

ANGEL OF THE PEOPLE MOVER SCENE 8 EXCERPT

*The Detroit People Mover. Maya, a Black Trans Woman in her mid-twenties takes a seat.
Damien, a young man, and Devin, his best friend, enter.*

DEVIN

Aye yo, check out future wifey over there.

DAMIEN

Where?

DEVIN

The one with the legs.

DAMIEN

Everybody got legs, stupid.

DEVIN

Not like that, stupid.

DAMIEN

Hold up, with the blue shirt?

DEVIN

Yeah.

DAMIEN

(Noticing something about Maya) You seen her neck?

DEVIN

I seen everything; that's why I'mma marry her someday.

DAMIEN

Naw, her neck ain't right. Got that lump.

DEVIN

She got a lump in her throat, cuz she just looked at you.

DAMIEN

My cousin dated a female like that. 'Cept she wasn't really a female. She still had a dick and shit.

DEVIN

Don't talk about my girl like that, Bro.

DAMIEN

It's a man, stupid.

DEVIN

No stupid, that's a female. She got legs and hair. She a female.

DAMIEN

Legs and hair? Everybody who got legs and hair is a female?

DEVIN

You know what I mean.

DAMIEN

No stupid, I don't. Cuz you say stupid shit like that all the time. Can't nobody understand you.
Cuz you stupid.

DEVIN

Don't call me stupid, Stupid.

DAMIEN

It's a man!!!

DEVIN

No she ain't.

DAMIEN

Ask her then.

DEVIN

Why?

DAMIEN

Watch this. *(To Maya)* Aye shawty, you a man?

DEVIN

Yo, don't be disrespectful.

DAMIEN

We got a right to know. *(To Maya)* You heard me? You a man?

DEVIN

Tell him ma, tell him you *all* woman.

Maya ignores them.

DAMIEN

See, she don't wanna answer cuz she's a man. *He's* a man. *He* don't want us to blow his cover.

MAYA
I'm a woman.

DEVIN
I told you! Who's stupid now, stupid?

DAMIEN
Shut up. *(To Maya)* But you wasn't born a female, right?

DEVIN
Tell him ma, tell him you *all* woman.

MAYA
I'm a woman.

DEVIN
Told you! Hey ma, let me talk to you right quick.

Devin sits by Maya. She freezes in fear.

DEVIN
It's okay ma, I know you need a little space. So I'm gonna leave my phone right here so you can put yo number in it.

Devin puts his phone in between himself and Maya.

DAMIEN
You didn't answer my question, Sir. I'm asking you, when you was born, did you have a dick or a pussy?

DEVIN
Tell him, ma. Tell him you *all* woman.

MAYA
I am a woman.

DEVIN
Problem solved. Now if you could put your number in here—

DAMIEN
Dick or pussy?

MAYA
I am a woman. That's all you need to know.

DAMIEN
You fucking serious?

DEVIN
(Grabbing his phone and backing away) Wait, ma, you not saying...Ma?

MAYA
I'm a woman and that's all you need to know.

The lights shift. Maya freezes the boys and delivers the following lines to their tableaux.

MAYA
She is the kinda woman
You don't run into often
The kinda woman
You know is hiding something
By the way she keeps her head down
Her eyes staring at the floor
Like there are secrets
Ready to seep out

She is the kinda woman
You kick out of a bar
For dancing too fiercely
For singing along
For being authentic

The kinda woman you'd never hire,
never fuck,
And definitely never love

She is the kinda woman
You are not brave enough to handle
Not strong enough to be with
Not you enough to love

She is the kinda woman
Too bright for the universe to ever ignore

Maya speaks directly to the audience.

MAYA
This story could have ended many ways. It could have ended with me being further harassed as
they called me

DAMIEN
Bitch

DEVIN
Slut

DAMIEN
Faggot

MAYA
It could've ended with me battered on the floor with a broken skull, like too many Black trans women I've read about, I've heard about, I've met... Thankfully this story was interrupted.

A short bell ding is heard.

VOICE OVER
This is the "Financial District" station.

Devin is still staring at Maya. She looks away.

DAMIEN
Aye, Bro, this is our stop.

Devin is still staring at Maya.

DAMIEN
Come on, Bro, I ain't about to be late again.

Damien exits with Devin following as he stares back at Maya. She avoids his eye contact.

After a moment...

MAYA
And tonight, I'll go to bed thankful that this story ended peacefully. *(Beat)* But what happens next time?

Maya sets up the next scene.