

no choice

Written by  
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CHARACTER NAME	BRIEF DESCRIPTION	AGE	GENDER
Writhm		25-32	Male
Wconscious		25-32	Male
Destiny		25-32	Female
Dconscious		25-32	Female
Ace		25-32	Male
Aconscious		25-32	Male
Fate		25-32	Female
Fconscious		25-32	Female
Kesha		25-32	Female
Kconscious		25-32	Female

NO CHOICE!  
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BY QUOTIDIAN TELOS

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1 STAGE PLAY  
FIRST EDITION

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1 0

QUOTIDIAN TELOS  
NO CHOICE!

THIS PLAY IS DEDICATED TO PROJECT UPWARD BOUND AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT CHICAGO, PROJECT F.A.M.E. AND UPWARD BOUND II AT CHICAGO STATE UNIVERSITY, BASIC, ELDORADO AND SUNRISE MOUNTAIN HIGH SCHOOL WHO WORK WITH NEVADA STATE COLLEGE TRIO UPWARD BOUND PROGRAMS, AND EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY CENTER AT MALCOLM X COLLEGE. ALL OF THE FRIENDS, I MADE WHILE I WAS THERE, AND ALL OF THE LIVES I HAVE TOUCHED WHEN I SAT ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE DESK, I LOVE YOU. LAST BUT CERTAINLY NOT LEAST TO GOD, MAY THESE OBSERVATIONS BE TAKEN SERIOUSLY.

QUOTIDIAN TELOS

## SCENE:

A SMALL, BUT COZILY REVERSIBLE APARTMENT. THE LIVING ROOM IS DOWN STAGE. THE LIVING ROOM HAS A COUCH IN THE CENTER. IT HAS A COFFEE TABLE WITH A BIBLE SITTING ON IT. ALSO ON THE TABLE ARE JOURNALS (BOOKS OF POETRY). THERE IS A SCREEN ABOVE THE ENTIRE SET. THERE IS AFRICAN ART ON MOST OF THE WALLS. THE BATHROOM IS UPSTAGE LEFT. THE BEDROOM IS UPSTAGE CENTER. THERE IS A BED AND A NIGHT STAND IN THE BEDROOM. THE KITCHEN IS UPSTAGE RIGHT. THE KITCHEN HAS A STOVE AND A REFRIGERATOR, WITH A TABLE IN ITS CENTER. THE DOOR IS DOWN STAGE FROM THE BATHROOM. THERE IS ROOM OUTSIDE TO WALK AS IF YOU WERE OUTSIDE.

## CHARACTERS:

WRITHM - A MID 20S EARLY 30S SOMETHING BLACK MALE. HE DRESSES KIND OF PREPPIE, WITH A HIP-HOP SWING. HAIR IS ECCENTRIC. EXCELLENT DICTION AND ARROGANT.

WCONSCIOUS\* - WRITHM'S CONSCIOUS. THEY SPEAK IN SAME MANNER.

DESTINY - A MID 20S EARLY 30S SOMETHING BLACK FEMALE. SHE IS SLIM, AND SPEAKS WITH AN EDUCATED DRAWL. SHE WEARS TIGHT JEANS AND CROP TOPS. HAIR IS LONG, NO BRAIDS.

DCONSCIOUS\* - DESTINY'S CONSCIOUS. THEY SPEAK IN SAME MANNER.

FATE - A MID 20S EARLY 30S SOMETHING BLACK FRIEND OF DESTINY. SHE IS MORE URBAN THAN DESTINY. SHE DRESSES SEXIER THAN DESTINY. SHE WEARS SHORT SKIRTS AND NICE BLOUSES, BUT NOT GAUDY. HAIR IS SHORT AND STYLED. (JADA PINKETT-ESQUE IN JASON'S LYRIC OR ANITA BAKER-ESQUE FROM GIVING YOU THE BEST THAT GOT ALBUM COVER)

FCONSCIOUS\* - FATE'S CONSCIOUS. THEY SPEAK IN THE SAME MANNER.

ACE - A MID 20S EARLY 30S SOMETHING BLACK FRIEND OF WRITHM. HE DRESSES LIKE A MODEL FOR URBAN WEAR. HAS SHORT NEAT HAIRCUT. HE'S KIND OF BUFFED, BUT IS SLIGHTLY LESS ATTENTION STEALING THAN WRITHM. ACE IS CLEAN SHAVING.

ACONSCIOUS\* - ACE'S CONSCIOUS. THEY SPEAK IN SAME MANNER.

KESHA - A MID 20S EARLY 30S SOMETHING BLACK FEMALE. SHE HAS NATURALLY CURLY SHORT TO MEDIUM LENGTH HAIR. SHE HAS AN ATHLETIC BODY AND RASPY VOICE. SHE DRESSES IN SIMPLE ATHLETIC WEAR.

KCONSCIOUS\* - KESHA'S CONSCIOUS. THEY SPEAK IN SAME MANNER.

\* WEARS ALL BLACK

ACT I

Scene I

(DARKNESS: SPECIALS ON WCONSCIOUS (UPSTAGE LEFT), DCONSCIOUS (UPSTAGE RIGHT), FCONSCIOUS (DOWNSTAGE LEFT), AND ACONSCIOUS (DOWNSTAGE RIGHT) AS THEY SIT AND CONTEMPLATE LIFE.)

(WCONSCIOUS, DCONSCIOUS, FCONSCIOUS, ACONSCIOUS)

\*

WCONSCIOUS

(To audience)

I work with teenagers, and many of my students' parents try to convince their children not to have sex, until they are married, or out of high school, or some other ridiculous benchmark... and many of my students were born to single, teen-aged, uneducated parents. I almost understand young men, boys... trying to act grown. You know, most of them think it is easy to be grown. I mean you have no one telling you what to do. You do what you want... when you want, they think! And these young ladies... WOW! They can fool many men. Many grown men do not care... but young men want fun and excitement too. And one thing we as adults must remember is every generation has their share of issues. People once had problems, now everything is an issue. As a society, we must prepare, better yet arm our children with the knowledge to make educated decisions. In order to educate them we must know something ourselves.

DCONSCIOUS

(To audience)

I was once a teenager and I remember wanting to be grown so bad just so I could make decisions about my life.

I didn't want anyone telling me do this and not do that when everything I saw was in drastic opposition to what the adults were telling me. Many of you have heard some adult say, "Do as I say, not as I do." Hymph! I never had the body of some teenagers today, so I never got the attention they receive, but as I got older, men standards lessen. I am not saying I am a cheap version of anyone's dream, but the "young urban teenaged body" is replaced by whomever will allow them. I thought I knew everything, well not everything, but I did have thoughts and opinions and many times they were not heard by adults. I figured back then like any oppressed group... if you can't beat them, join them. \*

### FCONSCIOUS

(To audience)

My childhood was plagued with adversity, and learning to cope was a survival tactic I picked up early. I always received attention from older men, and most of their attention was negative, and many times it came from relatives. When my uncle and cousin touch me inappropriately, I didn't have anyone to turn to, and that affected my self-esteem. Who would believe me? Who would help me? Who would save me? As I have matured, I knew I controlled my destiny, and I vowed my fate will be defined by me and me only.

### ACONSCIOUS

(To audience)

I have always been the kid most other kids wanted to be like. Being popular, I have always felt the pressure and need to fit in, many times to the detriment of my own character development. But I have learned, life is too short to be concerned about others opinions. As an adult, I see many things differently than when I was a child. In fact, I realized if adults want to know what is wrong with the world, they need not study philosophy nor read religious books and try to guess what people thousands of years ago thought, but just look at our children. Children mirror society. If children are too violent, it is because adults are violent. If children's sexual behavior is skewed, simply look at adults and you will find the problem... if it is a problem. Basically all I am saying is if we watch our children we only see us. When the cries and pleas of any oppressed group are not heard, they do what is natural, get along, or get violent.

### WCONSCIOUS

(Standing next to Destiny. To audience.)

Sex is the greatest detail of life. How can someone not enjoy or like lovemaking? This is beyond words. God has unconditionally glorified woman to be a marvelous contribution to men. Men, we cannot fathom how exalted we are to exist with women as our obsessions. I love this woman. Females are the very marrow of life; the very substance which makes life worth living. Women are the finest things since creation.

## DCONSCIOUS

(Standing next to Writhm. To audience.)

Women can't imagine how utterly bestowed with pleasure we men exist. Sex has allowed me to truly understand the essence of life. No other way could we share such beauty?

## WCONSCIOUS

(To audience.)

Women should thank the world for men.

## DCONSCIOUS

(To audience.)

Men really do not know how lucky they are because women exist. And they have the unmitigated gall to treat women like less than human. They should be kissing asses everyday and thanking God for making someone who can deal with the stupid shit they do. I may miss this if they ever reveal a way to procreate without men.

(LIGHTS UP ON BEDROOM.)

(Writhm and Destiny are under covers.) (Song by Kelly Price- Friend of Mine.)

## SCENE II

(SPECIAL UP ON BEDROOM. COUPLES  
ARE UNDER BED LINEN) \*  
\*

(WRITHM, DESTINY, WCONSCIOUS, DCONSCIOUS, FATE, FCONSCIOUS)

## WRITHM

Wait... I think I am about to catch a cramp.

(Writhm stretches leg.) \*

Oh! I'm straight. Man, I cannot believe... That was...

(Sigh.)



DESTINY

Writhm! I am flabbergasted... bereft of utterances... I mean, I am utterly speechless. If your mother knew what we were doing, I would never be able to face her.

\*

WRITHM

One day we will be married, and it will not matter what she thinks. Destiny, I thank God everyday for putting you in my life. Besides the Lord, you are the best thing to ever happen, to me. I Love You.

DESTINY

If I could describe the way you make me feel. If I could only tell Fate about this...?

(They peek from under the covers, panting  
and sweating.)

I think I lost ten pounds.

\*

(Writhm wipes sweat from her brow.)

WRITHM

Do you tell Fate every intimate detail about us?

DESTINY

Yeah.

WCONSCIOUS

I need to get my life together.

WRITHM

Why?

DESTINY

'Cause she is my best friend.

(Pause)

Why are you asking?

\*

WRITHM

No reason, just wondering.

DESTINY

Do you tell Ace intimate things about us?

WCONSCIOUS AND DCONSCIOUS

Damn it's hot!

WRITHM

Intimate like, he knows you are my heart, but not intimate like, I think I can look at you a certain way and you get wet.

(Pause)

I guess yeah, but only what I want him to know.

\*

(Pause)

Let's loose a couple more pounds.

\*

DCONSCIOUS

Why do you trust him so much? Can he really be as good as he appears?

DESTINY

Wait! Question?

WRITHM

Answer!

DESTINY

Will you tell me why your moms named you Writhm?

WRITHM

You just like hearing this story.

DESTINY

Yeah!

WRITHM

She got it from the dick-tionary.

DESTINY

That was cute, but the real reason?

WRITHM

What, you do not like my name?

DESTINY

Oh contraire, I love it. I don't think I can envision you as anything else.

WRITHM

Basically, during my mom's pregnancy, and especially at my birth, my father would play music to keep my moms calm, she is a piece of work, you know. They had recorded her favorite songs on an 8-track. Throughout her pregnancy, whenever she was not feeling good they played music, with beautiful, sultry, vibrant, energetic rhythms, no lyrics.

She said I would dance in her womb, and my father would put his hands on her belly and feel me shake my thang. Since my moms has been listening to these rhythms throughout her pregnancy, at my birth, the doctor slapped me on my ass to make me cry, but no music was playing, and I did not cry. They said I had this look on my face like, Negro please, where is the music? They knew I was alive because I would not be still, but they needed to test my lungs. I needed to hear music, to enjoy life, to feel safe, to be me. They wanted me to yell. In the baby ward, whenever music played, I was fine. They would turn the volume down really low and we were fine. It was so low adults could not audibly hear, but us... newborns being fresh from god, love, everything, our souls could feel the beats. Well someone turned the system off, and we had them turn it back on, if you know what I mean. Well, she could not just name me after an instrument, and she needed a unique name, hence my name, Writhm. My mom did not want my name to be R-H-Y-T-H-M, so she changed the spelling, but used the same pronunciation. That is my name, W-R-I-T-H-M, Writhm.

\*

(Pause.)

\*

Now I am ready for some more.

DESTINY

Do you ever get tired?

WRITHM

Sometimes.

DCONSCIOUS

Not ready yet.

DESTINY

I'm not ready, yet.

WRITHM

Talk to me...

DESTINY

About what?

WRITHM

Tell me how you got your name.

DESTINY

You know how!

WRITHM

But I think it is so fascinating.

DESTINY

I was born after my mother went through menopause.

WRITHM

They should have named you Miracle.

DESTINY

That was a possibility, but they felt I was destined to happen and no amount of science and technology could determine my fate, and Destiny became my name.

(They get back under covers, and start to moan, 30 seconds later.)

WRITHM

Our relationship must have been fate, or a small part of heaven.

(Grabs another condom, and continues.)

Girl, I would not believe this if I were not here to see it. This is... Oh my...

\*

WCONSCIOUS

You know you should not be doing this. What about Destiny?

FCONSCIOUS

How could you? What about Destiny?

FATE

Oh shit, Writhm I need to thank your mother.

(They peek from under the covers, panting and sweating.)

I can't believe you. I thought Destiny was exaggerating, but she hit the nail on the head.

\*

(Dramatic pause.)

WRITHM

Destiny talks about me a lot with you?

FATE

Yeah, she's always telling me about how well you do this and how great you do that. How you really know how to make a woman feel like a woman. How you take your time, and make love instead of just having sex. She tells me everything.

WRITHM

Everything?

Yes everything.

FATE

Then she has also told you about how I rarely get tired.

WRITHM

This is wrong!

WCONSCIOUS

Yeah, but I am tired.

FATE

Okay!

WRITHM

I do not know if I can take more...

