

BUT YOU'RE WHITE

A short play

by

David T. Anderson

BUT YOU'RE WHITE

CHARACTERS:

ADAM, Interviewer.

WALTER, Job Candidate.

DAN, Interviewer.

Time:

Now.

Location:

An Office Conference Room.

(At Rise: ADAM sits at a conference room table with papers in front of him. WALTER enters. Adam stands to shake hands with Walter.)

ADAM  
(shocked)  
You're white.

WALTER  
Can you say that?

(Adam sits. So does Walter. Adam thumbs through the papers on his desk.)

ADAM  
For self identification on your application you checked African-American.

WALTER  
Correct.

ADAM  
You're white.

WALTER  
On the website it said that you guys are an equal opportunity employer.

ADAM  
You selected African-American.

WALTER  
Yes.

ADAM  
Where were you born?

WALTER  
South Carolina.

ADAM  
Can I ask why you chose African-American?

WALTER  
I don't think you can.

ADAM  
You're not black.

WALTER  
No.

But you're African-American? ADAM

Yes. WALTER

Are you doing some kind conservative protest thing here? ADAM

I'm not sure what you're asking. WALTER  
(confused)

I don't think you thought this all they way through Walter. I mean...do you really want this position or are you doing something else here. ADAM

I need a job...after reading the description of the position, I think that I would be a great match. WALTER

But you selected African-American. ADAM  
(Adam looks at the papers again.)

Yes. WALTER

(Adam picks up his cell phone.)

One minute. ADAM

Ok. WALTER

(Adam speaks to the person on the other end of the call.)

Dan, yeah it's Adam can you come to conference room 203...I'm interviewing our African-American candidate...OK great. ADAM

(Adam puts his cell phone down.)

(Pause)

(DAN enters the scene.)

Where is our African-American candidate? DAN

ADAM  
Dan meet Walter...he's the African-American candidate.

(Walter stands to shake hands with Dan.)

DAN  
He's white.

ADAM and WALTER  
Yes.

(Walter sits back down.)

DAN  
(to Adam)  
He selected African-American...though he is white.

ADAM  
Correct.

DAN  
(To Walter)  
Where were you born?

WALTER  
South Carolina.

DAN  
Is this some kind of weird political protest stunt?

WALTER  
I really need this job.

DAN  
It's against the law to lie on your job application. We can't hire you.

WALTER  
I didn't lie.

DAN  
You obviously lied to get this interview. We cannot offer the position to you.

WALTER  
I didn't lie.

DAN  
You're white.

WALTER  
Yes.

DAN  
You chose African-American.

Correct.

WALTER

There is nothing more to say.

DAN

**END OF PLAY**