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They Call her "Q"

By Keri Crump, Rachna Kapur

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"They Call Me Q" is the story of Qurrat's (Carrot or Qatar-depending on who you are) life growing up in the Bronx. Qurrat Ann Kadwani plays 13 different characters in her sixty-minute play.

Qurrat plays different people who had a major impact in her life which include: herself, Mummi (her mother), Catherine (her 5th grade bully), Mrs. Farley (the teacher who favored Catherine), Abba (her father), the older sister of a girl that she fought with in JHS, Beenie (her High School friend who introduced her to clubbing & drugs) Melissa (another High School friend), Saad (her older brother), Alicia (her college friend who was very angry with oppression), Lina (her free-spirited Indian friend), Rayya (her childhood friend who was making herself content to accept an arranged marriage in India and not pursue any of her dreams or goals), and lastly Soraya (a teenage mehndi artist she met in Jaipur).

Throughout Qurrat or Q's journey through life she deals with self-identity, racism and death. When she was young she was not happy with whom she was and identified with her Puerto Rican friends, as she grew up she started valuing her culture and identity. Towards the end of the play you watch Qurrat learn to accept who she is and

become proud of her name and what it means--"coolness of the eye".

Winner of the "Best Actress" Award at the VTG's Harvest Theatre Festival, Qurrat Ann Kadwani does an outstanding job of keeping the audience entertained and interested in all of the characters that have impacted her life. She does an incredible job with accents- from her mother's Indian accent to her friends' Puerto Rican accent and uses props to change from character to character. If you are interested in shedding a tear, laughing out loud or relating to a journey of self-identity you need to check out "They Call me Q"!

For more information and show dates visit: <http://qkadwani.com/theycallmeq/>

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