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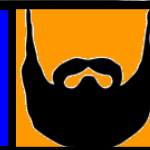
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DR. HARTNELL



The American Overhaul



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AH
Lesson
5.05



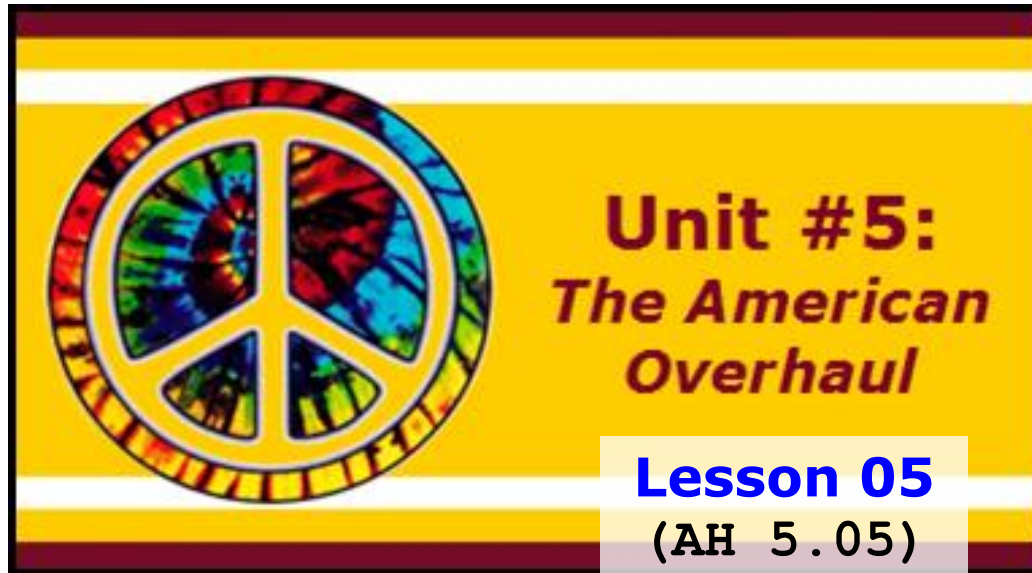
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What is the most epic quote in
U.S. history?



Unit #5:
*The American
Overhaul*

Lesson 05
(AH 5.05)



B1G THING

CRB #6: *Rosa & Montgomery*



- **Thurs., Dec. 1, 1955: Shortly after 5pm, Rosa Parks (5'3", 42-yr-old black woman) clocked out from her job as seamstress at Montgomery Fair Department Store in AL.**



B1G THING

CRB #6: *Rosa & Montgomery*



- She normally rode bus for mile & half (about **20 mins**) back to her apartment where she lived w/ her husband Raymond.

- But things did not go according to plan that night.



B1G THING

CRB #6: *Rosa & Montgomery*



- Encountering standing-room-only & having been on her feet all day operating steam press, **Parks decided to do some Christmas shopping while waiting for less crowded bus.**



B1G THING

CRB #6: *Rosa & Montgomery*

- Around 6pm, Parks boarded less-crowded **Bus #2857.**



Actual bus in Henry Ford Museum in Detroit.



B1G THING

CRB #6: *Rosa & Montgomery*



- 5 myths about what happened next...



B1G THING

Myth #1: Parks sat in whites-only section.

FALSE!



- **36 seats on municipal buses in Montgomery, AL.**
 - **1st 10 → whites.**
 - **Last 10 → blacks.**
 - **Middle 16 → 1st-come.**

B1G THING

Myth #1: Parks sat in whites-only section.

FALSE!



- Bus driver had authority to rearrange seats so whites could be given priority.
- **75%** of bus riders → black.
- **Blacks not allowed to sit across aisle from whites.**



B1G THING

Myth #1: Parks sat in whites-only section.

FALSE!



- If whites already in front, blacks had to get on bus to pay fare... then get off & *reenter* thru rear door.

