WANDA — SIDE ONE

<center>WANDA, *to JOHN*</center>

Jim Crow.

<center>JOHN</center>

I'm sorry?

<center>WANDA</center>

That's the origin, I think. Of the "black people can't swim" stereotype. Which isn't really a stereotype, I suppose. Or, rather, it *is* a stereotype and most stereotypes happen to have a bit of truth to them. Anyway. During the Jim Crow era, most swimming pools in the country were segregated. This goes for North and South. And of course most of the blacks-only pools were, compared to the white ones, a joke. You know. Terribly run-down, far-away. And if you *were* lucky enough to stumble upon a desegregated pool you still had to worry about. Well. Being heckled. Or worse. So black people just didn't. Or couldn't. Take an interest? In swimming. As much as whites.

<center>BILL</center>

White people.

<center>WANDA</center>

Huh?

<center>BILL</center>

You said "whites."

<center>WANDA</center>

Uh-huh.

<center>BILL</center>

But you said black *people*.

<center>WANDA</center>

Yes.

<center>BILL</center>

Seems a little weird not to keep the language the same, no?

Beat.

WANDA
Honestly, Bill, I didn't even realize I'd said something different.

Beat.

                                WANDA
But yes. You're right. Language is important, like you said.

Beat.

                                WANDA
Anyway I. That. Is where it comes from. The notion.

                                JOHN
Wow.

                                BILL
Mm.

                                JOHN
I never knew that. I mean. Jim Crow, I know Jim Crow, obviously.

                                WANDA
Personally?

                                BILL
Wanda.

                                WANDA
Only joking!

                                JOHN
Haha. Just um. Well didn't realize how far-reaching he was. It was. He?

                                BILL
Was he a real person? I never actually learned where the name came from.

                                WANDA
A dance, I think.

BILL
A dance?

                                        JOHN
A dance?

                                        WANDA
A dance.

                                        BILL
No.

                                        WANDA
Pretty sure.

                                        BILL
Really?

                                        WANDA
Google it.

                                        JOHN
I would've thought…

                                        WANDA
Hm?

                                        JOHN
Well, crows. Because. Black.

Beat. JOHN has been nervously drinking throughout all of this, and has already finished his beer.

                                        WANDA
Another one, John?