

The Hamilcast: A Hamilton Podcast

[Episode #60: We ride at midnight, Manhattan in the distance // Part One](#)

Hosts: Gillian Pensavalle and Bianca Soto

Guest: Nik Walker, Hamilton on Broadway

Nik Walker hung out with us and we're so excited to welcome our first George Washington to the podcast! Nik also plays Aaron Burr and Mulligan/Madison, NBD. Remember Michael Luwoye's [Waldo prank?](#) Nik was the victim and we tell you all about how we were 100% in on it and helped make it happen. As we sip the custom-tailored The Dark Knight Rises Up cocktail, Nik tells us about joining the Broadway cast of Hamilton, how fun it is to work with so many of his closest friends, and declares a prank war on Michael Luwoye.

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The Hamilcast's Transcribing Army

Ok, so we are doing this . . .

[Intro music: *Alexander Hamilton* instrumental]

GILLIAN PENSAVALLE: Hello everybody, welcome back to the *Hamilcast*. I am Gillian.

BIANCA SOTO: I am Bianca.

G.PEN: And today we are joined by Nik Walker.

NIK WALKER: Hello everybody.

G.PEN: Hey!

B.SO: Hello! Welcome.

N.WALK: Hi guys, sup?

G.PEN: So much going on. So Nik, you're in... What are you working on right now?

N.WALK: I'm in that skit, that Hamilton thing.

G.PEN: Great!

B.SO: The *Hamilton* sketch...

N.WALK: That's got the stuff...

B.SO: That little improv troop.

N.WALK: It's like a thing...

G.PEN: The Herald Group...

N.WALK: I hear it runs, you know?

B.SO: Pretty good...

G.PEN: You are our first Washington.

N.WALK: Oh my goodness. I'm very excited about that myself. That's cool.

B.SO: It's exciting!

G.PEN: And let me tell you guys, you look like a Washington. You are so tall! When you walked in I was just like, I couldn't believe how tall you were and we had met before, which is crazy.

N.WALK: This is true.

G.PEN: What does that say about me? I don't know.

N.WALK: It's all right. No, I mean part of it I think... I am wearing my boots today so that probably adds an inch or two.

B.SO: Ok, well...

N.WALK: But I'm still a tall guy.

G.PEN: How tall are you really? Give me the numbers.

N.WALK: I'm 6'2. So BTC and I...

G.PEN: That's [Bryan Terrell Clark](#).

N.WALK: I think we're the same height. [CJack](#), I know I'm a little taller than and if he wants to say different he can come at me.

G.PEN: He can come on the podcast and talk about it. You guys can have a conversation.

B.SO: We'll battle this out...

N.WALK: At least on Broadway company, I know I'm the tallest. *Hamilton* Chicago, I know that's not true. The guy who actually does my my track, the Burr and Washington cover in *Hamilton* Chicago is massive. He's huge, he's a giant of a man.

G.PEN: He's a giant of a man?

N.WALK: I haven't even met the dude yet. But they tell me he's like 6'5, 6'6.

B.SO: You've heard tell.

N.WALK: I've heard tell of his glories.

G.PEN: Yeah, I think that's [Carl Clemons-Hopkins](#) actually. I've seen his Instagram. Carl, come on the show, we'll talk about more than your height. I promise.

N.WALK: But look him up cuz he's awesome.

G.PEN: So welcome. Thank you so much for coming. I said before that we had hung out. We have so much to get into.

N.WALK: Let's go. I'm very excited for this.

G.PEN: I wanted to say first that we met you at Michael Luwoye's going away party.

N.WALK: You did.

B.SO: Which we were so grateful to be invited to...

G.PEN: Which feels fake that we were there.

N.WALK: Why does it feel fake?

B.SO: I got a Facebook invite from Michael Luwoye! I was like, "what?"

G.PEN: And it wasn't one of those invites where, like, you and 8000 others were invited. It was a real...

B.SO: "I just invited my entire Facebook!"