- Sometimes bus took off *before* those who paid made it to back entrance.



B1G THING

Myth #1: Parks sat in whites-only section.

FALSE!

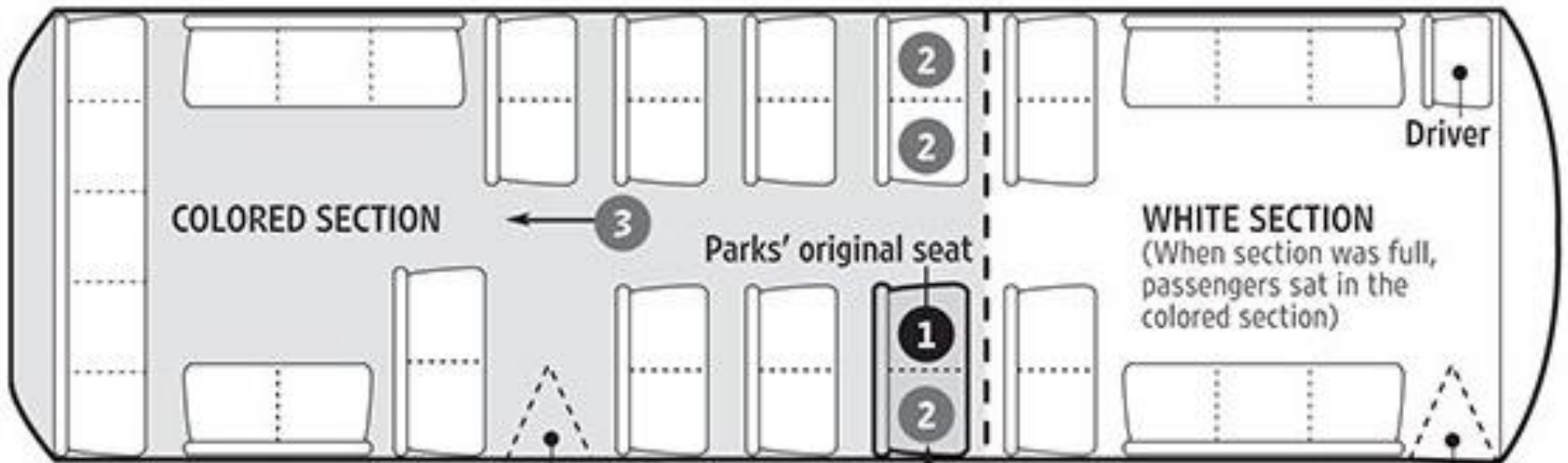


- Parks sat in aisle seat in front row of **MIDDLE** section.
- To her left, across aisle, were **2** black women.
- To her right, in window seat, was black man.



What happened on the bus

- 1** Rosa Parks boarded the bus and sat at an aisle seat in the designated colored section.
- 2** Three stops later, the driver told Parks and 3 other blacks in her row to move to the back to make room for a white man.
- 3** The 3 blacks moved to the back; Parks slid to an adjacent window seat and refused to move.
- 4** Parks was arrested for refusing to give up her seat at the request of the bus driver.



Blacks were seated from the rear entrance

Sources: "Quiet Strength" by Rosa Parks with Gregory J. Reed;
"Rosa Parks" by Douglas Brinkley; The Henry Ford; www.archives.gov

4 Parks was sitting here when arrested

Front entrance

NOVIA KNIGHT/Detroit Free Press



Parks' seat on Bus #2857

B1G THING



Myth #2: If Parks hadn't moved, white passenger wouldn't have had place to sit.

FALSE!

- Few mins later, when bus reached **3rd stop** in front of Empire Theater, **several white passengers boarded.**
- **Driver James E. Blake noticed white man standing near front.**

B1G THING



Myth #2: If Parks hadn't moved, white passenger wouldn't have had place to sit.

FALSE!

- **Blake called out for Parks & 3 others in her row to move to back,** where they would have to stand as all of seats now taken.
- They did not respond.