FATE

Let's try...

WRITHM

(LIGHTS OUT.)

(Fate and Destiny leave.)

\*

(LIGHTS UP.)

\*

(Writhm just lies in the bed staring at the ceiling,  
wondering what he has done.)

\*

Now you want to feel bad. The shit is too deep now!

WCONSCIOUS

(LIGHTS OUT.)

SCENE III

(FATE, DESTINY, FCONSCIOUS, DCONSCIOUS)

\*

(LIGHTS UP ON LIVING ROOM.)

\*

(Destiny and Fate are sitting on couch talking.)

\*

FATE

Girl he had to have at least ten and a half inches, and at least four inches in diameter.

DESTINY

What did you do?

FCONSCIOUS

I wanted all of it.

FATE

I told that fool he was not about to stick that thing in me.

DESTINY

I have never wondered what someone else would be like.

DCONSCIOUS

Been there! Done that! Didn't like the movie... and don't want to see the sequel. \*

FATE

(Pause) \*

Never?

DESTINY

Girl, I told you Writhm takes...

(Pause) \*

Well I have thought about it, but after I think about how people are always on Jerry Springer fighting over some dumb ass man, I count my blessings, and move on.

FATE

Have you considered it, or just had a passing thought?

DESTINY

I have contemplated it. Sometimes, I want to see if Writhm and I are really compatible or has he just molded me to be comfortable?

FATE

So you want to know what the rest of the world is like?

DESTINY

Not the rest of the world, just maybe certain parts.

FATE

Like what?

DESTINY

Maybe an older person, or a person of another race.

\*

FATE

Person or man?

DESTINY

Girl! Stop playing you know I mean another man!

DCONSCIOUS

That was close!

FATE

Sounds to me like Writhm hasn't been paying enough attention to the important parts.

DESTINY

It's just lately we've just been having regular sex and it's getting boring. I miss him going down. This lady, at my job, says she knows a couple and that's all they do.

FATE

I need more attention than a tongue.

DESTINY

I agree. Maybe I am wondering if he is focusing on someone else's necessities.

FATE

Do you think Writhm will cheat on you?

DESTINY

I really don't.

FCONSCIOUS

Fool! She's a real fool...

FATE

That's good, he has you exactly where all men desire to have women.

DESTINY

What do you mean by that?

FATE

All men are not dogs, but they have a little mutt in them... even the gay ones. They will mess around on you; as sure as fire burns, water is wet, and the wind blows. That is what makes them men. They are the weaker sex.

It did not take Eve a lot of convincing to get Adam to eat that apple. Men are weak. They are ruled by immediate, physical gratification, therefore making them the weaker sex.

DESTINY

Please!

FATE

How many times have we went out and did not pay a dime all night because a brother thought he would get to either touch or smell the coochie? How many evenings have we spent alone? How many days have we had to carry anything we did not want to carry? Men are always trying to get some, and as long as we lead them to believe they have a chance, we can get anything we crave.

DESTINY

Those men are just being nice; and we are sort of teasing them.

FATE

Please, I don't think so! They're teasing themselves. Now there may be a couple of nice brothers out there, who actually did do things just because they were taught to help women, but if given a chance they would fuck you just as sure as you believe in Writhm.

DESTINY

I am not listening to anymore of this.

FATE

You are so naïve.

DESTINY

Writhm and his friends have some sort of honor code.

FATE

What?! A dog is a dog!

DESTINY

They have what they consider untouchables.

FCONSCIOUS

That is what he has told you!

FATE

What is an untouchable?



## DESTINY

They have an honor code where certain women that each close friend has been with is untouchable to the other friends. Well not just been with, but had a meaningful relationship with. He told me it's called bros b4 hoes. With the exclusions being those who are untouchable.

\*

## FATE

Shit! I bet if Ace had a chance he would fuck you, and would never tell Writhm.

## DESTINY

Whatever! Writhm takes care of his business. We are so compatible. I mean, we move with the resonance of waves in the ocean. We are synchronized like thunder and lightning.

## DCONSCIOUS

How did Fate get so cynical?

## FCONSCIOUS

How did Destiny get so naïve?

## FATE

That's what he says... Those are Writhm's words... How do you feel?

## DESTINY

That's how making love with Writhm is... Writhm is God's gift to me. I prayed for him and I got him. God has confirmed, to me, this is my soul-mate. I told you about our first time. Writhm took his time and we made love. We made love till I got scared, and he just stopped when I asked him to stop. That was it.

## FATE

Just stopped?

## FCONSCIOUS

Stupid!

## DESTINY

Just stopped, unsatisfied. Then he held me in his arms until I fell asleep. I can't remember exactly what it felt like, but I do know it felt good. I wanted him. At that point, I was more scared of losing him than actually feeling any pain. The boy is great.

## FATE

Still a man. Whoever taught him taught him well.

## FCONSCIOUS

Damn right!

FATE

You know about my first time, sneaking in Karim's house, and almost getting caught, when his mother came home from work early. We jumped up and he shoved me in the damn closet for two fucking hours till his ugly-assed mother left for church. Besides all that, the motherfucker didn't... probably still doesn't know anything about foreplay, and the shit was painful. I hate him till this day.

DESTINY

When was the last time you saw him?

FATE

I have not seen him in years, and I'm glad.

(LIGHTS DOWN ON LIVING ROOM.)

SCENE IV

(WRITHM, ACE, WCONSCIOUS, ACONSCIOUS)

\*

(LIGHTS UP ON STREET.)

WRITHM

Bruh, I still think there are good women left in the world.

ACE

That's because you have a nice woman.

WRITHM

You have untouchables!

ACE

You have more!

WRITHM

You know that you can have only three legit untouchables.

ACE

Man, Destiny has your nose wide open. I'll tell you like this, if Destiny ever gave me a chance to tap that ass... I'd fuck the shit out of her, and then... run to tell yo' ass.

WCONSCIOUS

Watch your boy...

WRITHM

That's fucked up!

ACONSCIOUS

Why does he always get the good women? Destiny deserves a man that could treat her better.

ACE

You right. The only way I would not get with her is you are not together, but if you are an item and she offered that nice round ass... I'd fuck the shit out of her. Dude, I'd try to make her ass cry, and when I tell you I would hope you don't...

WCONSCIOUS

Watch your boy!

ACE

If you want to be with a woman, who will fuck me, I know there is something wrong with the both of you. Her, for fucking me, and you for allowing that shit to take place.

WRITHM

What shit?

ACE

This whole ham: hot assed mess.

WRITHM

Nigga! You a wild boy.

ACONSCIOUS

He doesn't believe you...

ACE

Not wild, I'm just honest. I'll bet Fate will let you stir her Kool-Aid.

WRITHM

Whatever man!?

(LIGHT DOWN ON STREETS.)

## SCENE V

(WRITHM, WCONSCIOUS, DESTINY, ACE, FATE, FCONSCIOUS,  
ACONSCIOUS, DCONSCIOUS, ACONSCIOUS AND FCONSCIOUS)

(LIGHTS UP ON LIVING ROOM.)

\*

(Writhm, Ace, Wonsciences, and Aconscious enter  
apartment.)

WRITHM

Men and women are just different.

(Hugs Destiny)

Hey baby. I miss you.

\*

(Scowls at Fate.)

WCONSCIOUS

Damn her body is getting better and better every time I see her. Six months ago, she was out of shape, now... Damn she has a nice body.

DESTINY

(She kisses him on the lips.)

I miss my koogals too...

\*

ACE

I think I'm going to be sick.

FATE

Wait in line, I'm first to pray to the porcelain god.

(Looks at Writhm.)

FCONSCIOUS

Writhm is a nice brother. I wonder what would it take to get him to cheat on Destiny! He seems too good to be true. Probably is. There has to be someone to test this brother.

WRITHM

Please stop dippin', Granola.

FATE

The chocolate is too good to resist.

(Fate and Writhm stare at each other, then  
Writhm looks at Ace.)

FCONSCIOUS

I'll taste your chocolate...

WRITHM

You need to stop tripping.

WCONSCIOUS

She needs a man. I wish she would give Ace a chance, he's a nice brother who does not  
deserve to be without a woman. But he is a bit rough on the edges. \*

ACONSCIOUS

Ask Fate out again!

ACE

Fate, when you going to give a brother a chance?

DESTINY

Everybody knows you got a new little friend.

ACE

Robin is just a friend. Besides, I'd rather be with you, Fate, than Robin. Robin is clingy.

FATE

Negro please... spare me the script...

ACE

No script, why is Writhm the only one who can be sensitive around here? Yall think a  
brother aint got no feelings. I know I am not as poetic as Writhm, but damn, give a brother  
a little credit.

ACONSCIOUS

I'm paying for all the bad things I've ever done to a woman and man.

FATE

That's destiny!

DESTINY

That's fate!

WRITHM

That's karma!

ACE

What's the difference, they all fucked-up?

FATE

Well Destiny is what people want to believe.

(Looks at Writhm.)

FCONSCIOUS

Like Destiny wants to believe in you.

\*

DESTINY

Fate is the inevitable. It will happen no matter what you do.

(Looks at Writhm.)

WCONSCIOUS

Like life...

WRITHM

And Karma is Fate and Destiny visiting you at once, as an act of revenge. Some twisted plot by a sinister mind to let you know doom is inevitable.

(Looks around at people in room.)

Did I say that out loud?

\*

ACE

Fate, I'll ask you. I never get a straight answer from this mommy dearest couple. Who do you think have it worse, men or women?

FATE

Women!

ACE

Why do you think that?

FATE

Because we mature faster, causing us to have to train men. Women have the children, and monthly cycles...

WRITHM

Men have monthly cycles...

ACONSCIOUS

I knew he would say that.

FATE

Whatever! Not to mention, scarred women, who have been lied to by a man, and forced to act a fool...

WRITHM

Like brothers do not act stupid over women.

ACONSCIOUS

Here we go...

FATE

Any woman will be good to a man... if he treats her right.

ACONSCIOUS

Any person will respond positively to genuine affection. If you treat that person right, they will be good.

FATE

But men, on the other hand have to be "ready" to settle down... to be serious... about a woman.

ACONSCIOUS

To be serious about anyone.

WRITHM

That is just the flaky men you mess with.

FATE

Writhm, would you please shut up?

WRITHM

Do not tell me to shut up! Ask me to be quiet!?

FATE

Would you please be quiet?

WRITHM

That is better!

FATE

Thank you!

(Let's out a deep breath.)

Nine times out of ten if there is a single parent, it's a she...

(She pauses and looks at Writhm as if he is  
about to say something.)

Men can leave a child easier than a woman... because she has carried that child inside of  
her body.

ACONSCIOUS

She acts like women are more capable of truly loving than men!?

WCONSCIOUS

She acts like women are more able to love than a man, what about God?

WRITHM

Bullshit! This is the newest millennium. Women leave children just as often.

FATE

But not as easy!

WRITHM

That is relative and situational. you have no clue what someone else has been through...  
you can only speak for Fate... Everything is snafued, today.

\*

\*

FATE

Anyway! They have a special bond that men can't fathom. That's why I think women have  
it worse.

WRITHM

No!

WCONSCIOUS

You've said enough...

WRITHM

The reason I am saying men have it worse is because we take the brunt of the bullshit in  
relationships...

ACE

That is until we have them, then they're in a boat with no paddle... or common sense.

DESTINY

What do you mean by that?



ACE

It's simple... In the beginning, men will do anything to get a woman that he wants. Once he has her things change, either for the better, or worse, but only for her does it matter how the changes occur. The thrill is in the chase. Once women realize that, they will make men do more pursuing than catching.

DESTINY

He gets the best deal?

ACE

Yeah, he gets the best deal! He's happy either way, if he has to get rid of her that's cool... he has nothing vested. If he keeps her he's still hesitant, and still only waiting to see if she is worthy of putting stock into... he still doesn't invest anything until he is ready.

DESTINY

Women are stock... like chattel... like cattle, pigs, oranges, bonds, you know the New York Stock Exchange.

WRITHM

Not that NY type of stock, Chicago maybe because they have more agricultural products... but women are receivers and in order to receive men must give. Now if a woman receives what a man offers first, she is in trouble, because no man is going to offer what is important to him first. She is S-O-L! Shit Out of Luck!

(Pause)

Simple business never put what you really want or need on the table, until you at least have part of what you are looking for, first. Work your way towards your goal. Men are looking for the best possible deal, for as little capital as he can pay. No man is going to offer his heart, in the beginning, so women cannot receive that. It is not an option yet. So what has she received? Something physical men put no genuine substance into. That man has risked nothing. That man has acquired so much of her, he does not feel the need to try to get anymore.

DESTINY

So you are saying once a man gets a woman, he doesn't want her anymore?

WRITHM

Nah, I am not saying that, but considerable interest is lost once he sees she is just another woman.

DCONSCIOUS

Just another woman?

FATE

Once a man comes, it's all over for him?

WRITHM

No! It is not all over...

\*

FATE

No two women are exactly alike...

WCONSCIOUS

Neither are two men.

WRITHM

...but what most women do not know is when men give an emotional part of themselves, they can give no more. Like a woman giving her body.

ACE

Man, please. This is a new millennium women fuck around as much or more than men and they are better at it.

WRITHM

Men get cocky! Women are not better, they are more consistent, and not prone to verbosity nor flamboyancy, nor flaunting. They keep theirs under wrap... low key.

DESTINY

What is the difference?

ACE

(Looks at Writhm strange.)

The difference is the unknown is arousing to a man.

\*

WRITHM

Yeah, I heard in a movie "aint nothing better than some pussy except some new pussy."

FATE

I still want you,

(to Writhm)

to explain how giving of the most precious thing owned by a woman, her body, can change a man's idea about her.

\*

ACONSCIOUS

She wants to fuck him, because he is too weak to resist her feminine wiles. Then the shit is really going to hit the fan.

