

STAIN

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Written By  
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CAST OF CHARACTERS

Charlyn, (Caucasian, 40s), a wife

Dave, (Caucasian, 40s) a husband

SETTING

The modest home of Dave and Charlyn.

STAIN

*A middle-aged woman, Charlyn, is ironing some clothes on an ironing board. Next to her is a large basket of laundry. Her husband, Dave, enters.*

DAVE

Char, have you seen my robe?

CHARLYN

Your robe?

DAVE

My Klan robe. It's Saturday. We got the meeting tonight.

CHARLYN

It's... folded on the dryer. I just washed it.

DAVE

Thank you.

*He exits. She looks up nervously, then down in her laundry basket. She pulls out a white button down, that is now pink.*

DAVE (OFFSTAGE) (CONT'D)

Charlyn! Dammit Char!

*He enters holding a Klan robe that is now stained pink.*

DAVE (CONT'D)

What did you do?

CHARLYN

I'm sorry.

DAVE

What did you do?

CHARLYN

There was a red sock in the laundry.

DAVE

Do you know what the guys will say if I show up wearing this?

CHARLYN

I'm sure they'll understand.

DAVE

It's pink!

CHARLYN

I know.

DAVE

How am I supposed to get this out by tonight?

*She shakes her head.*

CHARLYN

...We can take it to the dry cleaner-

DAVE

To the Korean dry cleaner?

CHARLYN

Mr. Kim does wonderful work-

DAVE

I'm not taking my Ku Klux Klan robe to the Korean dry cleaner.

CHARLYN

I had a horrible grease stain and-

DAVE

Are you kidding me? Are you kidding me right now?

CHARLYN

I thought I'd never get to wear that pantsuit again, but he fixed it.

DAVE

You understand, I am being groomed to become the next district Kleagle.

CHARLYN

The district Kegel?

DAVE

Kleagle! Kleagle! Recruiter! For the Klan.

CHARLYN

They want you to recruit new klansmen?

DAVE

They're thinking about it. But they won't think about it for long if I show up wearing a pink robe.

CHARLYN

I didn't know they wanted you to be a Kegel-

DAVE

Kleagle!

CHARLYN

Kleagle!

DAVE

Jeez, Charlyn... You have got to get this pink out. You've got to bleach it.

CHARLYN

I don't think I can.

DAVE

Of course you can. You've done it before. You bleached my t-shirts when they had pit stains. This is no different.

CHARLYN

Not every fabric can be bleached.

DAVE

What fabrics can't be bleached?

CHARLYN

Wool, silk, mohair.

DAVE

(Facetiously)

Thank God this isn't my mohair Ku Klux Klan robe!

(Then)

(MORE)

DAVE (CONT'D)

Charlyn, please! This is your mistake. You've got to fix it.

*He hands her the pink robe.*

*Beat.*

CHARLYN

I'm not so sure it was a mistake.

DAVE

What?

CHARLYN

I said-

DAVE

I heard what you said. I just don't understand. You mixed a red sock with the whites on purpose?

CHARLYN

Not on purpose.

DAVE

So it was a mistake.

CHARLYN

It might have been subconscious.

DAVE

Subconscious? Your subconscious is doing the laundry?

CHARLYN

No.

DAVE

Is your subconscious also driving the kids to school? Because I don't know if I like that.

CHARLYN

I want you to quit the Klan!

*Beat.*

DAVE

Why would you want me to do that?

CHARLYN

Many reasons.

DAVE

Tell them to me. Because I have many reasons for wanting to stay.

CHARLYN

They're kind of racist.

DAVE

Only against other races.

CHARLYN

And anti-semitic.

DAVE

Do you mean anti-Satanic?

CHARLYN

I just don't see the point of being in the Klan.

DAVE

The point? You understand the white race is going extinct. Between interracial relationships and interfaith. We might be the last generation of pure white people on the planet. Our numbers are low. We are a serious minority. Who is going to protect the rights of white people, if not the Klan?

CHARLYN

Plus the annual dues are kind of expensive.

DAVE

Is this about the money? Because I think we can afford it. And I think we get a lot out of it. We get a community we belong to. The bar-b-cues are really wonderful.

CHARLYN

I want you to quit.

DAVE

I don't understand why.

CHARLYN

I have my reasons.

