A Proposal to Goin' a Buffalo

Richard Brereton September 12, 2016

The play I selected was *Goin' a Buffalo* by Ed Bullins. It was not available the first day we went to look at the artifact at the library, so I have not touched the play. But I did see *How Do You Do?* by Ed Bullins. I was interested in this play but wanted to learn more. So, in doing some research, I found his play *Goin' a Buffalo*. This play is about themes of violence, capitalism, and sexual exploitation in Los Angeles around 1968. I was intrigued by the theme of the story, as it seemed interesting to me, so I selected it to study.

This play makes me think about cities parts of the world today that undergo some of the same struggles. Though I have been pretty fortunate in my life to not be around violence and crime, I am interested in justice and defense.

I care about love, ethics, community, and justice. I love my family, along with baseball and other hobbies in my life. I am passionate about the things I am interested in. I try to strive to be ethical and moral. At Emory so far, I have felt a strong sense of community. I am a part of the varsity baseball team, where I have found so many great teammates and coaches. To me, I am finding my niche still though, trying to associate myself with other groups of people, not just the baseball team. Personally, I work well with other people, so community is very important to me. I am already beginning to feel a strong sense of community at Emory and hope to continue to develop this sense as I continue my journey here.

Goin' a Buffalo is about young African Americans trying to live and make a living in society. The play reminds me of the "American Dream" phenomena. I also understand that in this play, the characters encounter jails, strip clubs, riots, and complications with jobs. Though temptations exist, these characters deal with the struggles of daily life. The characters in this play even try to escape Los Angeles to begin a new life in Buffalo. They try to define their own sense of community, family, as they work together to survive and thrive, though society can make it difficult.