## WRITHM

Like Ace just said, 'the mysterious is erotic to a man.' Therefore, enticing him to want to find out more. Before a man has a woman, he thinks she is God's gift to the earth, and he wants to see what makes her so special.

## FATE

Just her being a woman makes her special.

## ACONSCIOUS

Shiit!

## WRITHM

Let you tell it. He thinks it is between her legs. He wonders... and believes... experiencing her has to be a slice of heaven. Women make it far too easy when they do not make a man get to know them, minds and spirits included.

## FATE

Maybe she doesn't want to get to know him.

## WRITHM

Then you should stop complaining.

## FATE

Me and my friends do not complain.

## WRITHM

Whatever! Men study women. That is the most studying a man will ever do in his life. Man is trying to figure out what God has given to this marvelous specimen of a being which makes him want to consider faithfulness. \*

## FATE

Men do not consider faithfulness; they are thrust into it.

## WRITHM

After a little while, she thinks she needs her itch scratched, and she lets him have some. Oh well, he does not see her as special anymore, because he has given nothing of himself, and this woman has the audacity to think he is special and she does not know him, or much about him.

## FATE

And men call women shallow.

## WRITHM

He is looking for a special deal. He cannot have it with the last object of his desire because she has already given herself to him. He has nothing to work for, and he thinks he has nothing for which to look forward.

## FATE

What about knowing her soul??? her spirit???

## WRITHM

Men do not want to know about all of that about someone he does not care for. He has to have something to look forward to after he knows her soul. Once he experiments with enough women and realizes generally most women are the same, he starts to see her as a wonderful interesting fun and endearing person, a wife.

## FATE

Bullshit!

## WRITHM

Granted some men never get there, most do. You can take any woman you want and get a nice wife. Hosea fell in love with a prostitute. After a woman gives a man her body his illusions' of grandeur are gone, and reality sets.

## ACONSCIOUS

Here's that bible shit. He's about to start preaching.

## DESTINY

So you are saying I'm just another woman.

## WRITHM

No! No! No! No! No! No! No! Let me explain it like this. Once you realize, and this takes maturity... Once you realize, you can make any woman happy, who wants to be happy, you have something special. When you have something special with her, you try to keep her.

## ACE

Wait a damn minute. Answer the question and stop beating around the bush, You know you never expected to keep Destiny.

## FCONSCIOUS

Ace makes a lot of sense, but as long as he hangs around Writhm he'll always be second best. He needs a woman to make him more marketable.

## WRITHM

Keep her. She was not some stray animal. But, true that, but I had to earn my spot. Plus, I figured out early in life what I wanted and once I found her I vowed I would not lose her.

\*

You see I am different because I stopped studying bodies, and began analyzing minds. Make love to a woman's body, and you have a nice bedmate, she will even start to call you for some. But you make love to her mind and she will love you forever, and she will never forget you.

WCONSCIOUS

You see men, no people, are extremely shallow; all they want is to be remembered, because when someone remembers you, you made an impression on them.

FATE

I agree with Writhm.

(Everyone looks shocked.)

You do not have to look like you have seen Tupac and Biggie drinking a forty together. You know they were once friends. Writhm and I respect each other's relationships with Destiny. I like arguing with Writhm. He makes me think. But there is a flaw in his theory. The err, he has, is the soul in so intriguing once you get to know someone's soul, you know them, and that makes them special. That is the person you want to keep.

\*

FCONSCIOUS

He's why I am constantly around, here.

ACE

Yeah, right.

WRITHM

Yeah, yeah, yeah but here is where I make up for the discrepancy. What I did not mention is people are scared to be vulnerable, so they do not want to reveal themselves to too many people.

DESTINY

I think you have had a little too much to drink.

WRITHM

But she is right about us respecting the relationship Destiny has with the other. You see to you, we argue, but to us, we communicate.

ACE

Yeah but you two get on everyone else's damn nerves communicating.

WRITHM

That is because you do not understand. Like the other day, we were talking about does penis size matter?

## FATE

Right, we concluded that it's an individual's preference.

## WRITHM

Like most of the things which divides the sexes, races, and cultures.

## ACE

Penis size would not matter if you're in love with the person. I can see that. But when you're out here dating and trying to get in good, it matters. Everything matters in the beginning!

## ACONSCIOUS

Initially, everything is significant in any and all relationships.

## FATE

People who are usually lacking say things like this or that doesn't matter, if you love someone. That's a crock of shit. Everything affects a relationship. All of the past experiences shape your attitude towards present and future relationships. All the baggage from previous associations can weigh heavily if you haven't unpacked any of that luggage. So if you have hidden pasts with someone who is too short or too long, that affects your perspective.

## DESTINY

All of our pasts are hidden until we tell them, or life's consequences or situations reveal parts. Even if told they are not as the reality portrayed.

## WRITHM

That is not the problem. That is the scapegoat. You are blaming a part of the problem. That is a small hint, of a larger riddle. No pun intended. The two people are not sexually harmonious, at this point in their courtship, but this does not mean it can not be worked out, literally.

## DESTINY

It's never mattered to me.

## FATE

That's because Writhm was your first and only lover.

## DCONSCIOUS

That's not true. He's the first guy I loved and made love to.

FATE

You never had anyone with whom you could compare him. You do not have another frame of reference. Now, that's great for you, but what about Writhm? What goes through his mind? Are you as good as what's-her-face? Can you make him cum like ole-girl? Do you ever ask him about his other sexual conquest?

WRITHM

Aaaaay... Why are you talking about me like I am not here? And women are not conquests...

DESTINY

Yeah, Writhm, do you ever compare me to previous women?

WCONSCIOUS

Never ask a question to which you are not prepared for the answer.

WRITHM

Number one, that is a private conversation. Number two that is a really private conversation. And number three that is really a fucking private conversation.

ACE

You might-as-well tell her. You know she's going to go back and tell Fate anyway. Tells her every damn thing, like...

WRITHM

Do not bring it up. How can I put this? I do not compare, for the simple fact it is crazy...

ACONSCIOUS

Can't believe she told Fate about Tina and me while I was trying to holler at Fate.

WCONSCIOUS

My past is my business; my present and future are the only concerns you should have at this point in our relationship.

WRITHM

I have a theory, I believe women can have anything in the world they desire, all they have to do is find the right man to give it to them. I do not want my Destiny asking another man for anything. So I try my damndest to please her so she will not have to ask another man for anything.

FATE

You need to listen!

ACE

Why?

(They start to argue.)

DESTINY

Do you compare me?

WRITHM

Wait! Wait! Wait! Wait! Wait! Wait! Wait! Let me get back to the lie I was telling. I am tripping, because I love her, I mean you. You know I am just playing. Why are you so serious?

DESTINY

Because I want to know, you are ignoring me, and dodging the question. Now would you answer it please?

DCONSCIOUS

He's hiding something.

WRITHM

Sometimes I just watch your face. I just look at you because you are truly beautiful. I love you, so to try and compare my Destiny to any other woman, would be unfair to them, and disrespectful to you.

FCONSCIOUS

That's so nice. Did that satisfy her?

DESTINY

I'm talking about in bed...

FCONSCIOUS

Nope! He's in trouble now...

WRITHM

Does it matter?

DESTINY

Yes!

ACONSCIOUS

He's on the ropes...



Why?  
WRITHM

Because I want to know...  
DESTINY

Do not answer that!  
WCONSCIOUS

ACE  
In the beginning of your relationship when she was a novice. Didn't you ever want to just tell her how Monique did this to make you feel good? Or Laura did that?

Who are Monique and Laura?  
DESTINY

WRITHM  
Nobody, Ace's ass is making up names. I have never slept with a Monique nor Laura.

(To Ace.)  
What the hell is wrong with you?

\*

Why are you so defensive?  
DESTINY

WRITHM  
Because I feel like whatever I say will be wrong.

DCONSCIOUS  
He never answered the question.

ACE  
Writhm! Answer the question so she can stop asking. Not answering the question directly leads one to answer it for you and the answer is usually not the right one when others answer the question which you failed to answer to their satisfaction. Your not answering her the way she wants, only gives a preponderance of evidence needed to convict in a court of unhappy significant others.

I'm sorry.  
DESTINY

WRITHM  
No. I do not compare, in bed, because it has been so long since I shared a bed with another. It is like I have lost my frame of reference. I do not want another. So no. The answer is no, I do not compare you to others, sexually.

ACONSCIOUS AND FCONSCIOUS

Yeah right!

FATE

Where is my coat? I want to show you something.

(Fate goes to bedroom.)

DESTINY

I need to use the bathroom.

(Destiny goes to the bathroom.)

WRITHM

Dude shut-up! What is your damn problem? Man! You trying to get me in trouble?

WCONSCIOUS

You are already in trouble.

ACE

You tripping. That girl loves your nasty ass...

ACONSCIOUS

She'd probably clean it for you.

WRITHM

Man watch what you say around Fate. She has enough men problems, without you drawing attention to Destiny and I.

ACE

Please fool, you crazy if you think I'm trying to walk on eggshells because she has a broken spirit. Man, I have been trying to holler at that girl for two years, I can't help it if she doesn't know a good, single man when she sees one. She has been checking you out all day.

(Pause.)

Man, all of this attention is making you borderline coochie.

\*

WRITHM

The wetter the better.

ACE

If you think so.

(Fate and Destiny reenter the room.)

FATE

Look at this.

WRITHM

What is it?

FATE

It's a little charm, I found at a gallery downtown.

ACE

I have to go.

FATE

What? You scared a bone may fly out of your closet? Whenever we really start talking you have to leave.

ACE

First, I have what you wish you could have: a date with someone that likes me for me. Second, I have no bones to fly out, I'm sure you know why Writhm and I are such good friends?

(Writhm shakes head to tell him to stop.)

DESTINY

No Ace, tell us how you two became such boys.

ACE

(To Writhm.)

Dude you never told her?

\*

WRITHM

She never asked, but more importantly she never knew she needed to ask.

DESTINY

Now I'm asking.

WRITHM

What?

DESTINY

How did you and Ace become such pals?

WRITHM

Ace you tell her.

ACE

Writhm and I met through our boy named Brian. You know this is such a small world we found out we had a couple of other friends in common, if you know what I mean?

DESTINY

I don't know what you mean.

WRITHM

He is beating around the bush. We met through Brian. We got close when he started messing around with this woman, Rachel, who liked me.

ACONSCIOUS

There he goes trying to make the world evolve around his ass again.

WRITHM

After he got with her, I found out she was digging me all along, so I stepped to her, and of course she was receptive. After I hooked-up with her, she told me about her and Ace.

DESTINY

So how did you get close?

ACE

She was fucking both of us. I knew when he was fucking her, and he knew when I was fucking her. She thought she was running script, but we were just getting ass...

FATE

You niggas nasty, juicing the same girl.

WCONSCIOUS

You always strap up with tricks.

WRITHM

You always cover your stick when you frolic with unhappy chicks.

DESTINY

You always used a condom?

WRITHM

Always!

DESTINY

So this young lady was messing around with both of you, and that brought you two together.

WRITHM

It is amazing the things which bring people together. It is like when you have a fight with someone, and you end up being best friends. We just did not have to come to blows.

ACE

You see, the thing is neither of us ever wanted the girl, she was just convenient.

WRITHM

Women need to get their shit together.

FATE

Men too!

ACE

I got to go for real this time.

WRITHM

Peace dude. I will catch you later.

(LIGHTS DOWN ON LIVING ROOM.  
DESTINY AND FATE LEAVE.)

## SCENE VI

(ACE, WCONSCIOUS, WRITHM, ACONSCIOUS)

\*

(LIGHT UP ON LIVING ROOM.)

\*

(Writhm and Ace are playing Playstation, and listening to music.)

\*

ACE

Yo Writhm, what is up wit Fate? She looks as if she wants to give you a little extra something.

(Puts on an old song.)

And what happened wit ole girl you met at Brian's party?

WCONSCIOUS

That's my shit...

WRITHM

Which female are you talking about?

ACE

The cute one that D used to mess around with...

WRITHM

Oh you talking about Kesha! If I had met her before Destiny, I do not know if Destiny would be around.

ACE

What happened?

WRITHM

Man, she is good people.

ACE

I'm talkin' bout the uglies.

WRITHM

There is nothing ugly about her. She is so tight, mind, body, and soul.

ACE

So what is the problem?

WRITHM

Destiny, dumb-dumb.

ACE

What? Destiny won't let you have friends?

WRITHM

Kesha can not be my friend. I do not trust myself around this woman. I could really fall for her.

ACE

Damn, she must be tighter than naps.

WRITHM

She is.

\*

ACONSCIOUS

He thinks he is in control of his life.

ACE

You think you're really in love with Destiny?

WRITHM

I know it.

ACE

How can you cheat on Destiny, and say that you love her?

WCONSCIOUS

I can look.

WRITHM

I have never cheated, and I am committed, not dead.

ACE

So what happened?

WRITHM

(Writhm gets up and goes over to CD player  
and changes songs. He puts in five CD's and  
shuffles them.)

Man, we were on the phone talking, and she says she loves the sax. \*

(Wconscious plays a sax solo for a while then fades with  
the lights.)

(LIGHTS DOWN ON LIVING ROOM.)

## SCENE VII

(WRITHM, KESHA, KCONSCIOUS, WCONSCIOUS) \*

(SPECIAL ON WRITHM. SPECIAL ON  
KESHA IN HER KITCHEN.) \*

(Wconscious is playing sax low while this scene plays  
out.) \*

WRITHM

What type of music do you like?

KESHA

I like what works.

WRITHM

What do you mean 'what works...?' What kind of poetry do you like?

KCONSCIOUS

He asks the right questions, I wonder if he has the right answers.

KESHA

Again my answer is what works. What is good? If a man wants to kill someone and I can understand why and may want to help him, that's good.

KCONSCIOUS

I can hear the violin backing the words.

