

Movies & Languages 2018-2019

Blackkklansman

About the movie (subtitled version)

DIRECTOR	Spike Lee
YEAR/COUNTRY	2018 / USA
GENRE	Drama
ACTORS	John David Washington, Laura Harrier, Adam Driver, HarryBelafonte



PLOT

The film takes place in the early 1970's. The civil rights movement had gained great momentum and entered many facets of American society, but by now was fragmented. The Vietnam War had already been going on for 10 years and had just got uglier and uglier. Ron Stallworth, a cool young black guy, is sincerely interested in joining the Colorado Springs Police Department and he gets the job. At work his fellow policemen frequently find it difficult to treat him like one of the others because he is black. In addition, because he is black, he is the natural choice to infiltrate the black student's group at the university in the city. They are expecting a meeting by a noted Black Panther. Here he meets the head of the black students' movement, Patrice Dumas. They, Ron and Patrice, start up a relationship. The police department then moves him to the undercover and investigating department. Because he's bored and because he's curious, he follows an ad to join the KKK movement in Colorado Springs, and here the film begins. The local KKK believe from his phone call that he is sincerely interested in joining. Because Ron obviously can't go to his initial interview, Flip Zimmerman, a Jewish police officer, not on bad terms with Ron, stands in for him. The film takes off from here.

LANGUAGE

At one point Ron says, "I can speak the King's English or I can speak jive". The film is in standard King's English and jive, with a lot of 70's slang.

VOCABULARY

He had them pretty riled up: under his influence, they became very agitated	To stir them up: to get them excited and agitated
Birth of a Nation: the first major silent film about the history of the USA in 1915 by Griffith	White lily ass: lily-white was often said to be the color of Christ
Pigs: police	Jeopardize the case: to put the case at risk
Coons: short for the animal (raccoons) or short for black people	Dego: a Hispanic American Spik-nick: some who half Hispanic and half black
Jewish controlled puppets: the government in Washington is controlled by Jews comedians and singers, who performed with Frank Sinatra	Mongrel nation: a nation that is not made of pure breeds. A pure breed is usually used for a dog that is 100% of a certain race, i.e. a poodle (<i>barbone</i>). Mongrels are mixed breed dogs

Right on: I absolutely agree	To dig it: to really enjoy something
Predators craving the virgin white: predators/savages who lust after/sexually desire white virgin maidens	High ranking blood sucking Jews: parasitic Jewish bureaucrats or people with power Kikes: Jewish people
To overthrow: to put down the government and take power Commies: communists	Disjointed: to not have joints that work fluidly, therefore, to have joints that result in awkward movements
Uncle Ben's: a brand of rice, that has a smiling old black man with grey hair as a kind of cameo insignia on its box	Aunt Jemima: a brand of maple syrup, that has a big fat black woman, who is very motherly, as its image
To draft: when a government issues an official notice that forces young males to become part of the army. A male between the ages of 18 -24 could legally avoid the draft in the USA by enrolling in university. His draft became delayed until the end of his undergraduate career	A draft dodger: person who tries to avoid the draft through some illegal means like immigrating to Sweden/Canada Draft Dodger, Mohamed Ali: the boxer. He was draftee to go into the Vietnam War, and he protested and refused to go
To turn the other cheek: the guidelines for the New Testament, to show compassion rather than hostility	His hair is nappy: his hair is very tangled and stuck together
Niche: a small space for something	To be scorned: to be ridiculed and harassed
Rooky: one who has just started his job, and because of inexperience doesn't exactly know how to perform it properly	Cheese dip and chips: a creamy cheese sauce for potato chips
Toad: a dryland frog or slang for a black person	Leach: blood sucking parasite
The Black Panthers: the biggest and most powerful of the black anti-establishment activist groups	Cross burning: for the KKK to burn a cross in front of a building meant to cleanse the scene and to carry out the will of God
Osmond Brother: a group of brothers who formed a musical group. They also had a TV show. The youngest one, Danny, was the leader. They were white, Mormons and had a fundamentalist white appeal	Beverly Hill Billies: a famous TV show about poor country farmers who by accident strike it rich discovering oil. They are white and move to Los Angeles Get Smart: a comedy detective TV series
To weed out: to take away the bad plants from the good ones	Mary Jane: marijuana

PEOPLE QUOTED IN THE FILM

Vivien Lee (actress): in <i>Gone with the Wind</i> , the beautiful southern girl who goes from great wealth to poverty with the defeat of the Confederates, the slave state	Stokely Carmichael: big leader for the Black Panthers, which was a violent anti-W.A.S.P. (White Anglo Saxon Protestant) group in the Late 60's and principally the early 70's
David Duke: in that period, the young and enthusiastic leader of the Klu Klux Klan	Angela Davis: a leading black activist and feminist in the militant Communist party in the USA
O. J. Simpson: a famous black American football player, who later became an actor. In the 90's he killed his ex-wife in what was a big Hollywood scandal	J. Edgar Hoover: the Director of the FBI for most the after war years. He died in 1972
Willie Mays: a famous black baseball player Cybill Shepherd: famous white actress	Archie Bunker: the father in a popular American 70's-early 80's TV program, where Archie and his wife are conservative blue collar characters