G.PEN: Right? That is not what happened.

B.SO: No.

N.WALK: Michael's a chill dude and you guys are very chill people.

B.SO: The nicest guy.

G.PEN: It's not him that we are concerned about. That's amazing that we were included but anyway we love him. But first, we had this appointment...

N.WALK: Yes...

G.PEN: ... for this podcast recording because of Instagram.

N.WALK: ...because of Instagram. Because of the magic of social media.

B.SO: Very true. That's right.

G.PEN: So someone made a banner, a Twitter Banner for you.

N.WALK: Yes, they did.

G.PEN: That I think should be made a shirt.

N.WALK: It is actually in the process to be made a shirt.

G.PEN: Yes! So you can send my royalty checks - PO Box The Room Where the Podcast Happens.

N.WALK: Right. Exactly. Somebody made a banner. One of our wonderful fans made a banner that... basically it says, "Who the fuck is Nik Walker?" And I mean, I don't even know! I'm still trying to figure that out. So I just fell in love with that and then people were like, "Make a shirt out of that" and I was like "alright." So my boy Donald, Donald Webber who plays.. Clousé...

G.PEN: Clousé!

B.SO: [Oh, Clousé Michael Jeeves!](#)

G.PEN: We are in touch with Donald. Donald, is gonna be on the show. Jevon told us all about Clousé.

N.WALK: Please...Don't give support to this man's one man campaign to turn... and this is so Donald. It's so Donald.

G.PEN: But it's also [Jevon](#) because he was the one that was like, "No. I can't do it justice. You need Donald on the show to tell you about Clousé."

N.WALK: First of all, you do need Donald just on the show.

G.PEN: We're trying.

N.WALK: And you'll get him. [Donald Webber](#) is a menace.

B.SO: I love that.

Well, here's the thing, you have to understand, a lot of these guys that are in the show now, I'd say about half these guys, we've been doing shows together for four years.

B.SO: Well, a lot of you come from *Motown*, right?

N.WALK: I'd say about half the current cast comes from *Motown*.

G.PEN: Yeah, Jevon was listing off people...

B.SO: Left and right...

G.PEN: ... and I was like, "Who's left?" Taran Killan.

N.WALK: And there's literally nobody left who didn't ... It's like doing a show with ten of my older brothers and sisters.

G.PEN: That is the most fun thing ever.

N.WALK: So, I hate them all. And I have nothing but hatred in my heart, and, like, Donald Webber especially is one of those people who...

G.PEN: But he just makes you smile.

N.WALK: Arg, I hate him...

G.PEN: You can't stop laughing.

N.WALK: Oh God, no! Don't tell him I smiled. He'll know, but I hate him. He's a trickster and a fiend.

B.SO: "I know ya hate him..."

N.WALK: You know, Clousé is part of that tradition, But I don't even know how we got on this topic. Oh...

G.PEN: Okay, so...

N.WALK: George Washington...

G.PEN: We were talking about...

N.WALK: Michael's going away party.

G.PEN: Oh yeah, and how we had met on Instagram because I'd commented. I was like, "You need to make that on a shirt..."

N.WALK: On a t-shirt...

G.PEN: Please, and then we just... I don't know who said it first, but one of us was just like, "Let's have a podcast thing." It was probably me.

N.WALK: No, like I said, you guys, honestly, *Hamilcast* was honestly one of the first things I heard about when I came into the building.

G.PEN: Into the Richard Rodgers theater. I just want to confirm what you are...

B.SO:...what exactly you're saying.

N.WALK: So people... *Hamilton* as a show... You guys do understand this, it's a.... Doing this show is such a different experience than any other show you will ever do. Just because, you're not just doing the show, you become part of a culture and the life that is not just the cast, but is everyone who loves it, everyone who is about it, and it means so much to be a part of that. When I came into the cast, like Daniel Watts... I walked in that building and... do you guys know who [Daniel Watts](#) is?

G.PEN: Of course we know who Daniel Watts is.