B1G THING



Myth #2: If Parks hadn't moved, white passenger wouldn't have had place to sit.

FALSE!

- Blake got out of his seat & demanded 4 to move, saying, *“Y’all better make it light on yourselves and let me have those seats.”*

- 3 went & stood in back.

- *What were their names?*



IT DOESN'T MATTER

...what their names were!



B1G THING



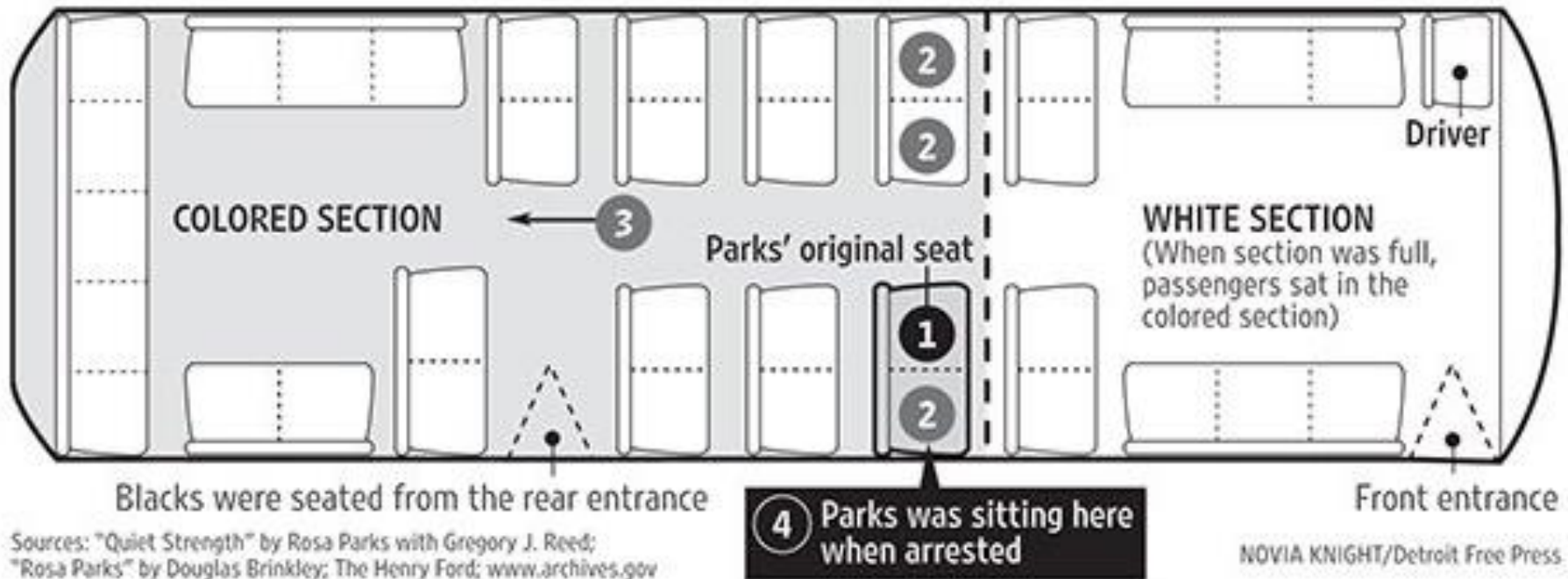
Myth #2: If Parks hadn't moved, white passenger wouldn't have had place to sit.

FALSE!

- Parks refused to get up.
- Instead, **Parks slid from aisle seat to window seat.**
- This allowed for white passenger to sit in any of **3** seats in her row.

What happened on the bus

- 1** Rosa Parks boarded the bus and sat at an aisle seat in the designated colored section.
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Parks' seat on Bus #2857

B1G THING

Myth #2: If Parks hadn't moved, white passenger wouldn't have had place to sit.

FALSE!



