Narratives of Racial Fear and Resentment among White California Youth

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(1)
1 Zoe: Also one time I was walking with my friends to math class,
2 and this guy,
3 like,
4 he was,
5 on m-
6 on my,
7 (1.0)
8 Anyways he was like on the right side I guess.
9 And so he started walking sort of like to the left.
10 Like sort of like pushing me over.
11 And I was like,
12 “Ah,”
13 you know?
14 Mary: Wow.
15 Zoe: Um-
16 an-
17 and,
18 the—
19 like this guy that we were walking with,
20 like we know him and stuff?
21 And ’cause he knew.
22 Like he realized that someone was behind us.
23 And he-
24 he said later,
25 he was like,
26 “Yeah I was afraid they were going to do something to me.”
27 But I was totally oblivious.
28 Mary: [Mm.]
29 Zoe: [So like,]
30 I don’t know.
31 I think it’s different for guys,
32 also.
33 [A little more.]
34 Mary: [Oh really?]
35 In what sense?
36 Zoe: It’s like,
37 more intense for them,
38 I guess.
39 Mary: [Hm.]
40 Zoe: [Because] I mean he was sq aware.
41 Like he was just,
42 like I [was—]
43 Mary: [Wow.]
44 Zoe: [I was just.]

(2a)
1 Brand One: two months ago this dude,
2 um,
3 (1.5)
4 <tongue click>
5 I was walking up to uh,
6 to,
7 the bus stop,
8 and he-
9 and he was in my backpack right?
10 this,
11 this black dude was like six,
12 maybe like fi've ten,
13 he was big,
14 he was a lot bigger than me,

(2b)
1 Mr. Frisky: Tim was talking shit,
2 and suddenly,
3 it seemed,
4 <rising pitch> (out of the woodwork,)
5 once again,
6 the uh,
7 @
8 you know,
9 suddenly about fifty to,
10 you know,
11 sixty,
12 black kids suddenly swarm after him.

(2c)
1 Nico Caen: Over in the Park,
2 like,
3 beginning of this year,
we uh,  
[fl]  
some little Asian fools tried to start,  
funk with me and my friend,  
just two of us,  
and like thirty of them,  
you know?

(3)

1 Peanut: Actually,  
2 at this guy’s party that I went to-  
3 uh,  
4 my friend Nick and I went to,  
5 these big Asian guys were trying to start something,  
6 because they thought we were in some gang from Sunset, <a neighboring city>  
7 or something like that.

(4a)

74 Brand One: Steven’s on the basketball team,  
76 on varsity,  
77 he’s like six <creaky> (three:),  
78 big ass,  
79 fool,  
80 hella aggry,  
81 And then Kevin’s just,  
82 he’s like five ten but people-  
83 he’s just—  
84 people are intimidated of him because of who he knows,  
85 you know?

(4b)

1 Nico Caen: Keith came through,  
2 he was like=  
3 Billy: =Keith is hella [tall, ]  
4 Nico: [You know] he’s got dreads,  
5 he’s,  
6 he’s a ra:sta,  
7 Billy: He’s extre:me ly <stro:>}  
8 if you [see him—]  
9 Nico: [He’s— ]  
10 you would ngt fuck with him if you saw him.

(5)

1 Mr. Frisky: They strike,  
2 me,  
3 as being stro:nger,

4 more loy:al,  
5 um,  
6 you know,  
7 m-  
8 better-  
9 better warriors per se?  
10 Mary: Mm.  
11 Mr. Frisky: Like,  
12 you know they,  
13 are,  
14 <finger snap> {quick} to fight,  
15 they’re,  
16 really hard to knock out and knock down.  
17 Mary: Mhm.  
18 Mr. Frisky: You know,  
19 I’ve,  
20 never-  
21 I’ve been in,  
22 a fight,  
23 only with one black person,  
24 and,  
25 it,  
26 was over real quick.  
27 With me on the ground holding my head going,  
28 <higher pitch> (“Ow,  
29 that,  
30 kind of hurt.”)

(6)

1 Mr. Frisky: I was,  
2 sitting there grinning,  
3 you know,  
4 just kind of,  
5 cackling,  
6 at them,  
7 and you know,  
8 with this huge grin on my face,  
9 like,  
10 “Come on,  
11 let’s do this.”  
12 Mary: Mhm.  
13 Mr. Frisky: And suddenly there would be six guys all around me,  
14 you couldn’t really see me anymore,  
15 and suddenly two or three of them would just fly back a good three feet onto the [ground.]  
16 Mary: [Wow. ]  
17 Mr. Frisky: And I’d be sitting there in the middle just swinging and  
batting fools around like little play toys. <sniff>  
18 Mary: Wow.  
19 Mr. Frisky: And,  
20 it kind of struck me as you know,
“Ee.
(.)
That’s seven people to my one,
and that’s just Filipinos.
So,
let’s say,
uh: that had been,
black men.
(1.2)
Ouch.”

References