

# Run Nigga Run!

"Who I am, are the effects of my mother, consciously escaping from the physical conditions of a sugarcane plantation. Who I want to be is camouflaged in the plot of my great escape, from the fear of rebellion, the hesitation from resistance, the illusions of freedom. Traveling through the experience of another man's fears, while being directed by a star that leads me from one plantation to the other, leaves me like Harriet Tubman, lost in a strange place, simply going the wrong way, well at least my new master only beats me twice a day, "shit"! that's better than what those who stayed can say, since the day the first shackle was released from my mind I've been told, "Run Nigga Run!" But where too?

The Footsteps of our forefathers are being traced in books, they've become the only trails I have to follow.

Run Nigga Run! From the town where picking up a book seems heavier than picking up a gun,

Run Nigga Run! From the thought of welfare and religion raising your daughters and sons.

Run Nigga Run! From what it means to be highly educated or you'll never learn anything except the proper way of eating with a fork.

Run Nigga Run! From the facts of your ancestor history the truth is, the fight for freedom was way before the tasting of pork.

Run Nigga Run! But where too?

Since the first day of my incarcerated experience I vowed to myself, that no matter what happened, I would never become comfortable with these conditions, I would never become institutionalized, I would never surrender my liberty as a human being to the snare of a system built with algorithms designed to make me a smarter criminal, designed to have me addicted to sleeping medications, designed to have me indulging in homosexual activity, designed to discourage me from using my time productively, from educational programs, writing projects, and networking with productive outside sources.

Throughout this whole 10 year experience, I've been running, running from one torment to the other, unable to escape the reality of my circumstances, everywhere I go, it's the same place I've already been. Everything I see, is everything that I've already seen.

So where am I running to?

I've ran to the betterment of myself. I ran to college programs, business classes, writing programs, motivational speaking events from volunteers, learning about stocks, anger management classes, anything that would keep me from encountering my own self, and stimulates my intellect.

In the midst of this journey of mines, I discovered something about myself, "I am not a product of my environment, but of the quality of my thinking."

- Sean Daniels #839717