- **Blake** asked Parks, *“Are you going to stand up?”*



- **Parks** looked him in eye & **responded w/** quiet but resolute, **“Nah.”**



**B1G
THING**



Nah.

- Rosa Parks, 1955

B1G THING



Myth #2: If Parks hadn't moved, white passenger wouldn't have had place to sit.

FALSE!

- Parks explained that she had gotten on board **1st**, she paid same bus fare, she wasn't sitting in white section & that this was not actual violation of city ordinance.

B1G THING

Myth #2: If Parks hadn't moved, white passenger wouldn't have had place to sit.

FALSE!



- Blake said, *“I’m going to have you arrested.”*
- Parks said, *“You may do that.”*



B1G THING



Myth #2: If Parks hadn't moved, white passenger wouldn't have had place to sit.

FALSE!

- **Blake called supervisor who advised him that after warning passenger he had to exercise his power & get Parks off bus.**

B1G THING

Myth #2: If Parks hadn't moved, white passenger wouldn't have had place to sit.

FALSE!



- Blake radioed police who sent officers F. B. Day & D. W. Nixon.
- **Police peacefully arrested Parks, using no force** (none needed since she willingly allowed them to remove her).



B1G THING



Myth #2: If Parks hadn't moved, white passenger wouldn't have had place to sit.

FALSE!

- Parks said, *“Why do you push us around?”*
- Officer Day responded, *“I don't know, but the law is the law, and you're under arrest.”*

B1G THING

Myth #2: If Parks hadn't moved, white passenger wouldn't have had place to sit.

FALSE!



- **Parks** driven to city jail where she was **booked & put in dark/musty cell.**



- **Local Montgomery NAACP President E. D. Nixon bailed her out that night; Parks was his NAACP secretary.**



B1G THING



Myth #2: If Parks hadn't moved, white passenger wouldn't have had place to sit.

FALSE!

- When Blake died in **2002**, Parks was asked by reporter to comment.

- Gracious as ever, she replied, *"I'm sure his family will miss him."*

B1G THING



Picture is from Parks' 2nd arrest in 1956 in response to ruling against boycott.



B1G THING



*Mug shot is from Parks' 2nd arrest in 1956
in response to ruling against boycott.*



B1G THING

Myth #3: This was Park's 1st conflict w/ Blake.

FALSE!



- If Parks had known bus was being driven by Blake, she might not have gotten on.
- Blake (WWII vet) known for spitting tobacco juice, using derogatory language toward blacks & often drove off.



B1G THING

Myth #3: This was Park's 1st conflict w/ Blake.

FALSE!



- 12 yrs earlier, in 1943, Blake told Parks to exit & re-enter bus thru crowded rear entrance after she had already boarded front.
- Parks refused, so Blake tried to push her off bus.



B1G THING

Myth #3: This was Park's 1st conflict w/ Blake.

FALSE!



- Parks intentionally dropped her purse & sat down in white section to retrieve it.

- As she looked at Blake, she warned him, *“I will get off... you better not hit me.”*



B1G THING

Myth #3: This was Park's 1st conflict w/ Blake.

FALSE!



- For next **12 yrs**, Parks avoided riding Blake's bus.
- But on night of **Dec. 1, 1955**, she boarded Bus **#2857** w/o noticing Blake was driver; in other words, this was **NOT** premediated.



