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Wake Up

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Wake Up

By Dedra and Dayahna

Meline : Hey, I'm Meline I am 15 years old I come from a nice neighborhood and and I grew up with my mom and dad, my parents own 3 car lots and I go to a private school.

Layla : I'm Layla, but everybody call me Lay lay i'm 15, and I born and raised on the southside of Chicago. My mom was a crackhead and and my dad disappeared when I was in the womb. I stopped going to school cause my friend's got rapped in the bathroom almost everyday.

Meline : Everyday when I wake up my maid wakes me up and my breakfast is already ready but this morning she made me an omelet and I hate them so much. I wanted to tell my mommy.

Layla : When I wake up all hell breaks loose. I had to take a cold shower and brush my teeth with a body towel. I ain't got no breakfast you feel me, so I just went to the store and stole some bread. I know I can't complain cause some people got it worse.

Meline : Now i'm at school w/ my best friend Veronica and she's black so i'm aloud to say Nigga. And when I tell you school was hard... I was ready to drop out. And in the hallway some black little monkey made me drop my books, my omelet now this This day couldn't get any worse.

Layla : At around 1:30 I met my best friend on tha corner and she told me she was pregnant and then some boys started poppin off on rieh street so we ran back to trap house. This day couldn't get any worse

Meline : Later that night I snuck out of the house to meet veronica so we could got to a party on the southside. When we got there it was deep and there were playing trap music and I see this girl...

Layla : At the crackhead hour my brother told me he was having a party and some chicks from the hills was showing so I decided to pull threw. But beforehand I went to my brothers BDK orientation and he cut his hand and said a pledge and shook hands w/ his new brothers. I heard he had to do something at the party and I was worried, then I saw this girl...

Meline : After 3 hours of amazing fun I heard a gun, that girl got shot. Everybody ran but I stayed and call the cops.

Layla : My own blood, shot me I woke up in the hospital, next to some hill I was heated how could this happen.

Switch Places

Both : Then we woke up

Day : Hey guys i'm meline

Dedra : Hi ... Im Layla

Very descriptive. Makes me wonder if this is based on real events or actual dreams. It's really intense. Some things are but some aren't. - Dedra

All things we write come from experience, we speak from truth and belief. -Day

I'm from a town called Storm Lake which is one of the most diverse towns in Iowa. I grew up with ethnic diversity being the norm. As children, we didn't recognize that there was any issue with the colors of skin being different. It wasn't until parents or other adults imposed these ideas. Having parents that wouldn't let us play with the other kids because they were different. { Yea and that's horribly all kids should be aloud around each other b/c you can actually learn a lot from different cultures and people.} < I second that- Day

What if we explore the idea that racism is taught to youth and ingrained into our culture by adults, and children don't perceive it naturally? I think racism should be taught to the youth b/c a lot of kids still have parents who are racist and put this evil into their kids heads saying any color but yours is horribly. Also with world we live in we have to have these kids learn how to stick together. Our youth is not great in the mind anymore. {Nobody is born racist it's taught to you, it comes from hate in your heart and you have believe what people say in order to understand it, no matter what people say or teach you, if you're racist you're racist, i'm starting to believe racism is inevitable. -Day}

What if we try to do an informative piece telling parents and adults to be wary of the stereotypes that they instill on their children and the youth? I think that would be great b/c a lot of parents don't realize that a lot of kids of different color go through so many struggles a day it crazy. So if you guys do do that please tell me. I don't know how I feel about it. I feel like it might not change anything. But it may change some people's perspectives!

We could do something to encourage children to ignore the prejudices that older people project onto them. Yes that would be great. I'm all ears. You can't ignore racism, it's always going to be there. I wrote the piece to inspire others and make them think about racism and what it does to people and how it can affect others- when you put it in somebody else's shoes.

What if we make something that explores the idea of race/separation being more important as we age? I think we should start a group or something. We can encourage kids not live with the hatred that their parents built up in them and push them to be better people. If you take a child who is not racist and put them next to a child who is racist. . I don't think anything will change. I think you have to get them in their head and mindset to say "oh this makes sense!" People don't change by just being near each other. But maybe if you take younger children and you tell them why they should not be racist or why they should not have that much hate in their heart . . I think they'll listen to you but what happens when they go home. I want to inspire people to think with this video.