B.SO: We know who he is, yes, of course.

N.WALK: Daniel is like, again, is like an older brother to me and he was like, "Dude, you hit the jackpot." And I didn't understand. He was like, "Buddy, it's amazing." Everybody was telling me about stuff in there, people were like throwing out like, the parties that you get to go to, the show that you get to do. Somebody was like, "Yeah, there's a podcast. They got like this amazing podcast about the show." And I was like, "Y'all got a podcast? Like y'all have your own podcast?" And it was just one of those...

G.PEN: Wait! They were talking about us?

N.WALK: Yes, they were talking about the *Hamilcast*.

G.PEN: I'm sorry.

B.SO: Speechless.

N.WALK: Oh you guys are like, this is a moment!

G.PEN: Yeah! Are you kidding!

N.WALK: Accept that you are very much a part of the *Hamilton* culture and I think that it's such a great thing...

G.PEN: It just got so hot in here...

N.WALK: It's such a great thing!

B.SO: No, my cheeks are flushed.

B.SO: No! Thank you so much. You have to understand that we started this podcast because we were avid fans of the show.

N.WALK: Yeah.

B.SO: To hear that people say such nice things about us and even know who we are first of all, that alone is enough.

N.WALK: Yeah.

G.PEN: Also, if you're listening. everyone in *Hamilton* has an open invitation to come on this show.

B.SO: Absolutely.

G.PEN: Please email us. Broadway, Chicago, the Tour, London, everyone has an open invitation ... we are waiting in the wings for you, for real, we are here and ready.

N.WALK: That's so funny, man.

B.SO: Amazing.

G.PEN: We were talked about?

N.WALK: You're talked about.

G.PEN: It's amazing how you can become a contortionist when you feel really shy about what's happening, because I am now.

N.WALK: I think for us it's such an amazing opportunity to be able to come and just talk to you guys about ... and just hear what your perspective on all this is and just have that conversation. 'Cause I think... when you come see the show as an audience member you get one perspective of who we are and how we do this and why we do this, and I think that any opportunity to just kind of connect on a different dimension of this is so invaluable...

B.SO: That's great because... we love that. 'Cause obviously, we can fangirl out about the cast recording and performances that you see on TV all the time, but there's always... everybody's got their own story, Everybody's got their own journey about how they came to the show and what they've been through and how they interpret their character. I think that's what...the little extra bits of information that people really like to hear... I know I do.

G.PEN: Yeah. Absolutely. What if I was like, "I don't care about that."

N.WALK: I have no care about that.

G.PEN: I have no interest.

N.WALK: Zero interest.

G.PEN: And also, [Karla Garcia](#) when she was here, she was kind of shocked that we knew other things that she was doing. We were like, "Karla! We care about you guys! We want to know other projects that are going on."

N.WALK: Awwwww. Well, Karla's also just the sweetest freakin' person in the world.

G.PEN: She just happens to be...

N.WALK: She's just one of those people that... And Karla, I hope you hear this 'cause it's just true. She's one of those people that I don't think recognizes how talented and genuine she is. And I can't wait to watch her career continue, to become...

B.SO: Absolutely. That's what we were saying as well. She's going to take off.

N.WALK: It's about to get so real for her, and I'm so excited to watch it. And going back to being in this building...it's just good to be in a building of these people. Of people who are just doing good work on and off the stage and just being good people. Honestly, as you guys know, as artists it doesn't always happen.

B.SO: No, it does not.

N.WALK: So we do not take this for granted.

B.SO: It's amazing. I love it.

N.WALK: It's a thing. Yeah!

G.PEN: So, we have some cocktails here on the *Hamilcast*.

N.WALK: I see this. For the listeners at home, I'm staring at a glass that is one of the coolest glasses I've ever seen. It says, "George Washington" on one side and "Hero" on the other side and it's chilled.

G.PEN: It was in the freezer all day.

N.WALK: That's spectacular.