B1G THING

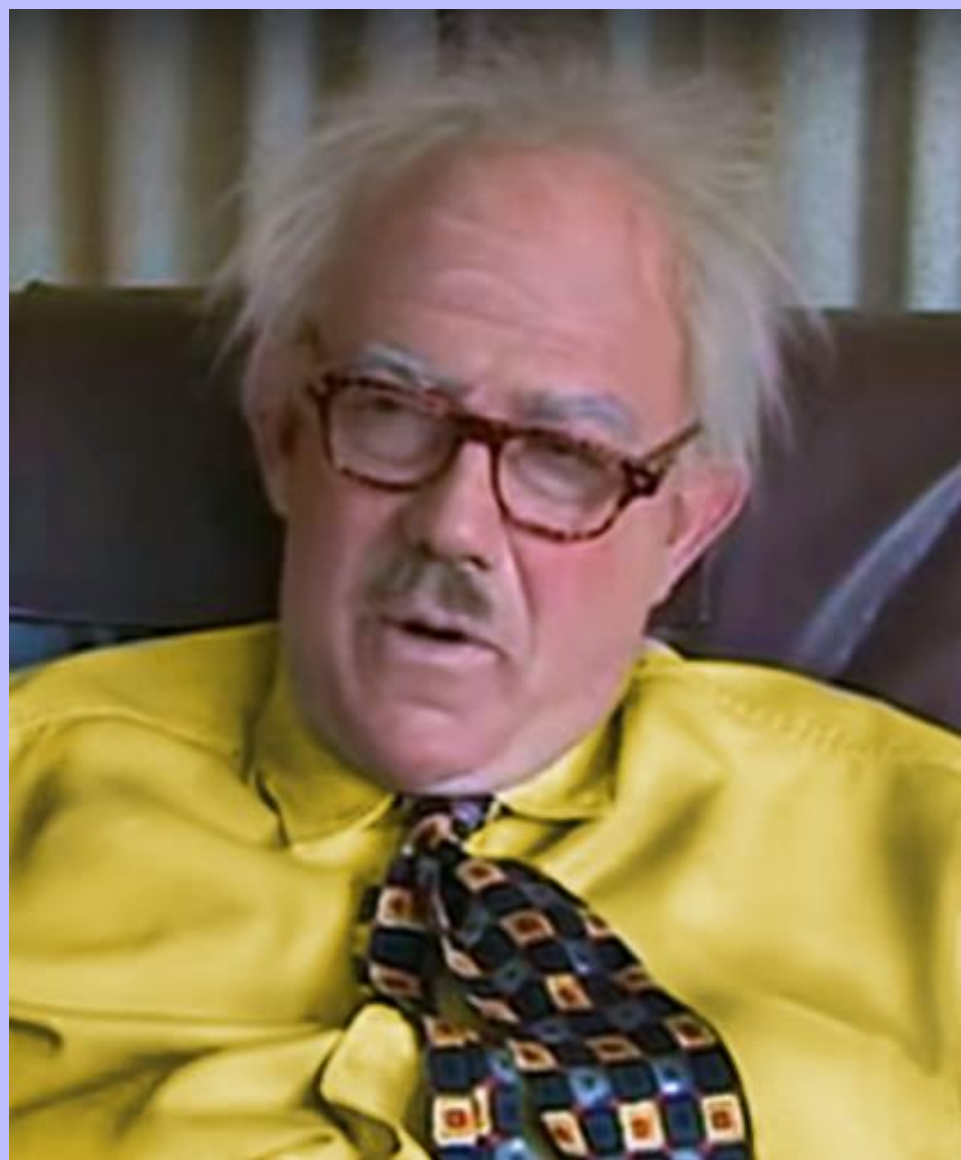
Myth #3: This was Park's 1st
conflict w/ Blake.

FALSE!



- **FYI**: Blake continued working for bus company (Montgomery City Lines) for another **19** yrs, retiring in **1974**.





Colvin during WWII & 1997



B1G THING

Myth #4: Parks was tired & refused to stand.

FALSE!



- **Parks said:** *“People always say that I didn’t give up my seat because I was tired, but that isn’t true. I was not tired physically, or no more tired than I was at the end of a working day. No, the only tired I was, was tired of giving in.”*



B1G THING

Myth #4: Parks was tired & refused to stand.

FALSE!



- **100** days after murder of Emmett Till, Parks said: *“I thought about Emmett Till, and I couldn’t go back.”*



- **FYI**: Parks & Till’s mother Mamie became activists & best friends in **Nov. 1955**.



