

10 Seconds

By Miriam Gonzales

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Inspired by the Imagination Stage Police and Youth Program

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Draft 16 (post-workshop)

OCTOBER 22, 2021

Characters

Ray Henderson, 14 years old, Jimi's friend. Also plays: Grandma, Mom and Dad; student 1. African American

Jimi Roberts, 14 years old, Ray's friend; chorus. African American

Craig Leland, police officer. Also plays: Jimi's Dad; teen boy; student 2; chorus. African American

Samantha Kent, police officer. Also plays teen girl; Annie, 15 years old; Drama teacher, Ms. Martin; chorus. White/European American

Setting: Washington, DC; current day.

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RAY (cont'd)

Meet you at the metro in 15. You ready? This is Our Day, man, #greatestplaneva.
Let's do this!

JIMI

(texts)

100 percent. C-U.

Jimi Side #1

Only the dialogue in blue

JIMI's DAD enters.

DAD

Who you talking to?

JIMI

Nobody.

DAD

That's your breakfast? Tacky's? Wash them crumbs off your ugly face—

JIMI

It's Takis, Dad.

(mumbles as he scrolls on phone)

And anyway, what else is there to eat around here? Nothin.'

DAD

Whatdju say?? You look at me when I'm talkin' to you! I don't have time to **mess**
with you--

JIMI

Mom's been gone three months already! *Again!* Why don't you fix your mess with her?

DAD

(enraged, lunges for JIMI)

I toldju watch your mouth, you hear me?!! Get outta this house, go on, and gimme that, 'fore I--

DAD grabs JIMI's phone, puts it in his back pocket.

JIMI

That's mine! – that's mine!

DAD

Nuthin's yours, boy! Nuthin'.

(a beat)

Now pull your damn pants up,

(pulling at his hoodie)

turn this smelly thing around and . . . wash all these clothes when you get home, you hear me?!?

JIMI takes his phone out of DAD's pocket.

JIMI

Yessir.

DAD exits.

JIMI (cont'd)

(punches the air hard)

I *hate* you.

RAY steps in. JIMI freezes.

RAY

Your Dad. Your Mom. Your temper, man, all of it. I mean that's why Leland came into your world in the first place.

(pause; into audience)

12, man. Yea, the other character in our day.

(writes)

SCENE 3. The Metro.

RAY paces back and forth, JIMI follows him.

JIMI

Aw, c'mon, Ray, you said you'd help me --

RAY

(paces)

I can't --only 16, 200 seconds until we do our thing --

JIMI

exactly--