

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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## Booker T. Washington & W.E.B. Du Bois

BOOKER T. WASHINGTON: Oh, we've got beef?

W.E.B. DU BOIS: Oh, we've got beef?

WASHINGTON: Nah, just different philosophies.

DU BOIS: I'm W.E.B.

WASHINGTON: And I'm Booker T.

BOTH: And we both have thoughts on equality.

WASHINGTON:

I was born a slave, and Virginia's my birthplace.

Now I'm highly educated, celebrated, self-made.

Look at me, Booker T., the head of Tuskegee,

One of the leading black thinkers and also speakers.

I became a national figure in 1895

Through a speech in Atlanta urging compromise.

The main takeaway: accept some discrimination.

Also, learn a trade, get some type of education

To make yourself employable, useful to whites.

Be patient, build wealth and gradually earn rights.

Remain segregated; it ain't that bad.

Just appreciate the opportunities we do have.

Many whites from the North and South loved me.

Some blacks called me a hero, but some disagreed.

I was born a slave, and I made it pretty far.

You want rights? Give and take is how we'll get ours.

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WASHINGTON: Nah, just different philosophies.

DU BOIS: I'm W.E.B.

WASHINGTON: And I'm Booker T.

BOTH: And we both have thoughts on equality.

WASHINGTON: Reconstruction is over, and we need our rights.

DU BOIS: Well, what do you think is the best way to fight?

WASHINGTON: Compromise and patience, that's how!

DU BOIS:

Nah, we need our rights not now but right now!

Not everybody loved your philosophies,

And, as a matter of fact, I'd say we disagree.

Look at me, W.E.B., born free.

The first black Harvard grad with a Ph.D.

I'm a professor at Atlanta University.

They praised me for examining black society.

In 1903, I wrote The Souls Of Black Folk,

And criticized the Compromise of which you spoke.

First off, so you know, I respect you, bro,

But you're too forgiving of whites' treatment of black folk.

Be patient? Nah, we need rights right now!

Be considered equal, vote and have political power.

The ideas you're kicking keep us second class citizens.

Trade those trades in for higher education.

Let the Talented Tenth lead, the smartest of the blacks,

Who crack textbooks and not swing a pickaxe.

I was born free and think that we should ask for more.

It's something a whole nation could be built up on.

Yeah, I sound radical and idealistic.

We both want equality, but how do we get it?