

Elijah Kelley

"Run And Tell That"

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SEAWEED

Hey Trace, my moms pitching a platter party at our record shop up off North Avenue. Wanna come "check it out"?

PENNY

May I also come "check it out"?

SEAWEED

Oh, you surely may!

TRACY

I've never been to North Avenue!

LINK

Would it b safe up there for, you know... us?

SEAWEED

Yeah don't worry cracker boy, It's cool!

PENNY

Imagine, being invited places by colored people!

TRACY

It feels so hip!

SEAWEED

I'm glad you feel that way, friends, 'cause not everybody does.

I can't see

Why people look at me

And only see the color of my face

Yes they do

And then there's those

That try to help, god knows

But have to always put me in my place

Now I won't ask you to be color blind

'Cause if you pick the fruit

Then girl, you're sure to find...

The blacker the berry
The sweeter the juice
I could say it ain't so
But darlin', what's the use?

The darker the chocolate
The richer the taste
And that's where it's at...
... now run and tell that!!

ENSEMBLE
Run and tell that!

SEAWEED
Run and tell that!

ENSEMBLE
Run and tell that!

SEAWEED (& ENSEMBLE)
I can't see
Why people disagree
Each time I tell them what I know is true

And if you come
And see the world I'm from
I bet your heart is gonna feel it too

Yeah. I could lie
But baby. Let's be bold
Vanilla be nice
But if the truth be told...

The blacker the berry
The sweeter the juice
I could say it ain't so
But darlin', what's the use

The darker the chocolate
The richer the taste
And That's where it's at

Now run and tell that!!
ENSEMBLE
Run and tell that!

(The scene shifts to Motormouth Maybelle's record shop dance party where her daughter Li'l Inez and her friends are already in full swing.)

LI'L INEZ

Hey, you're Tracy Turnblad! You're my favorite dancer
on the Corny Collins Show.

SEAWEED

This is my sister, Li'l Inez.

TRACY

Yeah, I saw you at the auditions.

LI'L INEZ

Well, you're the only one who
Did, 'cause they kicked me out
On my young, gifted and black
Behind.

SEAWEED

Tell 'em about it!

LI'L INEZ

I'm tired of coverin' up all my pride

SEAWEED & ENSEMBLE

So give me five on the black-hand side

LI'L INEZ

I've got a new way of movin'
And I got my own voice

SEAWEED & ENSEMBLE

So how can I help
But to shout and rejoice

LI'L INEZ

The people 'round here
Can barely pay their rent
They're "try'n to make dollar
Out 'a fifteen cent"
But we got a spirit
Money just can't buy

LI'L INEZ & ENSEMBLE

It's deep as a river
It soars to the sky!!

SEAWEED & ENSEMBLE

I can't see
The reason it can't be
The kinda world where we all get our chance

The time is now

And we can show them how
To turn the music up and let's all dance

'Cause all things are equal
When it comes to love
Well, that ain't quite true
'Cause when a push comes to shove...

The blacker the berry
The sweeter the juice
I could say it ain't so

But darlin', what's the use
The darker the chocolate
The richer the taste
That's where it's at

SEAWEED
... Now run and tell that!!

ENSEMBLE
Run and tell that!

SEAWEED
Run and tell that!!

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