KESHA

If he loves her more than breathing, and it is said in such a way that I want to meet her, that's good.

KCONSCIOUS

There is a sax to fill the backspace in this scene.

KESHA

I guess what I am saying is, I like what is good.

WRITHM

I write a little...

KCONSCIOUS

Good response.

KESHA

When you going to let me come over a read a couple of lines.

WRITHM

Whenever you have a couple of seconds.

KESHA

What are you doing later?

WRITHM

My girlfriend...

KCONSCIOUS

Wrong answer. But let's see where this is leading.

WRITHM

...is going to spend a few hours with me before she goes out with her girl. I was going to go out with my boys but they are all caking tonight, so I will be solo.



KESHA

My girls are spending time with their significant others, and my brother is coming over to put my bookshelf together, after that I planned to be alone with this book I am reading, but I'd rather see you and just chill, so maybe I could come over later?

KCONSCIOUS

I guess we can be friends.

WCONSCIOUS

She is too aggressive, do not let her come over man.

(Writhm ignores the warning.)

WRITHM

Sure, just call me before you come.

KESHA

I have to get your address anyway, so I will talk to you later.

WRITHM

Cool. I will see you later. Peace.

KESHA

Bye.

(LIGHT DOWN.)

SCENE VIII

(ACE, WRITHM, ACONSCIOUS, WCONSCIOUS)

\*

(LIGHTS UP.)

ACE

I wish I could be as lucky as you are.

WRITHM

I do not see it as luck. I love Destiny, and Kesha is throwing monkey wrenches in my plans. I do not need this drama.

ACE

You trying to tell me, you did not want anything to happen with Kesha?

ACONSCIOUS

I did.

ACE

Dude did you really look at that body? I know how you like them, and she may have  
Destiny faded. All I would need is two hours, and I'm a happy man.

WRITHM

It is about more than a body.

ACE

Nigga please, that's the first thing brothers see.

WCONSCIOUS

Yeah, but I was drunk.

WRITHM

I look at hair too, hair will get you everywhere with me.

ACONSCIOUS

You trying to change the subject.

ACE

Did you sleep with her?

WRITHM

I promise and swear on everything I hold dear and sacred I did not sleep with Kesha...

WCONSCIOUS

Do not tell him.

WRITHM

...but I did something I regret a hell of a lot more.

ACE

What is it?

WRITHM

Man, I feel so bad.

ACE

What is it?!

WRITHM

My conscious is really bothering me.

ACE

What happened?

WRITHM

I do not know what to do.

ACE

Nigga, I'm tired of asking you what happened, now tell me, what the fuck happened?

(SPECIAL FADES TO BLACK ON  
WRITHM.)

## SCENE IX

(DESTINY, WCONSCIOUS, WRITHM, DCONSCIOUS)

\*

(LIGHTS UP ON LIVING ROOM.)

DESTINY

Writhm, I have a friend who is gay...

WCONSCIOUS

So! We all do.

WRITHM

GAY?

DESTINY

Not gay happy, but well... homosexual.

WRITHM

Whatever!?! Male or female?

DESTINY

Female.

WRITHM

And what is your point?

DESTINY

What does that look mean?

WRITHM

I mean ... Was she trying to come on to you or something?

DESTINY

I do not think so, but I could be wrong.

WRITHM

Is there really a point to this conversation?

DESTINY

Yeah, I want you to talk to her.

WRITHM

Why?

DESTINY

You read the bible...

DCONSCIOUS

Always quoting scripture and shit.

DESTINY

I mean she told me some interesting things.

WRITHM

What is her name?

DESTINY

Tina.

WRITHM

Why do you want me to talk to her?

DESTINY

I just want you to converse with her, to see what type of feel you get from her.

WRITHM

What do you mean what type of feeling?

DESTINY

Is she on the up and up? Is she serious? Is anything wrong with her?

WRITHM

I am not a shrink. I do not read minds. I cannot do that for you. That is a discernment you need for yourself.

DESTINY

You read the bible.

WRITHM

So.

DESTINY

Just meet her, I know how you feel about homosexuals, but just meet her, for me. I love you.

WRITHM

Before you go any further...

DESTINY

I know...

WRITHM

Well, let me say it again. A lot of people, especially them, think they have no choice, but I think everyone has a choice about their sexual orientation. Do you think people have a choice?

DCONSCIOUS

Why are we having this conversation?

DESTINY

I am not sure.

(Writhm looks at her perplexed. Then he shakes it off.)

WRITHM

Do you have a choice?

DESTINY

Damn right, I have a choice. What's your point?

WRITHM

What makes you so special you have a choice and homosexuals do not. Have you ever tried being with a woman?

DESTINY

I do not know about me being special but I have never seen a woman and thought she could satisfy me.

DCONSCIOUS

I don't think I have.

WRITHM

Exactly, but my thing is, I do not have a problem with homosexuals, because to each his or her own. I do not pass judgment, but why do we have to talk about it?

DESTINY

What is that supposed to mean?

WRITHM

I am saying, I will teach my kids to keep some things to themselves. Everybody does not have to know. I am not saying stay in the closet, but do I have to know? I do not flaunt my sexuality, so why should I have to know theirs?

DESTINY

You wouldn't want to know the sexual orientation of your children? Our children? Explain yourself!

DCONSCIOUS

If I am going to have your children we need to be on the same page.

WRITHM

Sexuality is slightly different from sexual orientation. Sexual orientation is a preference for a particular sex, and sexuality is the way the orientation is acted out. People who are true to themselves follow their hearts, let them do them. But as far as our children are concerned, it would not matter to me. I would not love them any less, if they went against societal norms. In fact, I think I would respect them more.

DESTINY

What?

WRITHM

Not for being homosexual, but for being their own person.

DESTINY

Explain.

WRITHM

It is not important. We, as people have to deal with society. Society does not have to make it easy for us. Society does not accept everyone; Jesus was killed because people did not like him.

DCONSCIOUS

Here comes the sermon.

WRITHM

I would never introduce myself as Writhm-the heterosexual. I feel like sexuality is such a minute part of who I am, it does not matter. Friendship and relationship are the important things. Sexuality is a small part of friendships. It does not have to be talked about, unless lines are crossed.

DESTINY

So there are lines in friendships?

WRITHM

Not only lines, but boundaries to a friendship.

DESTINY

Elaborate on the boundaries.

WCONSCIOUS

Here we go.

WRITHM

There are certain things in a friendship which are not negotiable. Boundaries are... Ace can not holler at you and expect to remain my friend. If you two get together, I may have to cut ties with one or both of you, depending on whether or not I can get to the truth. If you holler at him, I have to let you go. It would hurt but I would do it. If he hollers at you, I have to let him go, because I can not trust him. He is crossing the friends' boundaries. I am still trying to figure out telling your best friend everything about your significant other. That shit baffles me.

DESTINY

Well you want to share the experiences so badly, you feel like you can tell your best friend.

WRITHM

Just because you want to share with someone else, does that make it right? Well does not that make them curious?

DESTINY

Yeah, but they can not try to find out if what you are telling them is true. What does this have to do with children?

WRITHM

It is really kind of insignificant. I just wanted to get that off my chest.

DESTINY

What is the problem?

WRITHM

It is the whole bad world thing. I mean, I am afraid to even have a child with the world in the state of affair that it is.

DESTINY

Why?

WRITHM

The young people who are running the streets today, shooting and killing one another for reasons unknown to them.

DESTINY

Tragic!?

WRITHM

Yeah tragic. If these children are the future, we are in deep shit.

DESTINY

How can you say that?

WRITHM

Easily, I do not understand how anyone can think otherwise. It is more than painfully obvious to me, this world is crazy.

DESTINY

Needs love!?

WRITHM

No crazy! The world is so self-oriented, this is the me me me I I I generation. People are only concerned about themselves. Everything is quick and simple. We have no time to sit and work out our problems. Everything is so impersonal. When is the last time you called a company you needed service from and did not get a machine first? Everyone seems to want immediate gratification. No one wants to work for anything. Everything is filled with such isms. Racism, saturates the world, sexism dominates the globe, and jealousy cradles most hearts. Is not there enough good to share?

DESTINY

What do you mean by that?

WRITHM

Rodney King asks can we all just get along? I doubt it as long as we can not extend helping hands to one another.



DESTINY

Where is all this hostility coming from?

WRITHM

The world has become the source of my misery. I find it frustrating to watch the news. The news depresses me. I watch it sparingly. I find it to not only be racially biased, but just plain consumed with negativity.

DESTINY

Biased? Negativity?

WRITHM

Yes biased, and full of negativity!

DESTINY

I don't understand what you are talking about.

WRITHM

Think about this: September 11, 2001.

DESTINY

What about it?

WRITHM

Look at the United States reaction to what happened on September 11th.

DESTINY

Are you talking about the war?

WRITHM

That too!

(Pause)

But I am also referring to America's attitude. Well, let me clarify what I mean by America's attitude: those which the media allows us to hear and see. Many of the people I talk to about this do not agree with what the media shows us.

DESTINY

I hear you.

WRITHM

Back to my point, people go out and start racially profiling, attacking and harassing people because of their appearance and/or ideologies.

DESTINY

Again explain to me, what you are talking about.

\*

WRITHM

Let us look at this without being involved.

DESTINY

But we are involved.

WRITHM

Only if we want to be... but that is beside the point and irrelevant. Ask yourself why would something like this happen?

DESTINY

Because people hate us and are jealous of us, and because we are the wealthiest country in the world.

WRITHM

...with the most arrogance.

(Pause)

I disagree! I think something like this could happen because when the cries and pleas of oppressed people are not heard by those who can help them, they, the oppressed, resort to a language oppressive people understand: violence.

DESTINY

So you condone this blatant attempt to bring America to it's knees. People are afraid to fly, go to the malls, and life in America has forever been changed.

WRITHM

I will not argue with that.

(Pause)

Look, I do not condone violence, but I understand, and I sympathize.

\*

DESTINY

You feel sorry for terrorist?

WRITHM

I sure do. But more than just feeling sorry for them, I deplore their conditions and mind-state which would propel them to act this way. And America must stand and accept the role we have taken in their plight.

I feel sorry for the young men and women who have to fight stupid wars. And all wars are stupid. I feel sorry for the Americans who support this open source of violence.

DESTINY

Why?

WRITHM

We try to teach our children sensible people talk things out and violence is for animals, and as soon as someone slaps us, the first thing we do is get our guns. What type of message are we sending to the children, future of America, of the world?

DESTINY

But why do you feel sorry for terrorist?

WRITHM

Have you seen the lives those people live? They live in caves... they reside in rocks in the side of mountains. They oppress their women, they are as gong ho about Allah and their religion as some fanatic Christians are about Jesus and theirs. And most Christians will not admit it, but they are fanatics. \*

DESTINY

What do you mean by fanatics?

WRITHM

They are diehard bigots.

DESTINY

That's harsh!

WRITHM

Look at these people lives. They live in a police state, and believe others, i.e. United State Americans have a vested interest in their suffering.

DESTINY

You think that?

WRITHM

I know that. Here I am going to the movies as often as I want. I have dreams of being a lawyer, or doctor, or engineer, or entertainer, and they dream of consistent meals. I want to travel the world, they want to see another town, one preferably with food, and running water.

WCONSCIOUS

What does that say about me?

## DCONSCIOUS

What does that say about you?

## WRITHM

This says I am an American and I receive, at least on the surface, all of the benefits and privileges of being so. And I forget the world is getting smaller and those people are my neighbors, and therefore if they need something and I have it to give I should help, in fact I am propelled to help.

## DESTINY

Are you helping so they will help you one day?

## WRITHM

Hell no! I am helping because I know my prosperity is intrinsically tied to theirs and their destiny is inexplicably woven into mine. So to accept this American attitude is WRONG!

## DESTINY

But they killed many American and changed our lives forever.

## WRITHM

Eventually we will get back to our lives as usual.

## DESTINY

To kill is wrong!

\*

## WRITHM

We, Americans kill everyday also, but most of that does not touch everybody's life, like September 11, 2001. To kill, the way people are being killed today, there has to be some hate somewhere in those hearts. I do not think most, intentionally teach their children that type of hate. But people do teach hate. Some people teach their children hate, because of circumstances beyond their control. For instance, you hate those who make life arduous for you. Some people learn hate because of coerced situations... hate those that can help you but refuse.

## DESTINY

I think I am beginning to understand.

## WRITHM

I do not have a problem with people teaching hate, but most irresponsible adults do not teach people how to deal with their hate. This makes the incident on September 11, and our reaction biased, it only benefits us, and the world is larger than us.

## DESTINY

Help me out, biased?

WRITHM

Do you remember Anwar Sadat?

DESTINY

No!

WRITHM

Well what about Saddam Hussein, Osama bin Laden, Yasir Arafat... The media is giving the impression that American people can do anything they want to people of color and get away with it.

(Pause)

Life in America is horrible.

DESTINY

And worse outside of its bounders.

WRITHM

I am not disputing that, but just because it is bad in other places does not mean we can not change the things which are going on here.

(Pause)

The US has more prisons than any other country. Since the 70's, there has been a drop in crime, but the prison numbers have more than doubled. I am talking about decline in respect to inmates, but an actual increase in number of prisons. Do you know the safest stock on Wall Street?

DESTINY

No. What is it?

WRITHM

Prisons, and the penile system. Want to make some money, invest in prisons.

DESTINY

Ah, sweety, it can't be that bad.

WRITHM

Can not be THAT bad... It can not be THAT bad... Woman let me explain something to you. See you are from... I mean you have been sheltered. Your family has protected you from the harsh realities of life. Plus you have an education, which has lead, you further from the truth.

DESTINY

Writhm, you have an education.

WRITHM

I have a life education also. So, in conjunction to that, I was not protected from life's realities. You see they slipped up and taught the wrong Negro, how to read between the lines.

DESTINY

Explain.