DAVE  
I haven't heard any good ones.

CHARLYN  
Just quit.

DAVE  
Not until you tell me-

CHARLYN  
I'm black!

*Beat.*

DAVE  
What?

CHARLYN  
I'm black.

DAVE  
...You don't look black.

CHARLYN  
I am.

DAVE  
Why didn't you tell me this before?

CHARLYN  
I only just found out. Remember that DNA test we took. To learn our ancestry.

DAVE  
Where we spit in the test tubes?

*She nods.*

DAVE (CONT'D)  
What did it say?

CHARLYN  
It says I'm black. 7 percent black. From Africa.



DAVE

Jesus.

(Then, frightened)

What did it say about me? Am I black?

CHARLYN

No. Just me.

*Relieved. Then:*

DAVE

Maybe the test is wrong. Maybe you didn't spit enough. Or maybe you spit too much?

CHARLYN

I took the test twice. Second time with a different company. That one said I'm 12 percent black.

DAVE

Well, the first test is definitely better.

CHARLYN

Fact is, I've always felt uncomfortable with our association with the Klan, and now that I know I'm African American-

DAVE

I don't think being 7 percent black-

CHARLYN

12 percent-

DAVE

I don't think that's enough to warrant labeling yourself African American.

CHARLYN

I think it is.

DAVE

It seems borderline, what do they call it, cultural appropriation, which is kind of racist.

CHARLYN

Are you calling me racist? You're in the Ku Klux Klan!

DAVE

I am just pointing out that black racial identity in America is far more than a mere matter of DNA. It is cultural, political and economic, and you have not had that black experience, so I am not sure what you're trying to accomplish here.

CHARLYN

I am just trying to embrace my African Ancestry, and I thought the best way to do that is to disassociate with white supremacist hate groups.

DAVE

You say hate group like that's all the Ku Klux Klan is. Like we didn't just hang out with half the chapter last weekend playing corn hole and having a great time. No one was hating anybody!

CHARLYN

That's because they didn't know that I'm black.

DAVE

Stop calling yourself black. You're not black.

CHARLYN

I am black like Maya Angelou! I am black like Denzel Washington! I am black like Dwayne The Rock Johnson!

DAVE

(Upset)

The Rock is black?

CHARLYN

The Ku Klux Klan is a stain on this society. They are a hate group. And I will not be a part of it.

DAVE

They're not-

CHARLYN

A hate group! You hate black people. You hate Jewish people.

DAVE

We have every right to hate Jewish people! They are not part of the white race!

(MORE)

DAVE (CONT'D)

They are a parasitic evil that wants to control this country. Control this country!

(Then)

And blacks? They are definitely not white! They don't look white. They don't talk white. You can't even understand half the things they say.

CHARLYN

You will quit that awful group!

DAVE

No! I won't! I am sorry that you found out that you have African ancestry. But I don't! And I am proud of my race! And I will protect the future of my race so it keeps its rightful place in this country.

CHARLYN

Your pride is misplaced!

(Then)

And there is no protecting the future of your race. You are extinct. There are no more white people. There are no more black people. There's just every beautiful shade in between.

*She hands him back the stained,  
pink robe.*

CHARLYN (CONT'D)

Be proud of that. Protect that. We are evolving beyond race.

DAVE

What the hell did that DNA test do to you?

CHARLYN

It opened my eyes. I am woke.

DAVE

You are woke? What the hell does that mean? That must be the black in you talking because I don't understand it.

(Then)

Forget that DNA test! It's hogwash. No one needs to know about it. You're going to be embarrassed tomorrow when you think back on this behavior.

CHARLYN

I'm embarrassed today that I haven't behaved this way until now.

*She takes out some papers. The DNA test results.*

CHARLYN (CONT'D)

And everyone will know about these test results. Because I am woke. I am awake. And I won't let you recruit any more bigots.

DAVE

You are dreaming if you think anything you say will stop me. White people are still the pure race. The superior race who should rightfully control this country.

CHARLYN

(Parroting him)

You want to "control this country?" That must be the Jew in you talking.

*She hands him one of the pieces of paper.*

CHARLYN (CONT'D)

Here are your test results.

*He takes a quick glance at the paper and does an immediate horrified double take.*

CHARLYN (CONT'D)

Mazel Tov!

*Black out.*

*The end.*