B1G THING

**Myth #5: Parks was 1st black woman
to exercise civil disobedience
on bus.**

FALSE!



- **March 2, 1955: 9 months before Parks' famous arrest, 15-yr-old Claudette Colvin was arrested on Montgomery bus for refusing to give her seat to white woman.**





Colvin in 1955 & 2009

B1G THING

Myth #5: Parks was 1st black woman to exercise civil disobedience on bus.

FALSE!



- Bus driver ordered her to get up, but she refused, saying she'd paid her fare & it was her constitutional right.
- **2** police officers handcuffed her & physically removed her from bus.



B1G THING

**Myth #5: Parks was 1st black woman
to exercise civil disobedience
on bus.**

FALSE!



- **Officers sexually harassed her by trying to guess her bra size on way to jail.**
- **Colvin charged w/ disturbing peace, violating segregation law & assaulting officers.**



B1G THING

Myth #5: Parks was 1st black woman to exercise civil disobedience on bus.

FALSE!



- Colvin maintained she ***“went limp and didn’t fight back”*** when being arrested; black witnesses said she ***“fought like a little tigress”***.
- NAACP in Montgomery watched case closely.



B1G THING

Myth #5: Parks was 1st black woman
to exercise civil disobedience
on bus.

FALSE!



- During case in **May 1955**, judge dropped charges of disturbing peace, violating segregation; found guilty of assaulting officers.
- Big significance w/ which charge she was found guilty.



B1G THING



Girl, 15, Convicted Under Alabama Segregation Law

Montgomery, Ala — Claudette Colvin, age 15, student at Booker Washington High School, Montgomery, was convicted for refusing to give her seat to another white passenger boarding the same bus. Prior to the trial in Juvenile Court, she was given 3 charges, Assault and Battery Disorderly Conduct, and Violating

ATTENDS MEETING IN CHICAGO



the Chapter 6, Section 11 of the City Court. However when the case came up for trial the presiding Attorney, Mr. Thetford asked for an Amendment to the charge which was in effect saying the girl was violating the segregation law of the State of Alabama. This was upheld by Judge Hill, who was presiding over the case at Juvenile Court. The Amendment was sustained under violent observation of the Defense and the Defendant. The girl was placed on probation for an indefinite period.

Colvin verdict announcement

B1G THING

Myth #5: Parks was 1st black woman to exercise civil disobedience on bus.

FALSE!



- Since Colvin had only been charged w/ assault, appealing her case would not directly challenge segregation charge.

- No go for NAACP due to her age plus perception of being ***“feisty and uncontrollable”***.



B1G THING

**Myth #5: Parks was 1st black woman
to exercise civil disobedience
on bus.**

FALSE!



- **Colvin became pregnant that summer (after being raped by older, married man), so many in NAACP convinced they did right thing in not pursuing her case; felt pregnancy would take away focus of incident.**

B1G THING

Myth #5: Parks was 1st black woman
to exercise civil disobedience
on bus.

FALSE!



- Although **Colvin's actions** would not be precipitating factor in Montgomery Bus Boycott, they **did inspire Parks**, who served as activist & secretary w/ Montgomery NAACP.



B1G THING

**Myth #5: Parks was 1st black woman
to exercise civil disobedience
on bus.**

FALSE!



- Parks got to know Colvin during lead up to trial & had made Colvin “secretary” of NAACP Youth Council.
- Parks often gave Colvin rides to meetings & kept in touch after case ended.



B1G THING

Myth #5: Parks was 1st black woman
to exercise civil disobedience
on bus.

FALSE!



- **FYI**: Colvin gave birth to boy (Raymond) in **March 1956**.
- She gave birth to **2nd** son, Randy, in **1960**.
- Sadly, Raymond died of heart attack in **1993** (age **37**).



B1G THING

CRB #6: *Rosa & Montgomery*



- **Dec. 5, 1955**: Monday after her arrest, Parks' trial took place in Montgomery; found guilty & fined **\$10** (plus **\$4** for court costs).
- **\$14** in **1955** is **\$165.95** today.