WRITHM

Do you know how much five ounces of crack in its rock form is worth?

DESTINY

No...

WRITHM

I know you do not know. It is worth about \$35, maybe \$40 at the most. Remember five ounces maybe \$40. Getting caught with five ounces is a felony. This goes on an individual's permanent record, and more than likely they get jail time.

DESTINY

Yeah go ahead...

WRITHM

In its powder form, 500 pounds of cocaine is only a misdemeanor. That is worth a lot more than \$40. More like thousands of dollars, maybe \$2000 or \$3000. Are you with me?

DESTINY

Yeah...

WRITHM

Rock form, five ounces, \$40, felony, permanent records, and jail time. Powder form, 500 pounds, \$3000, misdemeanor, probation probably points towards community service. Who do you think is more likely to have crack in the rock form?

DESTINY

Blacks?!

WRITHM

And who is more likely to have crack in the powder form?

DESTINY

Whites!

WRITHM

This is tantamount to branding a slave. I have you on record, forever. I can keep-up with you no matter where you go. Most Blacks get some form of punishment the first time they go in front of a judge. Branding! I could go on forever about the discrepancies in the penile system, or the conspiracy against the Black male, but in the essence of time, I will say religion is what has kept us here all these years. It is what will give us our rightful places in the universe. People need to stop being so self-oriented, and just extend a hand for, I mean to, others.

DESTINY

Black folk?

WRITHM

All folk!

(Pause)

Although I see the world through tinted shades, I am not discouraged.

(Writhm kisses Destiny on her eyelids.)

DESTINY

That was nice... What was that for?

WRITHM

Just for being my baby. I love you. Let us play the truth game for a minute?!

DESTINY

Okay.

(She kisses Writhm on his neck.)

WRITHM

Do you love me?

(Writhm kisses her on the forehead.)

DESTINY

You know I do. Do you love me?

(Destiny kisses Writhm on the lips.)

WRITHM

More than breathing. Do you trust me?

DESTINY

More than life. Have you ever done anything that would make me waver in my trust of you?

WRITHM

Never. Why do you love me?

DESTINY

You know there are no why questions. You're cheating.

WRITHM

I have never cheated on you. Forget the game and answer the question.

DESTINY

Writhm, we have been together for two years. I have never felt about anyone like I feel about you. I trust you so much I am on the pill.

WCONSCIOUS

What!?

WRITHM

What does that mean?

DESTINY

If you ever wanted to do it without a condom we wouldn't have to wait the mandatory month till the pill takes affect.

WRITHM

Oh!?

DESTINY

I adore you. I trust you with my car... You know what, I trust you so much... I would leave you in the same house, alone, with one of my girlfriends. Writhm, when we first met, I was really jealous, but over time you have more than proven you love me, and I can and do trust you.

WRITHM

When?

DESTINY

Well, you do not know, but I remember about two months after we started talking Tracey, your ex-girlfriend, just dropped by your house, and instead of like trying to get rid of her, you invited her in and introduced me to her, and you were comfortable, not scared.



WCONSCIOUS

I was scared, but I was opening a new chapter, HONESTY.

DESTINY

Plus, Writhm I have done things with you that would make a hooker blush. That would never have happened if I did not love you. Writhm you are my first love, and I pray every night you are my last.

WRITHM

I remember the incident with Tracey.

DESTINY

Yeah, but I know she spent the night, and nothing happened. In fact, Writhm you have introduced me to all of your ex-girlfriends. It is obvious you respect me, and I respect you too.

WRITHM

How do you know nothing happened?

DESTINY

I ran into Tracey on her way out and we talked. I was about to get in your ass, but she assured me nothing happened. She told me everything you said about me, and how you were finally over her, and how happy I was making you.

WRITHM

What else did she say?

DESTINY

She said I was lucky and you would make me a good husband one-day.

WRITHM

She said all that, and you never told me.

DESTINY

I was waiting on you to bring it up, but you never did. Initially, I wondered why, but after a while, it wasn't important, because we were getting along so well.

WRITHM

I wondered why Tracey never called me again.

(Writhm kissed Destiny on her neck and pushed her onto his bed.)

DESTINY

Well, boo, I knew all about it, and...

WRITHM

Wait! Slow down... how long have you been on the pill?

DESTINY

About a year and a half...

WRITHM

You never told me...

DESTINY

You never asked.

(She hugs Writhm, and they kiss.)

You see, Writhm, that's another reason I love you, you're responsible. You never worried me with birth control; you always had protection. I never had to worry about you.

WCONSCIOUS

I did not know you would make it this far...

WRITHM

How do you know?

DESTINY

I count your condoms...

(Writhm smiles.)

And you have never come up short.

\*

(They start making out. Writhm makes sure everyone sees the condoms.)

\*

Are we going to continue to use condoms?

WCONSCIOUS AND DCONSCIOUS

Don't you think you should use a condom?

WRITHM

I will use condoms until we are married.

WCONSCIOUS

I am not convinced yet... I do not need any new problems which I can not control...

(LIGHTS DOWN ON BEDROOM.)

## SCENE X

(WRITHM, DESTINY, DCONSCIOUS, WCONSCIOUS)

\*

(LIGHTS UP ON BEDROOM.)

WRITHM

(Standing above the bed. Destiny is still lying  
in the bed.)

Destiny.

DESTINY

(Awakening)

Seven!

\*

WRITHM

I am sorry baby, but Tina called and said she will pick you up in twenty minutes.

DESTINY

(Sitting up in the bed. Grabs clothes and puts  
them on.)

Writhm, what are you doing the rest of the night?

WRITHM

I am going over some poetry with this girl. We just going to run verses by each other to see  
if we want to publish together.

DESTINY

Again, you amaze me. You could have lied, and I would have never known.

DCONSCIOUS

Yes I would.

WCONSCIOUS

Yes you would. I would fuck-up and you would know.

WRITHM

What is in the dark will eventually come to the light.

DESTINY

You really believe that?

WRITHM

I do not know much. But that is one true statement.

(Horn honks from outside. Destiny gets her coat and kisses Writhm.)

(LIGHTS DOWN ON BEDROOM.)

SCENE XI

(ACE, WCONSCIOUS, WRITHM)

\*

(LIGHT UP ON LIVING ROOM.)

ACE

Dude I do not care about you and Destiny. I have heard far too much about you and her. What happened with Kesha?

WCONSCIOUS

Yeah, you know you in deep shit!

WRITHM

Forget you man. Just be patient and I will get to that part.

WCONSCIOUS

The shit is deep.

ACE

Man, just explain how you get such fine women.

WCONSCIOUS

That is a question I would like for someone to answer.

WRITHM

I am inclined to say I respect them. Let me finish.

(LIGHTS DOWN FOR ACE TO LEAVE.)

## SCENE XII

(WCONSCIOUS, WRITHM, FATE, FCONSCIOUS)

(LIGHTS UP.)

WCONSCIOUS

You know you are about to get in trouble.

WRITHM

No! No! No! I got this. I am not going to sit up here and talk to myself.

(Fate knocks on the door. Writhm walks over to door, and looks through peephole. Opens door. She is carrying a book bag, and a purse. She has on a pair of tight jeans, and a nice blouse, gymshoes, and a thin wind-breaking jacket.)

Hey baby girl. What you doin' here?

FATE

I needed someone to talk to. Are you busy?

WCONSCIOUS

At least get her drunk first.

FCONSCIOUS

At least get drunk so you can blame it on the liquor.

WRITHM

Naw, I am waiting on a friend to come by and discuss something. Would you like something... to drink, to eat, a place to sit?

FCONSCIOUS

You're much nicer when Destiny isn't around.

FATE

Sure, what do you have to drink? Where's Destiny?

WCONSCIOUS

Maybe she does not share everything with you...

WRITHM

She went out with Tina. Why did you not go with them?

(Writhm walks to kitchen. Phone rings.  
Writhm answers.)

Hello.

(Pause)

Aww, what is up Kesha?

(Pause)

Well I have a friend who stopped by and they want to talk.

(Pause)

It is a female.

(Pause)

Anyway, maybe we can hook-up some other time. \*

(Pause)

All right, I will call you tomorrow. \*

(He hangs up phone. To Fate) \*

I have beer, wine, orange juice, water, cranberry juice, and apple juice...

FATE

Am I sensing a pattern? Do you have anything with carbonation?

WRITHM

Actually no. I do not have any pop. I have hard liquor.

FATE

What types of hard liquors?

WRITHM

Absolut, Jack, Tequila, Paul Masson, Bacardi, Tangeray, VSOP, and Hennessy.

FATE

I'll take Absolutely cranberry...

FCONSCIOUS

Do not get drunk!

WCONSCIOUS

A woman after my own heart.

WRITHM

Why are you not out with Destiny and Tina?

FATE

(Fate opens her bag and pulls out a notebook,  
with a pen stuck in the binding.) )

What do you want to hear?

\*

WRITHM

The truth.

FATE

I have a problem with her. Something about her isn't right. I don't care for Tina too much.

WCONSCIOUS

That is because she is gay and you think she may want you, and you may want her.

WRITHM

Who does?

(Takes a shot.)

FATE

Anyway, that's not my real problem. I have a thing for someone I've known a long time,  
and I do not know how to tell him.

WRITHM

Just be honest with him.

FATE

I think of him as a friend. I wrote this poem for him. Check it out and tell me what you  
think. Advise me about whether or not I should give it to him. This is called fan.

WRITHM

You are going to give him a poem?

FATE

He's sensitive like that.

WRITHM

Sounds like he is gay.

FATE

He's all man.

(Takes a shot.)

WRITHM

If you say so.

FATE

I say so.

WRITHM

Go ahead. I would not take a poem from a woman.

FATE

You write, listen to, and read poetry.

WRITHM

I am secure in my masculinity. Plus, I already have a woman. I do not have to prove anything to anyone. I give poetry, not accept it.

FATE

So if this were for you, you wouldn't accept it.

FCONSCIOUS

For him to be such a perceptive person about everybody else, he sure is clueless when it comes to himself.

WRITHM

Destiny would not write a poem, so, I am safe.

(Takes a shot.)

FATE

So your worth is tied to your woman, and what she thinks of you.

WRITHM

Actually, my worth is tied to my faith.

FATE

We will talk about your faith later.

(Takes a shot.)

(SPECIAL ON FCONSCIOUS)



## FCONSCIOUS

fan

the sweltering heat of devotion grows in my heart  
i fan with the beauty death created

i desire an opportunity to become acquainted with amour

waltz the enchanted love zone  
artifacts of our first encounter linger as memories  
nurture the slow dance which made my heart race  
too terrified to enunciate my intentions, transformed to mournful feelings

allured by your natural beauty towards perfection

captures the essence of my longings  
herald my infatuation for you  
announce the scream of passion  
nectar of emotions, my scorching tears  
carouse the rhythms of my shyness  
emancipate the dreams locked into fantasies

lecherous cravings for happiness  
altering lovers from friends  
unabated warmth, kindles the coals of romantic interludes  
recreational gusts of subjective expectations cries for one another  
avert attention from potential prospects juxtaposed

,

buttery lips of flowers, i need you  
alabaster notions with enamoring mystifying awe  
mastering cryptic expression  
making headstrong unions of sufferers

you invade my perceptions  
more drastic then temperature changes in chicago  
end my thirst for companionship  
by giving me a chance.

(SPECIAL DOWN, AND LIGHTS BACK UP  
ON SCENE.)

## FATE

That's okay since you feel so passionate about men not receiving poetry.

WRITHM

So you are giving up?

FATE

Yeah. Maybe he's not worth it.

WRITHM

I am flabbergasted, speechless, bereft of utterances, and basically I do not know what to say. He must be really special to you. I can not see you just letting it go. Who is he?

FCONSCIOUS

Tell him to see his reaction then you will know if you can take it further.

FATE

(Long pause)

You.

\*

WCONSCIOUS

She is playing with your emotions. Do not fall for it.

WRITHM

(Writhm shakes his head)

Me?

FATE

Yes you. Writhm for a long time I have been digging you.

WRITHM

Ha! Ha! Ha! Oh I get it. Destiny wants to see if I will really mess around with one of her friends. We conversed about this earlier today. She told me she trusts me, but I never thought my angel would test me. That is so cute.

FATE

Writhm I'm not playing, and Destiny doesn't know I'm here.

WRITHM

She starts out telling me about her homosexual friend...

FCONSCIOUS

Tina is gay.

FATE

Writhm where did Tina and Destiny go?

WRITHM

I do not know, why?

FATE

Writhm, I just figured out why I don't like Tina.

WRITHM

Enlighten please.

FATE

How could I put this?

WRITHM

Straight and to the point?

FATE

Why should I, you won't believe me.

WRITHM

Tell me.

FATE

She's a dyke.

WRITHM

Dyke? Such a harsh word! It is like nigga, you can only use it if you are one.

FATE

Whatever!

WRITHM

Okay, I know. Destiny told me tonight.

FATE

Writhm she is a dyke, and she is out with your woman.

WCONSCIOUS

Your point is.

FATE

That doesn't worry you. No alarms are going off.

WRITHM

Aw you going to take it to the hilt. You want me to believe my woman is out with a woman who wants her. That is original. Tell me my woman is cheating on me, but not with a man, she is tricking off with a woman. Okay I will play you and Destiny's little game.

I am with it. Here. (Writhm gives her a peck on the cheek. She grabs him and gives him a sensuous kiss on the lips.) I'm telling Destiny!

WCONSCIOUS

(During kiss.)

Damn, this is nice. Better than I ever thought it could be.

\*

FCONSCIOUS

(During kiss.)

Damn, not as good as I imagined, but I guess it will do.

\*

FATE

You don't get it.

WRITHM

Get what?

FATE

You trust her?

WRITHM

Hell yeah.

FATE

Then don't worry and listen to what I am telling you... about me.

WRITHM

What are you saying?

