

MR. MCCALLISTER  
Liar.

CASSIE  
I'm... I'm Cassie--

MR. MCCALLISTER  
(dramatically)  
I AM... Cassie... Robbins.  
(beat)  
Did you feel the difference class?

The CLASS responds "yes."

MR. MCCALLISTER (CONT'D)  
Now... again, Ms. Robbins.

CASSIE  
I'm Cassie--

MR. MCCALLISTER  
Again.

CASSIE  
I'M... Cassie... Robbins.

MR. MCCALLISTER  
You're a fraud.

CASSIE  
Am I missing something?

MR. MCCALLISTER  
Meisner. Stanislavski. Strasberg...  
are you telling me, Ms. Robbins  
that they are all wrong? That they  
don't know what they're talking  
about? That you somehow know  
better?

CASSIE  
No, I'm telling you my name--

MR. MCCALLISTER  
Truthful acting, emotional memory,  
experiential recall... act before  
you think, and think... before you  
act, Ms. Robbins. THAT, is how  
Meryl Streep, Emma Thompson, Gary  
Oldman achieved greatness. And that  
is what I'm here to teach you.

The Class APPLAUDS.

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CASSIE

Out of curiosity... I couldn't help but notice that there were no actors of color on that list.

MR. MCCALLISTER

What are you insinuating?

CASSIE

I'm just... focusing on the pursuit.

MR. MCCALLISTER

Ms. Robbins, why are you here?

CASSIE

I'm between gigs and thought it would be good to exercise the muscle, you know?

HOLLY

She just lost a part on a show. Tell him why.

MR. MCCALLISTER

Yes, please share.

CASSIE

Well, I booked a role on a series, recurring, but they re-cast me because--

MR. MCCALLISTER

They felt you're not genuinely representative of black culture...

Cassie is a little surprised.

CASSIE

Well... yeah. They said I wasn't black enough, so, yes?

SHARICE

I'm working on it, Mr. M.

MR. MCCALLISTER

I saw it as soon as you walked in. Despite the natural 'fro, and thicc donk... you must strive for more blackness *inside*.

CASSIE

OK, see, there's the problem--

MR. MCCALLISTER

I assure you we will introduce  
Cassie to her black sister living  
within, afraid to breach the  
confines of your soul, afraid to  
break free of the shackles that  
enslaved your ancestors so that you  
may now stand here before us. Sit.

← **END**

Cassie's eyes are big... she's about to lose her shit as she  
takes her seat.

**START →**

MR. MCCALLISTER (CONT'D)

Anyone else?

CASSIE

(to the girls)

Is this guy for real?

**SC2**

HOLLY

(excitedly)

Right? I told you he was awesome.

MR. MCCALLISTER

Other newcomers?

A young black man timidly raises his hand.

MR. MCCALLISTER (CONT'D)

Wonderful... please.

BLAIR

I'm, uh...

(with gusto)

Blair Jackson! And I'm... an actor!

McCallister tears up.

MR. MCCALLISTER

My god... I got from that, torment.  
Self loathing. Your inner child  
screaming from the depths...

(over wrought)

Momma... I need your love, why  
don't you love me, momma... I am of  
your flesh and you are all I have  
since big daddy done left us.

(returning)

Truly beautiful...

Blair is proud... even though he doesn't know why.

Cassie rolls her eyes.

**CTN**

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