B1G THING

CRB #6: *Rosa & Montgomery*



- **Dec. 5, 1955:** At conclusion of Parks' "trial", **26-yr old MLK, Jr.** began **Montgomery Bus Boycott.**



- **17,000 blacks** boycotted using **city's buses** for **381 days.**



B1G THING





Montgomery Bus Boycott



B1G THING



Montgomery Bus Boycott

B1G THING



CRB #6: *Rosa & Montgomery*

- While boycott underway, **Colvin joined 4** other plaintiffs in court case *Browder v. Gayle* to challenge bus segregation in Montgomery.
- **June 5, 1956**: AL District Court declared bus segregation unconstitutional.

B1G THING

CRB #6: *Rosa & Montgomery*



- **Nov. 13, 1956: U.S. SC affirmed AL District Court ruling; declared bus segregation unconstitutional.**



B1G THING

CRB #6: *Rosa & Montgomery*



- **Dec. 20, 1956: 1 yr & 15 days** after it began, **Montgomery Bus Boycott ended.**
 - **Boycott cost busses \$3,000/day (\$1.14M total).**
 - **In today's money, that's \$36,000 /day (\$13.5M total).**

B1G THING



CRB #6: *Rosa & Montgomery*

- Weeks after arrest, Parks lost her job (but told it wasn't because of boycott).
- **1957**: Moved to Detroit, MI.
- **Oct. 24, 2005**: Parks died at age **95**; became **1st** woman to have her body placed in rotunda of U.S. Capitol.

