

Sides for "Single and Ready"

Character: Charleston

Latanya sits alone at the same table she had her other dates. She waves at CHARLESTON, an attractive African American man in his thirties.

Charleston walks to the table with two cups of coffee in hand.

LATANYA
Hi.

CHARLESTON
Latanya.

LATANYA
That's me.

Charleston sits with the coffee and pushes Latanya's cup over to her.

CHARLESTON
You can call me Charles. I know
Charleston's a mouthful.

LATANYA
Okay, Charles.

CHARLESTON
I'm glad you texted me what kind of
coffee you liked.

LATANYA
I wanted to wait for you.

CHARLESTON
Cool. So this place let's Black
people sit at a table without
ordering.

LATANYA
Yes, and they let us use the
bathroom too without making a
purchase.

CHARLESTON
I need to come here more often. How
progressive of them. Treating us
Black folks like human beings.

Latanya giggles.

CHARLESTON (CONT'D)
So what made you respond to my
message.

LATANYA
You seemed like a nice guy. Or I
should say you look like a nice
guy.

CHARLESTON
I am a nice guy. You know what they
say about us though?

LATANYA
That you finish last.

CHARLESTON
And we run out of gas.

Latanya giggles.

CHARLESTON (CONT'D)
Did you work today?

LATANYA
Yes, I went home and changed.

CHARLESTON
Me too. I didn't have that many
offices to visit today.

LATANYA
How's the life of a pharmaceutical
sales rep.

CHARLESTON
It's great. I told you what I do
for a living but normally I just
say I'm a sales rep. People love to
joke that I'm a drug dealer.

LATANYA
I can see that.

CHARLESTON
I had to hear that joke a hundred
times. My cousin was calling me
James St. Patrick.

LATANYA
Ghost.