FATE

I am telling you I'm digging you and you're rejecting me.

WRITHM

You are my woman's best friend. I think.

FATE

Writhm...

WRITHM

Here I am thinking you finally about to give my boy a chance, and you trying to get ooachikachi with me. I want to tell Destiny to keep my nose clean, but I do not want you to fall out.

FATE

I won't scream if you don't holler.

WRITHM

So we are supposed to sleep together, then you tell Destiny and I look stupid. Hell no! That goes against everything I believe a relationship should be.

FATE

Writhm, I promise I will never tell Destiny this night even took place. I already feel stupid. I have nothing else to loose. You think I am crazy or something. To be perfectly honest, I do not want anything but a night.

WRITHM

Damn, Fate you sound like a dude. I expect Ace to say some bullshit like that.

FATE

Come on Writhm...

WRITHM

You know and I know it could never be THAT cut and dry.

FATE

Yes it can!

WRITHM

How?

FATE

If you don't say anything... I swear I won't...

WRITHM

I am confused.

FATE

Forget it. This is just too hard. Let's change the subject. Ah... Basketball! How are the Bulls doing?

WRITHM

Maybe we should talk about your issues with me? I mean I do not want any added pressure in our already tension ridden relationship.

FATE

I don't care. I feel horrible. Now you know. Change the subject to make me feel better. I like the Timberwolves this year. What do you think?

## WRITHM

Why? KG is gone. But you avoiding the subject will not make the feelings go away. You are only suppressing emotions and that can not be healthy.

## FATE

What is up with that? You like seeing people wallow in pity. You have to be the savior, the one in charge. I want to see your soul. You write all this great poetry, but no one can see your heart. I don't get it. Why do you have to have such control over everything? Just let go.

## WRITHM

I keep drama at bay by staying in control. I know I have no one to blame if something negative happens. I just do not have a lot of problems. But maybe later we can discuss some things. I want you to deal with your feelings and discuss this with someone.

## FATE

Who do you suggest? I came over here to see what you had to say about the subject.

## WRITHM

I am in love with Destiny.

(She flips through book of poetry and finds soul.)

## FATE

What is soul about?

## WRITHM

It is about my life before Destiny.

(SPECIAL UP ON WCONSCIOUS AND DCONSCIOUS.)

## WCONSCIOUS

Soul

i was introduced to my soul in my last dream  
 she had eyes of the constellation, mysterious and vast  
 large and open to a world i can never fully understand  
 her wisdom is love, accessible to all, but only a few can even begin to feel her warmth  
 lips as soft as rose petals floating on a sea of milk and honey  
 sent ice-cold slivers of orgasms down my spine, you see  
 she makes me happy just being in her presence

## DCONSCIOUS

in my sleep i saw my spirit  
 his shoulders spread across the sky, like clouds hiding the heavens  
 i can feel the presence of greatness as he holds my hand  
 his sense of humor, allows life to shine, and permits me to see a beautiful man  
 the sun of the earth has brightened my nights  
 the water on his lips whet my appetite  
 the taste of sunshine is his breath, and i want to savor his aroma  
 with the wafting of his cologne, oomph!? oomph!! oomph!!!

## WCONSCIOUS

i see her face etched in each raindrop which falls in my life  
 tears of the heavens wash my squalid soul  
 lost inside her space, it behooves me to imagine why we haven't met  
 giving my love freely to be nurtured in her soul  
 heaven shines on her vanilla pastures, cinnamon skin flawless  
 readily seen in my sleeping visions, illusionary mental images are driving me crazy  
 i can't help but wonder where she is, she exists in my heart, and lives in my mind  
 she's part of my soul, we are one spirit

## DCONSCIOUS

a familiar stranger manipulating my heart  
 anoint my world with the beauty in his heart, i wish i could finally meet him and have his  
 world  
 his hands strong but gently caressing my body like the end  
 his seed blossoms in the fertilizer of my womanhood  
 this apparition needs to seek truth, wandering aimlessly in the light of his being  
 refusing to look for my love, we will be together as soon as our time comes  
 fate and destiny have already chosen our courses, we are the same person  
 we share the same soul, we are one,  $1 + 1 = \text{ing } 1$ , in our utopian world, me plus him is 1

## WCONSCIOUS

her voice soothes my aggressive cosmos,

## DCONSCIOUS

his voice shakes my passive character

## WCONSCIOUS

her love stretches out to me,

## DCONSCIOUS

his love reaches the core of me

WCONSCIOUS

her virtue makes me want to taste her,

DCONSCIOUS

his merit makes me want to have him

WCONSCIOUS

she is me,

DCONSCIOUS

he is me

WCONSCIOUS AND DCONSCIOUS

we belong together.

(SPECIAL DOWN AND LIGHT RETURN TO  
SCENE.)

FATE

I wish I could get a man to say those types of things to me. What inspired that?

WRITHM

Destiny!

FATE

Damn, that's deep.

WRITHM

May I ask what stood out to you?

FATE

There were many things which stopped being words and became thoughts. They actually took me from here and I wanted to be somewhere else, but then I wanted to hear more. There are so many things which stand by themselves. In fact, each verse could be embellished into a poem. I do not know where to start.

WRITHM

The first thing?

\*

FATE

Okay. You meeting each other in dreams. Need I say more?

WRITHM

Yeah, say more.



## WCONSCIOUS

I am drunk. Here come the swirlies.

## FATE

I see the natural opposites of the world, dreams and realities, existing together. Those are powerful words, and images. Meeting in a place with no physicality, on a plane which has no depth or dimensions. I'm feeling this. The beautiful thing is, this may be the only place where eternity can exist because the physical will not be, and those things of our conscious still have merit. I want this soul experience. Writhm you're a gifted writer.

## WRITHM

I owe all of my talents to God. If you think I can write, you believe in God, because she is the source of my talents.

## FATE

You think God is a woman?

## WRITHM

Yes!

## FATE

But in the bible it says, 'Our father.'

## FCONSCIOUS

I am drunk... I am in control... Focus Fate!

## WRITHM

I can not role with that interpretation of God...

## FATE

Why?

## WRITHM

Because I can not see God as a loving father when that image is not manifested on Earth, at least not in my life. I have problems seeing an affectionate male, forgiving me when I do something wrong, those things I have been warned against: a man who accepts me unconditionally. I can not envision it. That portrait has yet to be painted in my life: a man who can accept me as I am without trying to change me. Everyone wants something from others, finding out is the fun. Two people can have God-like experiences. God being the archetype of everything cannot be a male, in fact I would dare say, cannot have a male spirit, simply because males are much too aggressive. And if God were really aggressive this world would not be in the condition it is. God would just force us to do what ever God desired us to do, we would really have 'no choice'.

FATE

Are you saying God being a male could not be loving?

WRITHM

No! I am saying God, the ultimate archetype for reality, has no reason to force us to do anything. And being a male and being in charge and having total control is not an attribute I would ascribe to God. But that is me and where I am in my faith journey.

FATE

Interesting concept, but I love those lines.

WRITHM

I can feel that. Anything else.

FATE

The poem actually speaks for itself. It really is a nice work of art. I have no idea what Destiny has done to you, but she's lucky.

WRITHM

I do not believe in luck.

WCONSCIOUS

I believe, I am officially drunk, now.

FATE

What do you believe?

WRITHM

I believe in God.

FATE

What about Jesus and the Holy Spirit?

FCONSCIOUS

I am talking about God and Jesus. It's notarized by a notary republic, I am drunk.

WRITHM

They cool, but they are not my God. I believe Jesus was a man, just like me. And he made mistakes, just like me. He had a wife and he sinned.

FATE

Nigga please, Jesus did not sin.

WRITHM

Matthew 3:6 states, “and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.” Mark 1:4 says, “John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming the baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.” And Luke 3:3 puts it this way, “He went into all the regions around the Jordan, proclaiming the baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.” All state John the Baptist was baptizing to rid people of their sins. If Jesus had not sinned why would he need to be baptized.

FATE

You are misinterpreting scripture.

WRITHM

No I am not. You believe everything you hear. So when someone tries to educate you with some truth, you call me a heretic. Do not blame me, that is what the bible says.

FATE

You really believe that.

WRITHM

I also believe in love. I believe in happiness. I believe in Destiny, and the love we share. I guess you can say I am an optimist.

FATE

Are you talking about your girlfriend or real destiny?

WRITHM

She is my genuine destiny. I love this woman. Whenever we spend the night with each other, I wait until she goes to sleep, then I sit next to her and just watch her, and I pray. Did you know no one is as innocent as when they are sleeping? She just lies there uninterrupted, trusting. You are truly vulnerable when you sleep, innocent and unaffected by life. This is why having sex is often referred to as sleeping together, when sleep is the last thing you are doing. That is why sleeping with someone is so intimate, it leaves one vulnerable. I respect and appreciate her so much, it is hard for me to concentrate. I rather stop breathing than upset her.

FATE

Writhm, you're truly a special man. Have you ever cheated on her?

WCONSCIOUS

Not till you kissed me.

WRITHM

No, I have been tempted but it has never materialized.

FCONSCIOUS

It can happen tonight if you let it.

FATE

Why?

WCONSCIOUS

It will happen tonight.

WRITHM

Because something always happened. Like after we start, I would feel bad or think about if Destiny were doing the same thing how I would feel, and get turned off. I think my guilt from other relationships keeps me honest. She told me once she went out with another man, and I was pissed.

FATE

Did they do anything?

WRITHM

Nah, but just the fact she went out with him. When she told me I went ballistic.

FATE

That's not fair.

WCONSCIOUS

And you kissing me is.

WRITHM

Whatever! As long as I can keep another woman out of my mind, I have a chance, but if she stimulates me mentally, Destiny is in trouble. And, I hope and pray I never meet another woman with a comparable body. If she gets in my head and has a nice body, I may lose it. Not to make excuses, but I am still a man. I look at women, but then I think about Destiny. I have convinced myself she is the most beautiful woman, inside and out, I have ever seen.

FATE

So you are saying I could not even tempt you.

FCONSCIOUS

Take off your blouse.

WRITHM

Not exactly! My natural male curiosity would be interested in what is going on underneath those clothes. But to go further my mind must be tampered. You see a woman has to appeal to my spirituality, and intellectuality, if that is a word.

FATE

Can I ask you a personal question?

(Starts taking off blouse.)

WCONSCIOUS

What is she doing? Damn she has nice breast.

WRITHM

Sure, as long as it is for a point?

FATE

I am curious, as to the severity of your love for Destiny.

WRITHM

Why?

FATE

That's not the question, but the reason I ask is I think you are denying something. What if Destiny doesn't care for you the way you care about her? I mean I hear what Writhm is doing, but what is she doing?

WRITHM

She does plenty! We communicate, we have fun together, and we are active participants in each other's lives.

FATE

Do you think she would ever cheat on you?

WRITHM

Hell no!

FATE

You petty fool. She has you exactly where most men should be. You trust her so much you would ignore all of the signs of her infidelity.

WCONSCIOUS

Destiny is an attractive woman.

WRITHM

Signs like what?

## FATE

I'm not saying she's cheating on you. But you worship this woman. That's a compromising position for anyone. Even if she does leave you to be with her friends, always call you, whenever you want her, she's there. What men fail to realize is women are much better at cheating than they are.

## WCONSCIOUS

She has plenty of male friends...

## WRITHM

I disagree, nine times out of ten, men just get cocky, and start flaunting. Their egos get the better of them, and they slip.

## FCONSCIOUS

He's falling.

## FATE

Women don't.

## WCONSCIOUS

She goes out quite often.

## WRITHM

I am not listening to this. I know I love my woman, and she loves me.

## FCONSCIOUS

Mission accomplished.

## FATE

I don't doubt that, but usually when something seems too good to be true, it usually is.

## WCONSCIOUS

She is right.

## WRITHM

Read another poem.

## FATE

What type?

## WRITHM

It does not matter.

## FATE

Here you read this. This is called fate.

(SPECIAL ON WCONSCIOUS.)

## WCONSCIOUS

fate

tardy promises manifest in your eyes  
 significant other and distance separate us  
 wish you could see my soul exposed and watch yourself dance naked in our glow  
 the rhythmic movement of your hips  
 i'll never forget the softness of your lips  
 the warmth of my taboo crevice and the ecstasy of your feelings  
 thought being used was bad, but you made me want to be exhausted  
 your age intimidated me  
 after we found common ground on which to dance curiosity of your life quaking  
 motivations swelled  
 i divest womanhood to taste your forbidden banana and your essence is not linked to your  
 phallic symbol  
 my worth is tied to my unsatisfied heart and ever-changing mind  
 i fail to understand why your woman isn't catering to your every need  
 comprehension eludes me as to your unhappiness  
 age, and your ticking clock are meeting to slow you down  
 rushing bliss and waiting with patience  
 will ensure that we belong together  
 i know one day you'll be my husband because destiny put us on this course  
 i made that deal before my birth, fate is too kind

(SPECIAL DOWN AND LIGHTS RETURN  
 TO SCENE.)

(They are in the bed making love, when Writm reaches  
 on the night table and gets a condom. They are making  
 sexual sounds. Phone rings.)

## DESTINY (V.O)

Boo, you page me then leave? Call me when you get this! I'll be home in about two  
 hours... I love you... Bye!

\*

(LIGHTS DOWN.)

## ACT II

## SCENE II

(WRITHM, ACONSCIOUS, ACE)

\*

(LIGHTS COME UP ON LIVING ROOM)

WRITHM

Dude it was so good, but I feel so bad.

ACONSCIOUS

Dude is fucked...

ACE

Why?

WRITHM

Because I messed-up and slipped. How can I ever think I want to marry Destiny and her girl can come and wiggle a little ass in my face and I fall?

ACE

Shows me you a man.

WRITHM

That is no excuse!

ACE

Not in that context. I'm talking about... Writhm, you are not perfect, so stop trying to be.