B1G THING



After Bus Boycott

B1G THING



After Bus Boycott

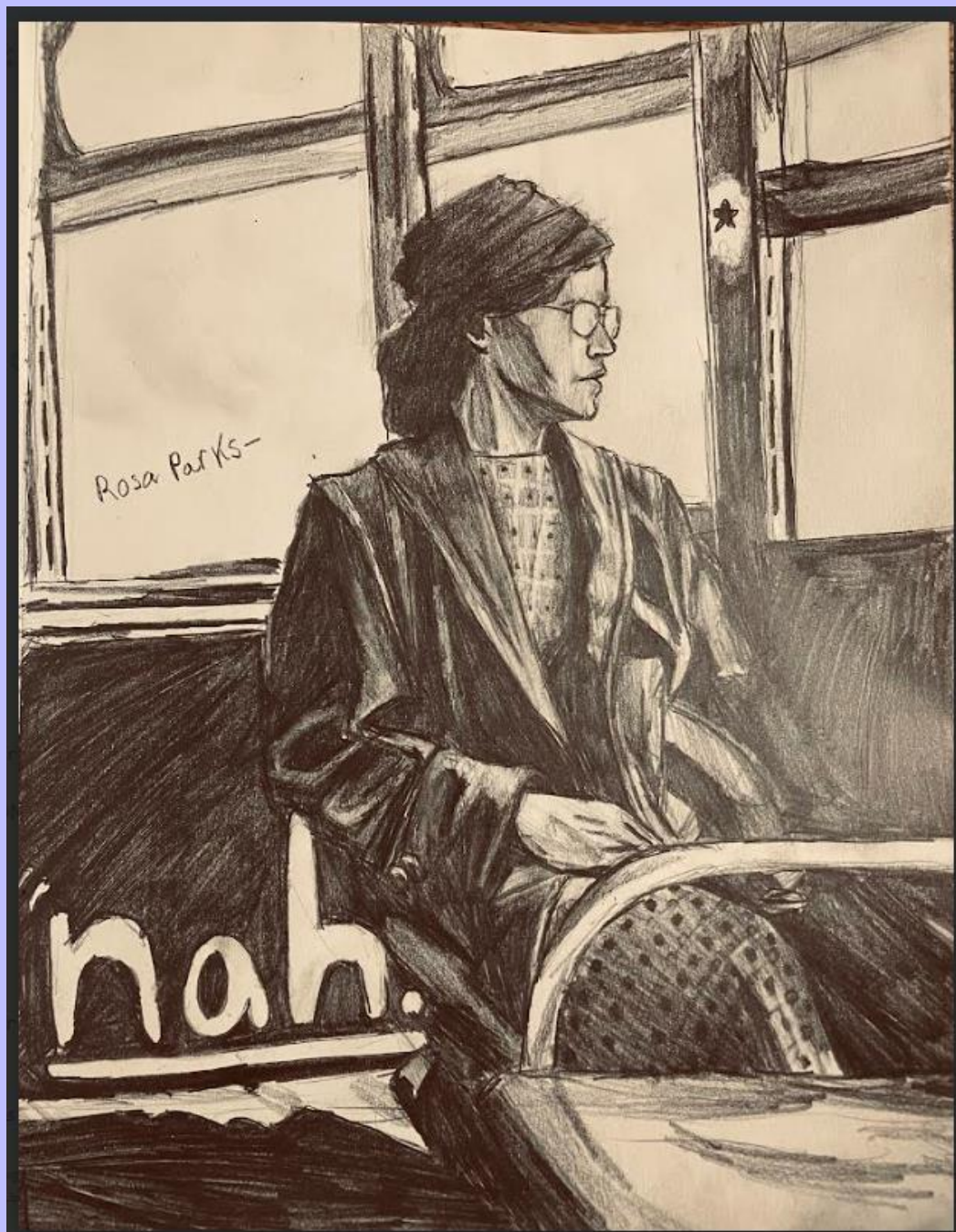


B1G THING



After Bus Boycott

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**B1G
THING**



Nah.

- Rosa Parks, 1955



What did we

LEARN

TODAY?



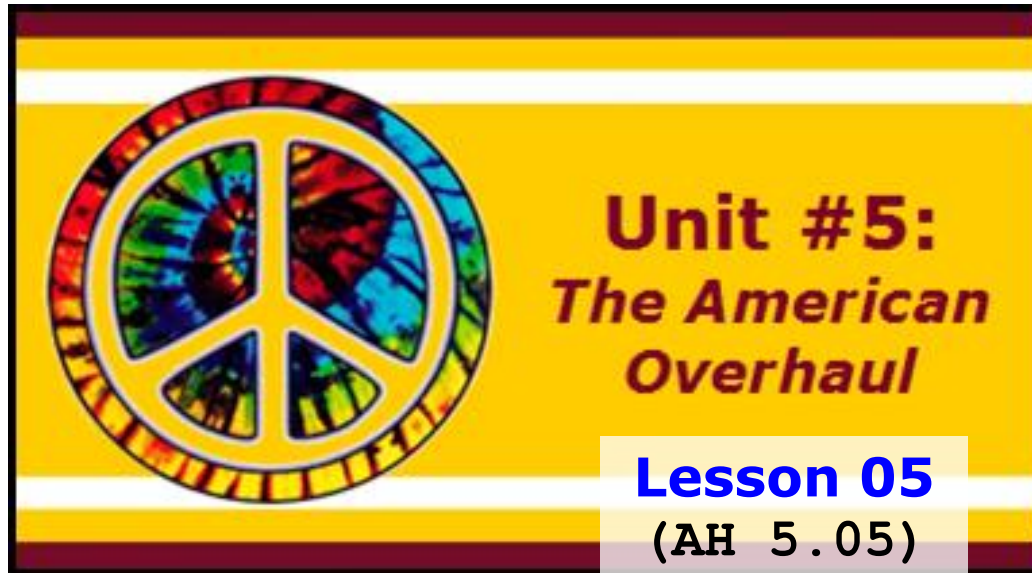
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What is the most epic quote in
U.S. history?



Unit #5:
*The American
Overhaul*

Lesson 05
(AH 5.05)

