROL comes outside)

CAROL

Alright you two, time for dinner!

DEVERE

Miss S, when you gonna let me cook for ya'll? You *know* I cook a meaaan Devereese Bolaneese!

CAROL

(chuckling)

You mean *Bolognese*?

DEVERE

Naw. See that's *ya'll version* of it. I got my *own* spin on a classic. When you taste my Devereese Bolaneese, it's just like Emeril says... *Bam!*

CAROL

That *does* sound impressive, but we'll have to take a raincheck tonight. Oh, I almost forgot though Devere... I do have the nutmeg and pancetta you wanted!

DEVERE

Awesome! Thanks Mrs. S!

CAROL

No problem! Now, come on guys let's eat!

DONNY

Fuck that mom, we still got one more game!

CAROL

Language! Absolutely not! You're not home so you can play basketball all day, Donny. You're suspended! You're lucky I even let Devere come over. Now, food's gonna get cold. Let's go!

DONNY

Fine!

(to Devere)

C'mon, D.

DEVERE

I can't believe you talk to your momma like that.

DONNY

She's always on my fuckin' case!

DEVERE

Man, you're crazy. She's the only one who be looking out for you every time you get in trouble. Alright.

(Donny and Devere both leave the stage and go inside to eat.)

3.

LIGHTS FADE.

END SCENE.

SCENE TWO

Donny's bedroom. A BED and a BEANBAG CHAIR. CLOTHES strewn on the floor. A NIGHTSTAND. A TV on a shelf. The boys play GOLDENEYE on a NINTENDO 64.

DEVERE

Man, Goldeneye! Your mom be getting you *all* the tightest games!

DONNY

My mom didn't buy me shit.

DEVERE

Huh? Where you get it from the--

DONNY

--There we go baby! Comin' for you muthafucka! Yeah!

DEVERE

No, no no! Not on my watch. *Bam!*

DONNY

Ahhh! Shit. Get the power packs. *Get the power packs!*

(Beat)

Phew!

DEVERE

Donny, you know your ass almost got *smoked!* And they're not *power packs* they're bulletproof vests!

DONNY

Power packs, vests, who gives a fuck? You should know by now D. I'mma muthafucken assassin.

DEVERE

Yeah, yeah, yeah. Last time I checked I got the high score fool.

DONNY

When's your mom coming home?

DEVERE

She gets back from work at like seven.

DONNY

Coo, coo. What's up with Phil?

DEVERE

Out partying with the honeys. Phil gets *all the pussy*.

(The boys laugh.)

DONNY

I get all the pussy!

DEVERE

Man, stop it. You ain't never *seen* no pussy, Donny!

DONNY

Yeah right, I get way more pussy than you do!

DEVERE

You got me bent!

DONNY

Huh?

DEVERE

You got me bent!

DONNY

What's that mean?

DEVERE

It means like... "Hell no!". Or like... "I'm not with that"... shit like that.

DONNY

Coo, coo. *You got me bent, nigga!*

DEVERE

Man, you crazy boy. You the *only* white boy I'd let call me a nigga, I'll tell you that much.

DONNY

Oh yeah.

DEVERE

Better believe it. A muthafucka would *have me bent* thinking they can talk to me like that.

(The boys laugh with each other.)

DONNY

That's cause I'mma quarter black.

DEVERE

Donny you know damn well you ain't no quarter black!

DONNY

Yes I am!

DEVERE

No you're not!

(Carol pops her head through the door.)

CAROL

Boys, keep it down in here, okay?

DEVERE

Mrs. C, is Donny a quarter black?

CAROL

No! Donny, are you saying that again?

DONNY

Well it *could* be true!

CAROL

Devere, It's not true. Donny, stop telling people you're black.

DONNY

I'm black on the inside!

(The boys burst into laughs again.)

CAROL

Okay... guys, keep it down in here, alright? Devere your mom just called, she said she's gonna pick you up at seven-thirty.

DEVERE

Okay Mrs. C, thank you ma'mm.

CAROL

You're welcome... you're so sweet.

(Carol leaves.)

DONNY

(mocking)

You're so sweet!

DEVERE

Don't hate on me because your momma loves me.

DONNY

You got me bent.

DEVERE

See? There you go.

DONNY

I love you, D.

DEVERE

I love you too, Donny... bet you a pack of Reese's I pop your ass in a game of Goldeneye!

DONNY

You're on!

(The boys go back to playing the game.)

LIGHTS FADE.

END SCENE.

SCENE THREE

HOUSE ENTRANCE. A mat with a few pairs of shoes sits opposite the FRONT DOOR. A table for keys and knick knacks. Donny and Carol enter. Midstream--

CAROL

...I don't care if he did! This is the third suspension this year Donny.

DONNY

So the fuck what! I don't like this stupid ass school anyway!

CAROL

We can't keep doing this.

DONNY

Then don't!

CAROL

And what then? If you get expelled there's no more options.

DONNY

I can homeschool.

CAROL

Oh really? And who is going to homeschool you? I work!

DONNY

They're just picking on me.

CAROL

Who is? *The school?* Donny, nobody is picking on you!

DONNY

Then why am I the only one in trouble, huh? *Why?*

CAROL

Because you can't stay out of fights. Because you have a problem with authority. Because you're a kleptomaniac. Do I need to go on?

DONNY

Whatever.

(Phone rings on the wall by the table. Carol picks up.)

CAROL

(sweetly)

Hello?

(then all business)

Oh, hi Devere.

DONNY

Lemme talk to him!

CAROL

(into phone)

Well, unfortunately he's suspended... you guessed it

DONNY

Mom--

CAROL

--Donny *stop it!* Go to your room!

DONNY

This is fucking bullshit!

(Donny storms out of the entrance and heads to his room.)

CAROL

(into phone)

I'm sorry, Devere, Donny isn't going to be allowed out. I'm not sure... you got it... okay. Bye-bye.

(Carol hangs up the phone and walks out.)

LIGHTS FADE.

END SCENE.

SCENE FOUR

Donny is now 17. CONVENIENCE STORE. A few shelves with snacks and candy. A refrigerator with beverages. Donny is behind the COUNTER. He RINGS UP A WHITE WOMAN at the register and then starts to SWEEP the floor. AS THE WOMAN LEAVES, A BIKER (50s) with a long ponytail HOLDS THE DOOR OPEN FOR HER.

BIKER

(Holding door)

Let me get that for you, ma'mm.

WHITE WOMAN

Why, thank you.

BIKER

Of course. You have a nice day now.

(the White Woman leaves and the BIKER steps inside and watches Donny sweep for a moment.)

BIKER

They got you doing the nigger's job, huh?

(Donny looks up, thinks maybe he heard him wrong.)

DONNY

Excuse me?

BIKER

I said, it looks like they got you doing the *nigger's job*. *Huh*.

DONNY

Um... I'm just sweeping. I guess...

BIKER

What are you doing that for?

DONNY

The job? I'm on probation and got court coming up... just trying to keep a low profile.