WRITHM

What if Destiny finds out?

ACE

How will she find out? I won't tell. I know yo ass aint gone tell. Fate would never tell, because that's her girl.

WRITHM

Never say never.

ACE

Boy you stuck on rocket, you need to slow down.

WRITHM

How could I expect you to understand? You have not had a steady woman in years.

\*



ACE

So, I'm still happy. This is one of the reasons I am single. I do not owe anyone anything. I answer to my damn self.

WRITHM

I believe in Karma dude. I know something crazy is going to happen.

ACONSCIOUS

Trying to control the world. Life is larger than you dude. Guilt is slapping your conscious around like a little bitch.

(LIGHT DOWN ON WRITHM AND ACE.)

SCENE II

(WCONSCIOUS)

\*

(LIGHTS UP ON WRITHM IN  
BATHROOM.)

WCONSCIOUS

Oh Mr. Tidy Bowl. You are the only one who understands me. Your belly is so cool. Reminds me of heaven. Why am I so sick? I have done nothing to deserve this treatment. For the past few weeks, at around six o'clock in the morning you have been my rock, and my most bestes friend. How could I ever take advantage of you? Only cold porcelain can deliver the satisfaction I need till I feel like a person again. I love you my throne. Destiny is pregnant. I know it.

(LIGHT DOWN ON WRITHM IN  
BATHROOM.)

SCENE III

(FATE, WRITHM, WCONSCIOUS, FCONSCIOUS)

\*

(LIGHTS UP ON WRITHM AND FATE.)

FATE

Writhm, we need to talk.

WRITHM

About what?

FATE

That time I came over here, us.

WCONSCIOUS

Here comes the drama.

WRITHM

Look, Fate I think we were both moved, for lack of a better term, and curiosity and liquor got the better of me, and things I did not want to happen happened. I do not remember much. Now you are a beautiful woman and I am very much attracted to you, but I know this type of relationship can go no further. I mean I do not even know what happened.

FCONSCIOUS

Oh no, you can't get out of this that easy.

FATE

I know what you mean. Because it seemed like one minute I was chilling with a cool dude, like a homie I've known for years, and the next thing I knew it was like I was making love to my man.

WRITHM

You mean there is a difference?

FCONSCIOUS

Men are stupid.

FATE

Hell yeah. Sex is never just sex when it's your man. In fact, when it does become just sex, she will more than likely find a more meaningful partner. You see when something is new to a man, he treats it like it is a part of him, like it is special, because it's valuable. He goes out of his way to make sure it is being taken care of in every way, shape and form. That's why Destiny is such a lucky woman. Seems as if you treasure her world, and that makes her special.

WRITHM

So, back to us. What are we going to do?

FATE

About what?

WRITHM

About us?

FATE

What are you talking about? There is no us. We are friends, that's it.

WRITHM

You could have said it a little better. What is up with you and Destiny?

FATE

Writhm I'm sorry but tact is not a part of my character. Nothing is up with Destiny and I. We just us. We have not been hanging out as much, lately.

FCONSCIOUS

I don't feel like being her friend.

FATE

Don't get me wrong, I loved sleeping with you, but you have something golden with Destiny, and that's sacred.

WRITHM

Now you think it is sacred. Sacred! You slept with me. We did not just have dinner and take a dumb-assed walk. We shared each other's lives...

FATE

See, Writhm this is why you are so special. You are probably the most sensual man I've ever met. But reality is reality...

WRITHM

The reality is, we chose the most hallowed experience two people can share, and you dismiss it like this is nothing.

FATE

Writhm! You can stop with the holier than thou routine. I didn't recall all this sanctified bullshit when we were in bed together.

(Look as if she is getting sick.)

WRITHM

Are you all right?

FATE

Sure I'm fine. Just give me some water.

WRITHM

Ay! If you are not all right let me know. I know being sick is not the greatest feeling in the world. If you need anything, just let me know.

FATE

Just be responsible.

WRITHM

Okay.

FATE

Writhm can I share something?

WRITHM

You mean you have more?

FATE

Lately I've been thinking about you and I and what happened, and Destiny...

WRITHM

Destiny?

FATE

Yes Destiny. How would I feel if I were in her shoes? I worry about things I can not control. Sometimes too much. I put undue pressure on myself to try and help the world. Now I must begin to realize I can not save the world. It's been disrupting my life.

WRITHM

What do you mean?

FATE

My body is like a clock? Since I was fourteen, every twenty-eight days at 8:00 PM I start my cycle. And now, I am late.

WRITHM

How late?

FATE

A month.

WRITHM

What are you saying?

FATE

I'm saying I think I may be pregnant.

WRITHM

By me.

FATE

You are the only guy I've been with in the last year.

WRITHM

You have got to be kidding.

(Writhm looks around apartment.)

Never been late?

\*

FATE

Never.

WRITHM

Mine?

FATE

Yours.

WRITHM

Are you sure?

FATE

Positive.

WRITHM

I am flabbergasted. What are we going to do?

FATE

What do you mean?

WRITHM

I mean, how will we handle this problem?

FATE

What problem?

WRITHM

You being pregnant with my child.

I do not see the problem. FATE

You what? WRITHM

Let me explain something to you. FATE

Yeah, why don't you do that? WRITHM

Writhm! I don't believe in abortions. I am twenty-seven years old... I firmly believe every conceived life has a right to live. FATE

Is it right to bring a child in this world without a mother and father? WRITHM

No. That is not right, but I can love my child for you... FATE

You do not know me! WRITHM

I know your kind... FATE

What kind of person am I? WRITHM

You are missing the point... You must convince me to do what you want. FATE

Fate I believe in a divine order... Everyone has their place and a role. When you deviate from the path, bad things happen. Can I ask you a question? WRITHM

You left that path... FCONSCIOUS

Sure! FATE

Do I matter? WRITHM

FATE

Writhm, you are biased, but you slant the wrong way... You grew up with just your mother. Your father isn't dead... just irresponsible. You do not want a child of yours to grow up without knowing you. Therefore, missing that father figure you so desperately desire... your God...

WCONSCIOUS

Damn she is good...

FATE

You are intelligent, nice, funny, sensitive, and cute. Writhm, if there were a such thing as perfect, you would be it. You are real... I know you have heard all that before.

WRITHM

Fate, do I matter?

FATE

Writhm, I have been through quite a few things in my life. Let me tell you about me. Two days after I was born, my mother left. She just took me to my father's mother's house, left and never returned. Then I spent about a week with my father, he could not give the affection a newborn girl desired... needed. I spent four years with my grandmother, then she passed. That is the only childhood happiness I think I ever received. You see, Writhm, I had to grow up too fast. I went to live with my aunt, who didn't want me. After a few years, seven to be exact, I got defiant and my grades started falling. I started to hang out with the wrong element. I then ran away, because I felt strangers would never treat me as bad as my family. The best friends I ever had existed in indigent people, pimps, whores, and gang bangers, that milieu of life which society shuns and degrades. After five long years on the road, and trying to commit suicide too many times to remember. I gave up and came home. Felt like I was here for a purpose, and until it is fulfilled I can't leave. I always had one cousin to whom I could turn.

WRITHM

Why did you not go to them before you left?

FATE

Do not stand there and judge me! You have not walked in my shoes... you don't know where I've been... you have grown-up without the slightest hint of hardship... your little peddling problem ain't shit when you sit them next to mine. Don't tell me what I should have done, because you were not there. I had to get away

(starts crying)

I had to get away. I had to get away. I didn't ask for this life. I didn't ask for parents who didn't want me. I didn't ask for this. I was handed this life and told to live. So I did.

\*

And I vowed when I was getting my GED and working all night that my children would never, have the same hardships as I. My child's greatest worry will not be at home. I will work as hard as I can to protect my child from the harsh and brutal world that preys on the weak.

WRITHM

I am sorry. I had no idea...

FATE

I know!

WRITHM

Fate, you can understand how it feels to think you are not loved by a parent. You know why I want to be in my children's live

FATE

Writhm, I am not mad at you... I made this bed, now I must and will lie in it. You asked me earlier if you matter. Yes Writhm, you do, IF you agree with me.

WRITHM

If I agree with you?

FATE

This is my body... my future... and my life...

WRITHM

You are just being selfish!

FATE

This is my choice...

(LIGHTS DOWN ON THE LIVING ROOM.  
FATE LEAVES.)

SCENE IV

(WRITHM, DESTINY, WCONSCIOUS, DCONSCIOUS)

(LIGHTS UP ON LIVING ROOM: WRITHM  
AND DESTINY.)

WRITHM

Destiny! How did you and Fate become friends?



DESTINY

We met at a Greek party in college, one day about two years before I met you. I was getting my dance on with this Alpha, and the rest of the Greeks were dancing around in a circle, you know the way they always do. Well this football player had been sweating me for about three weeks. Asking me to dance and calling me, you know just be around and stuff like that. Well one day, we were at a party and he was drunk, and I refused to dance with him, and he grabbed me. I jerked away from him and fell into Fate. She caught me, and asked if I was okay. He called her a bitch and told her to stay out of our business. She walked away. No one else in the party, said anything but they stood there and just looked. He grabbed me and asked if we could go somewhere and talk I said no, suddenly from no where comes Fate with a fifth of Absolut bottle and cracked the fool up side his head. Fate said, "The woman said no, you fucking punk!" All the rest of the squad was scared to do or say anything. I mean we were just two petite women. Needless to say, the party was over. We talked and I found out she had an interesting past. We have been friends since, and the rest is history.

\*

WRITHM

That is interesting!

DESTINY

Writhm you have been acting strange the last few weeks. Is there anything wrong?

WRITHM

No, I have just been thinking, and I wonder sometimes if we really belong together.

DESTINY

Writhm, I assure you we belong together.

WRITHM

How can you be so sure?

DESTINY

Because I love you.

WRITHM

Is that enough?

WCONSCIOUS AND DCONSCIOUS

NO!

DESTINY

What the hell does that mean?

WRITHM

I mean is love enough to keep a couple together? Think about this... do you ever wonder why people get together.

DESTINY

What do you mean get together? Do you mean sleep together? Or have relationships together?

WRITHM

Does it matter?

DESTINY

Damn right it does!

WRITHM

Sleep together!

DESTINY

People sleep together because they make a conscious choice to sleep together. They want to have sex. Sex is fun, and the feeling can not be compared to any other feeling you can experience.

WRITHM

Whatever!

DESTINY

What does that mean?

WRITHM

We can sit here and debate about how a paper cut can not be compared to any other burning feeling. So it is kind of hard for me to buy that shit. I mean no other feeling can compare to the way I feel after I exercise. Sometimes I feel God actually encourages me, even in a crowded world of needy individuals.

DESTINY

Well Writhm, as long as we love, support, respect, and cherish one another, we will be all right.

(She looks nauseated.)

WRITHM

Thanks baby. What can I do to make you happy?

DESTINY

Right now just be patient with me.

WRITHM

About what?

DESTINY

Oh, it's nothing. I'm sure I'll be fine, just a little stress.

WRITHM

What does that mean?

DESTINY

(snaps)

Nothing and stop asking me!

\*

WRITHM

Stop asking you what?

DESTINY

Dammit! Writhm would you just leave me alone?

WRITHM

What is your problem and why are you so testy? What is going on?

DESTINY

Ugh! Writhm I may be pregnant.

WRITHM

Damn. I do not know what to say.

DESTINY

How do you feel about that?

WRITHM

How do I feel about my soul being pregnant... I must say... I am very happy. I mean... I could not think of a better thing in the world.

DESTINY

Writhm, well now we have a real problem.

WRITHM

(Ignoring her.)

Do not worry about anything, I know we will be all right.

DESTINY

Not that type of problem.

WRITHM

What do you mean?

DESTINY

Writhm, I don't think I am ready to have a child...

WRITHM

Even my child...

DESTINY

Do not make me answer that!

WRITHM

Why? Is the answer yes?

DESTINY

Writhm you are taking this personal, and it shouldn't be...

WRITHM

How can I take my woman not wanting to have my child personal? Is that possible? I I I  
I I I mean how should I take such information?

DESTINY

It's not you, it's me!

WRITHM

I do not want to hear that bull shit! Men are given that script at birth, tell me the reason for not wanting what is apparently bigger than we are.

WCONSCIOUS

Am I really saying this?

DESTINY

Bigger than us? Writhm you are really disillusioned...

WRITHM

How can you say that? You have been on the pill forever, and knowing you, you have never missed one day taking. We have never had sex without a condom...

DESTINY

Condoms break!

WRITHM

But not lately.

WCONSCIOUS

Is it mine?

DCONSCIOUS

I'm feeling bad enough... You are not making this easy...

WRITHM

I believe in fate and this is ours. I can feel it!

DESTINY

Writhm save that sensitive shit for another time... I need you to be a man... I am not ready...

\*

WRITHM

Ready how? What do you need?

DESTINY

I need you to understand... I am only twenty-seven years old... I have not reached the financial plateau I want... I still have dreams of travel... I am not emotionally ready for a child. Writhm, let me tell you a little secret...

\*

\*

\*

WRITHM

You have been keeping secrets from me?

DESTINY

All women have secrets! But, I am about to tell you mine. Writhm, my mother and father, are not my mother and father. My mother is actually my aunt, and my father is her husband. My biological parents were killed in a drug deal. You see my father was on that shit. My mother was trying to help him as much as she could. This actually happened when I was seven days old. My father tried to "loan" me to a drug dealer for a couple of rocks. My mother knew nothing about it.

WRITHM

No drug dealer would take a child as payment.

DESTINY

This was someone who knew my father had gone off the deep end. He was an old boyfriend of my mother. He was looking out, trying to get back in good with my mother. He felt this would be a perfect opportunity to show my mother my father was crazy, and she did not need to be with him.

