

“MY GREAT BLACK AMERICAN”

By
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Synopsis

TIFFANY is preparing to write her Black History Month report “My Great Black American”. She is struggling over whom to write about. Tiffany’s family (MOTHER KAREN and UNCLE JOE) attempt to help but none of their recommendations intrigue Tiffany. In the meantime, Tiffany’s GRANDMOTHER is constantly preparing food for the family and interjecting her personal experiences in support of her daughter and son’s recommendations. Eventually, Tiffany comes to realize that her grandmother’s achievements had a greater impact on their family than any other person in history; so she chooses her grandmother as “A Great Black American”

Ministry/Life Lesson

Greatness is not always based on documented achievements in history. Often times the greatest people (our teachers, firemen, parents) are not documented celebrities or great public figures. Instead of looking in the past and distant places for great people, take a moment and look next to you. Honor persons who are closest to you for the great things they have done and the sacrifices they have made for you and others.

Ministry Focus

Black History Month - Unity, Family

Genre: Comedy

Cast

Tiffany/Tre’ - Female or Male teen
Karen - (Tiffany’s mother)
Uncle Joe - (Karen’s brother) - playful joking type
Grandmother - Loving, humble
(You can change names to fit your preference)

Costumes

All characters in normal daily wear

Props

Table and 2 chairs
Groceries
Small table for groceries
Black History books
Notebook paper and pens

Time: 10 min.

MY GREAT BLACK AMERICAN

INT. KITCHEN

TIFFANY AND HER MOTHER (KAREN) ARE SITTING AT THE KITCHEN TABLE. KAREN IS HELPING TIFFANY WITH HER HOMEWORK

KAREN

Okay, who do you want to write about?

TIFFANY

(Frustrated)

I don't know. I've been looking through these books for hours. I don't like any of these people.

TIFFANY PUSHES AWAY FROM THE TABLE

KAREN

These were great Black Americans.

What's not to like about Frederick

Douglass or Harriet Tubman?

TIFFANY

Everyone writes about them.

KAREN

(Laughing)

C'mon Tiffany, not EVERYONE.

TIFFANY

Uh huh, for real! If it's not one of them, then it's George Washington Carver, who was a great inventor, or Rosa Parks, or Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., or...

KAREN

Okay...okay, maybe you're right.

TIFFANY

I want to write about someone whom nobody knows about.

KAREN

Well, let's try this book, "Great Achievements of Black Americans." I'm sure we can find someone here.

GRANDMOTHER AND UNCLE JOE ENTERS. UNCLE JOE IS CARRYING SEVERAL GROCERY BAGS. KAREN GREETES HER MOTHER AND BROTHER AS THEY ENTER.

GRANDMOTHER

(Checking grocery receipt) I sure hope they gave me the sale price on those sweet potatoes. You know I don't trust that old scanner thing.

UNCLE JOE

Yea Ma.

GRANDMOTHER

What happened to the time when people used to punch in the prices so you could see them?

UNCLE JOE

They invented computers Ma. It's called "progress".

GRANDMOTHER

That don't see like "progress" to me. Nowadays you have to ring up you own groceries and bag them yourself too.

TIFFANY AND KAREN LAUGH

UNCLE JOE

(Realizes he not going to change her mind) Where do you want me to put these bags?

GRANDMOTHER

Just put them over there on the table. I think that computer cheated me.

GRANDMOTHER (CONT'D)

(put receipt away). That's okay, the Lord said, "Revenge is Mind".

KAREN

Mama, what's the Lord gonna do...crash the computer!

TIFFANY

Computers do break down, Ma.

GRANDMOTHER

I rest my case.

UNCLE JOE

(To Karen) What are you doing?

KAREN

Helping Tiffany with her homework. She needs to write about a Great Black American for Black History Month, but she's doesn't like anyone in these books.

UNCLE JOE

Just choose Frederick Douglass or Harriet Tubman. Everyone writes about them.

TIFFANY GIVES KAREN AN "I TOLD YOU SO" LOOK.

KAREN

She wants to write about somebody that no one else will write about.

TIFFANY

I mean...are these the only people that contributed to black history?

UNCLE JOE

Of course not. (motions Karen to get up, then takes her seat) Let me help you.

KAREN GETS UP FROM TABLE AND GOES TO ASSIST HER MOTHER

TIFFANY

(Shocked)

Uncle Joe, you're gonna help me with my homework?

UNCLE JOE

Who do you think helped your mother get through medical school?

KAREN

Oh please. You couldn't read the "Table of Contents" in my textbooks.

TIFFANY LAUGHS. UNCLE JOE PLAYS IT OFF.

GRANDMOTHER

Karen, help me make some sandwiches.

UNCLE JOE

(To Karen) She's just jealous because I run my own construction company. (To Tiffany) Now, first let's determine what makes a person great, then we just pick an African American that fits those criterium.

TIFFANY

(Excited)

Hey, that makes sense Uncle Joe.

UNCLE JOE IS BEAMING WITH PRIDE.

KAREN

Oh Lord, I will never hear the end of this.

UNCLE JOE

(Thinking) Now, the first criteria is: It must be someone who started with nothing.

TIFFANY

(writing) Okay, got it. A poor person.

GRANDMOTHER

Being poor is a state of mind. When I raised your mother and uncle, we didn't have much, but I never let them believe we were poor.

UNCLE JOE

Okay, next...someone who overcame major obstacles.

TIFFANY

Like what?

UNCLE JOE

Anything...

TIFFANY

(Requesting help) Hey Grandma, what about obstacles?

- End of Preview -

Do you want to know how this script ends?
There's a wonderful ministry message at the end.

Return to the selection list and click the "Buy" button.
