

DR. CLARK

Well, it's in the courts now, sir. It will be decided by judges. And right here in Topeka is the test case. It's going to the Supreme Court in Washington, D.C. to decide.

CYNTHIA

These are changing times, Pappy. Maybe children like Lillie can make a difference to Negro children of the future.

CLARKE

Let some one else's children be the ones to make the difference. Why we gonna put our Lillie through such a thing? Tryin' to go to a white school! That's only trouble. I knew I should of stayed in Nicodemus. Darn me for moving down here.

CYNTHIA

But, don't you see, Pappy? You could just as easily say your own Daddy should have stayed in Kentucky. Not come to Kansas at all. What would you say to that?

CLARKE

I'd say my Daddy wanted what was best for his children. That's why he moved us out to Kansas. For a free life in a free state. (he starts thinking of what he has said and begins chuckling) Okay, so you hung me on that one. Guess you're sayin' that this is just another try at getting more freedom. Never ends, does it?

RAYMOND

No, Pappy, I don't think it ever ends.

(LIGHTS FADE ON THIS SCENE. WE SEE THE ADULT LILLIE (played by same actress who played Cynthia) IN A SPOTLIGHT.)

ADULT LILLIE

My father was right. It never ends. The Supreme Court decided that Negro children did have the right to attend the schools closest to their homes. That was in 1954, when the court case called "Brown versus the Topeka Board of Education" was decided. A young Black girl, Linda Brown, just about my age, got her name put on that case, because her Father decided he would be one of the first to challenge the laws that said Negro children had no right to an education alongside white children.

Just as Grandpappy predicted, that first year I went to a white school I was spit on. But usually not by the white children. Usually it was by their parents. And not all of them at that. Just a few white folks who felt threatened that history was changing.