So, when the drug dealer brought me back to my mother, she was heart broken. She went out looking for my father. She loved that man. My father was in a crack house getting his hit on, when my mother walked in and tried to get him to come home. Initially he refused. She finally convinced him to leave, to make a long story short, there were some guys who were recruiting new members for their little gang near the drug place. As my mother is walking home with my high father they are caught up the crossfire of two rival gangs. The shooters were two little boys, who were being initiated into different gangs. The little boys were 10 and 11 respectively, both being raised solely by their mothers. After I heard the story I was afraid to ever get pregnant. I wonder about this world. This world is scary, and I never really wanted to bring children into this world. Then I met you and you made me think it would be okay. I always felt safe and secure with you. But not only am I scared, I am just not ready.

WRITHM

I need more! That is not enough!

DESTINY

This is my body... my future... and my life...

\*

WRITHM

You are just being selfish!

DESTINY

This is my choice...

WCONSCIOUS

Basically everyone is saying I do not have a choice.

(LIGHTS DOWN ON SCENE. WRITHM  
LEAVES.)

SCENE V

(ACONSCIOUS)

(SPECIAL ON ACONSCIOUS.)

ACONSCIOUS

black ice

we can not describe you, but know you exist  
whosoever feels cannot experience your pain

she can not fly but constantly falls  
 she is the opaque frozen poet

arouse the jones of my inner self  
 erect this black ice  
 cold as arctic waters, bitter as wonderful hate  
 hard as frozen concrete, sweet as tough love  
 you see, we can go back and forth, left and right, and still not get where we are going  
 i know my destiny is tied to your fate  
 an innocence that love created, tainted by the reality that hate wasted  
 the days of absence took my home because a ladies night out told t-biskit to be ike  
 my dream girls led me to the wiz because the yellow-brick road was alive  
 uuuummmmm hhhmmmmmm if by chance my wolf'n hit you with a cotton club then ritual me  
 this  
 what is dark as light but can't be seen  
 black ice baby  
 remember the frigid dark water, her orgasm is released in my soul

the stale tequila flame  
 the somebody nobody knows awakens to tell secrets  
 sobriety hides in my chest  
 you see, if time permitted i'd tell you, but i'd very much like to show you  
 i have no idea who you are  
 sorry there are no ifs in this life  
 absolut warms the bed that frigid orgasms failed  
 i love you  
 you lost my desires but i found yours  
 they pour from my heart and flood your ears  
 tomorrow i'll wonder just how much i told you  
 did i reveal the secrets of my sanctum sanctorium  
 it's fun to see others enjoy your beauty  
 but watch karma, tables turn, our paths intersected for a reason  
 when i have you my picture is complete you may not believe me now  
 the past cannot support my theory  
 but one day, sooner than later you and i will cleave like candle wax  
 but our wicks will never end,  
 you are my black ice baby  
 and i have no choice about it.

(LIGHTS DOWN AS ACE AND  
 ACONSCIOUS LEAVE.)

## SCENE VI

(DESTINY, FATE, DCONSCIOUS, FCONSCIOUS, WRITHM)

\*

(LIGHTS UP ON LIVING ROOM, AND  
FATE ENTERS.)

DESTINY  
Girl. What the fuck is wrong with men?

FATE  
Who are you asking?

DESTINY  
Let me tell you what Writhm did?

FATE  
I know you aren't saying Writhm fucked-up?

DESTINY  
He fucked-up bad!

FATE  
What did he do?

DESTINY  
Fuck up!

FATE  
How?

DCONSCIOUS  
I need a friend.

DESTINY  
Girl I need you now more than ever.

FATE  
Whatever you need...

DESTINY  
I'm pregnant.

FATE  
I'm so happy for you.



DESTINY

Why? Girl I am not ready for this.

FATE

What did Writhm say?

DESTINY

He's happy, ecstatic at the fact that I am carrying his child.

FATE

So he wants you to have the child?

DESTINY

Hell yeah, he's as happy as a Christian who caught a glimpse of Jesus.

FATE

What did you tell him?

DESTINY

I told him I wasn't ready to have his child, and nobody else's child for that matter. I wasn't ready emotionally, or financially. I told him I had quite a few things to accomplish in my life before I sit down and start having his little family.

FATE

What did he say?

DESTINY

He told me I was being selfish.

FATE

Is that right.!? That's interesting.

DESTINY

What?

FATE

I'm pregnant too!

DESTINY

Finally gave in, and gave it up. Who is this mystery man?

FATE

A brother I thought I knew.

DESTINY

Where do you know him from?

FATE

He's not important.

DESTINY

We can go to the clinic together.

FATE

That's cool. The doctor has already prescribed my prenatal agenda...

DESTINY

I'm going next week, to get this taken care of as soon as possible.

FATE

(Realizing Destiny is talking about something  
else.)

I'm not having an abortion!

DESTINY

You not, you must like this man.

FATE

It's not about him. He wants me to have an abortion, but like I had to tell him, it's my life, my body, and my future.

DCONSCIOUS

That sounds familiar.

DESTINY

What did he say?

FATE

He said I was being selfish, so I told him it was my choice.

DESTINY

Hmmmm. Same thing Wraith said. I think men are really given a script at birth.

FATE

That's not the kicker.

DESTINY

What is it?

FATE

I thought this guy was my friend. I have known him for a long time.

DESTINY

Damn, sounds like shit is fucked-up!

FATE

Yeah, he has a girlfriend.

DESTINY

That sounds like a sticky situation.

FATE

I know his girlfriend very well...

DESTINY

I don't envy you...

FATE

I do envy you...

DESTINY

(Finally realizing both are talking about  
Writhm.)

No. I refuse to believe you. Writhm would never do anything to hurt me!

FCONSCIOUS

That's fucked up...

FATE

Destiny...

DCONSCIOUS

I do not believe her...

DESTINY

Fate, my Writhm would not sleep with you.

FATE

He could, and he did!

DESTINY

No...

FATE

Yes...

DESTINY

I do not believe you, how could you sleep with my man!

FATE

That's a real warped statement. Men are running around out here making babies, and the women are fighting about who he belongs to.

DESTINY

This is not about Writhm... this is about you and me... our friendship... our trust. How could you betray that friendship... that trust.

FATE

Destiny you are the one who is always talking about what Writhm has done for you, how he treats you, Writhm doing this, and Writhm doing that. Shit you, talk about him so much, I just wanted to see what he was really working with.

DESTINY

Bitch, get out!

FATE

Okay, but, you let Writhm know I am still having this child, I do not need him. I can care for my child better than some tired old sorry excuse for a man. I didn't have to do much persuading to get him to cheat on you. So that lets me know even the great ones can fall.

(Fate leaves.)

DCONSCIOUS

I am so fucking mad at her. I still love Writhm, but what the fuck am I going to do.

(Destiny sits on her couch and cries profusely. Writhm enters.)

WRITHM

What is the matter?

DESTINY

I hate you. I hate you. I hate you.

WRITHM

What did I do?

DESTINY

Do not stand your trifling punk ass in front of me and act like nothing is wrong. I know it's your baby, she hasn't slept with a man in a year.

She would only sleep with someone she trusts. A couple of months back, you two were getting all buddy buddy. We conversate, yall think we argue. Well fuck you and her.

WRITHM

What about the baby?

DESTINY

What about it?

WRITHM

I love you.

DESTINY

I do not want to hear that shit. That baby is as good as gone. I was actually considering keeping the baby because Writhm I knew with you everything would have worked out, but your two-timing ass will never see the love this body could have produced. Jus...Jus....Jus get out. I want to be alone.

(LIGHTS DOWN.)

## SCENE VII

(WRITHM, ACE, ACONSCIOUS)

\*

(LIGHT UP ON LIVING ROOM.)

\*

(Enter Writhm, and Ace.)

\*

WRITHM

So yeah, boy, I got both of them pregnant, My heart, and soul is crushed.

ACE

Nigga please!

WRITHM

Man I loved, I mean love Destiny. I want to see the child we could have produced.

ACE

Writhm, throughout this ordeal I've sat back and listened to you talk about Destiny this, and Destiny that. Dude I respect you, and you my boy, I wouldn't normally say anything but you getting on my damn nerves. Get over it. Destiny hates you, and Fate doesn't want to see you. Like Fate said destiny is what we want to happen. Destiny was a dream you colored yourself. That was not part of the master plan. Destiny said fate is inevitable.

You can't get away from fate. You must be a responsible man and do the right thing. This is not Mookie throwing a garbage can through a window. This is not the movies. This is not television. These are real lives. You know how it is to grow up without a positive male figure. Be a father to your child. Your problem is you think you can control everything. Now you have no easy choice. You do have a choice. You can be a responsible man and be a father to your child, and stop trying to control everybody life that happens to be connected to yours.

WRITHM

Ace, I tried to be a good man. I loved Destiny the way I felt a man should love his woman. That was the first and only time I ever slipped and it is destroying my life.

ACE

Dude, you cannot control everything in your life.

WRITHM

Yeah, you right. As long as I have my boy, I know everything is copestetic.

ACONSCIOUS

You might as well tell him.

ACE

What about Destiny? And Fate? And things you cannot control? What does your bible say about stuff like that?

WRITHM

I don't know. Sometimes life scares me. Right now I am just bewildered.

ACE

Fuck the semantics. What did you say to them?

WRITHM

I told them both they were being selfish.

ACE

What did they say?

WRITHM

Both of them said, "This is my life... my body... and my future."

ACE

Then?

WRITHM

I told them they were selfish!

ACE

You said that?

WRITHM

Then they said this is my choice!

ACE

What about your child?

WRITHM

What! You are on their side?

ACE

Nigga. This is not about sides. This is about your stupid ass being responsible and taking care of your child. This is about you being a man.

WRITHM

Fuck you!

ACE

(chuckles)

No Writhm, don't fuck me. Fuck you! You grew up without a father now you want your shorty to go through the same shit that you went through. Not ever seeing your old man. Wondering what traits you got from him, and what is authentically your moms. I beg you do not put another life through the calamity of not knowing their father. Are you just a sperm donor? You have a chance to be a better father than your old man, don't blow it.

WRITHM

What possible stake could you have in this episode of my life. This is my problem. Why are you so concerned about my shit and me.

ACE

I thought we were boys.

WRITHM

Well maybe you thought wrong?

ACE

Writhm, you really have no clue about your friends. You do not know how much people respect and care for you. You are just ambivalent to the lives of the people around you.

\*

WRITHM

Man, I get it. Destiny and Fate are going to do what is best for them. No matter what I want because just like me looking out for myself, they have to do the same.

ACE

Yeah, that's right. But I'm not talking about that, and them. I am talking about you being a responsible man.

WRITHM

You're saying I'm not a responsible man? What's on your mind? You got beef? You have something you want to get off of your chest?

ACE

Bruh, I'm tired. I refuse to argue with you about your life. I was just trying to get you to think about someone else besides yourself. I'm tired.

WRITHM

Tired of what?

ACE

Forget it. Man leave me the fuck alone!!

WRITHM

Dude, I am listening now. What are you tired of?

ACE

Just tired...

WRITHM

If you have something to say, say it.

ACE

I'm tired of your ass. I'm tired of you. I'm tired of living two lives. I'm tired of all that bible shit you be talking. I'm tired of feeling one way, and having to hide the way I feel. I'm tired of your ass.

WRITHM

Nigga, what the hell are you talking about?

ACE

Do you know why I haven't had a girlfriend in such a long time?

WRITHM

Your attitude, plus man you are really picky.



ACE

No! That is not the reason.

WRITHM

What is the reason? You have had a girl all along? Man you wrong. She must be really unbeautiful for you to hide her so long. What is her name?

ACE

Robin!

WRITHM

She must be from the south?

ACE

No dude. She's not from the south. She's a he.

WRITHM

Like RuPaul...

ACE

No. I am bi-sexual...

WRITHM

You are what?

ACE

I am bi-sexual!

ACONSCIOUS

Shit just hit the fan.

ACE

I like being with women and men.

WRITHM

I do not understand. How could you?

ACE

I am still Ace.

WRITHM

No you aren't... you are some sort of freak...

ACE

And I thought you were my friend. That hurts!.

## WRITHM

I am sorry man... my fault...

## ACE

No it is not your fault. I just thought you were bigger than that. Now you know why I will not go to church with you. I actually considered you to be open-minded. You go to church and learn about God, and Jesus and the Holy Spirit. You come and talk to me about it, tell me how God loves everybody. Tell me about a God who loves all people, unconditionally. You tell me of a savior who died for you, Destiny, Fate, and me, but when I tell you about me, I become a freak. Now, the God I serve is not petty. My God knows my heart. My God knows my trials, and my God knows me. Your God is too situational. And your Jesus is a wimp.

(Picks up Bible and tears a page from it.)

Your God only loves those who believe what you believe, and live like you live. And your Jesus is a punk who lived an imaginary life.

(Tears more pages from Bible.)

Your God only loves those who follow your pattern of life. And your Jesus would not know the will of God, if it slapped him.

(Tears more pages from Bible.)

That is the same God who the missionaries took to Africa, and brought to the West Indies.

(Tears more pages from Bible.)

That's the same stupid ass God who convinces people that slavery is alright. That God says you can't do this and you can't do that. Your Jesus could not do much of anything on Earth and you think he can help save you. That Jesus you subscribe to has gotten more people killed than he has saved, and you want me to follow him. What I believe is more important than that! My Jesus will kick your Jesus' ass any day, because yours is a weak punk. That Jesus is too soft. Your God is too circumstantial. My God is bigger than that. My God is more understanding than that.

(Throws Bible across the room.)

My God is not in this book. This book contains your God. Since I tore out the pages I guess your God is torn. Since I threw the book across the room, I guess I have thrown your God. Basically, since you believe this book is the truth, then once I destroy this book I obliterate your God, your truth, your essence, your soul. My God can never be confined. I destroy your book, I destroy your God. I will pay for your book, but that means I own your God.

(LIGHT DOWNS.)