G.PEN: And what Bianca and I are drinking out of are very similar to the '*Room Where it Happens* *Clink' glasses.

N.WALK: That's what I'm saying. Y'all, the detail work here is just...

G.PEN: And it's in an antique pitcher that is just... maybe the years don't match up but it works.

N.WALK: Doesn't matter. The mood is set.

G.PEN: The mood is set. Let me tell you what this drink is called.

N.WALK: I'm very excited.

G.PEN: This is very specific to you.

N.WALK: Let's go.

G.PEN: Are you ready?

N.WALK: I cannot wait. Here we go.

G.PEN: It's called, "*The Dark Knight Rises Up*."

N.WALK: Already. Already guys, we're here.

G.PEN: Right, we're here.

N.WALK: It's begun.

G.PEN: It's in a George Washington glass...

N.WALK: Yes it is.

G.PEN: Chilled...

G.PEN: There is whiskey in it...

N.WALK: Great...

G.PEN: Guys, Nik Walker is like nodding...

N.WALK: Everything you're saying... I'm just checking things off in my list of my life. Like, that's my life.

G.PEN: It's so specific to you.

N.WALK: Yeah.

G.PEN: So let's do a little "cheers."

B.SO: What else is in it? Do you want to go through the rest of the...?

G.PEN: Yeah, let's do our "Cheers" first and then I will...

[Sound of clinking glasses]

N.WALK: Clink!

G.PEN and B.SO: Clink!

N.WALK: Clink glasses!

B.SO: Oh yes, that is delicious.

N.WALK: Ladies and gentlemen, my god!

[laughter]

B.SO: My god!

N.WALK: It's like... Okay, talk to me about what's in this.

G.PEN: All right. We got some whiskey in it.

N.WALK: Yeah...

G.PEN: We've got some iced coffee that's been icing all morning...

N.WALK: That's exactly what that tastes... yeah, yeah.

G.PEN: We got some maple syrup, some hazelnut schnapps...

N.WALK: Ahhhh! This is like... I'm very excited. I enjoy this.

G.PEN: It's really good, right?

N.WALK: The Fire Rises. If you get that reference, you know what I mean? [imitates line from *The Dark Knight*] "It rises." Yes.

B.SO: Loves *Batman*.

G.PEN: Loving it.

N.WALK: Excellent drink and I'm gonna need you to write down the ingredients so I can make it.

G.PEN: I absolutely will.

N.WALK: Excellent, I'm very excited.

G.PEN: Great.

G.PEN: Here's what else we have to talk about.

N.WALK: Let's talk.

G.PEN: So Michael Luwoye...

N.WALK: Oh my god...

G.PEN: Is one of the nicest... he is ... is he real?

N.WALK: He's very real. He's absolutely a real person.

G.PEN: Okay because he seems... He's so nice.

N.WALK: Yep.

G.PEN: And so fantastic and so talented that it's almost ...It's like, suspicious.

[laughter]

N.WALK: I wrote a poem for his going away that I actually sent to Stage Management. I have it on my phone but it basically was just extolling... He's... Michael is one of the best artists I know - committed artists I know, and also wears it so lightly... and I think that that is such a cool thing. What I feel you're about to bring up though, is a side of Michael that I would do away with.

[Gasps from Gillian and Bianca]

N.WALK: I say this in jest...You have to understand...So many of these people that we're going to be talking about this evening are like my brothers and sisters. I am always the eternal little brother to these people. I find that they enjoy torturing me, they enjoy taking the piss out of my life.

G.PEN: I have a friend like that. My friend Damian tortures me to no end. Even his wife is like, "Will you be nice to Gillian?" But if Damian was too nice to me I'd be like, "Did I do something wrong?"

N.WALK: Exactly. So understand, would I actually want this to go away with Michael? Absolutely not.

B.SO: Of course not.

G.PEN: Never.

N.WALK: But for the purposes of our conversation, it's the worst thing and I hate it. You're talking about Michael Luwoye's pranks.

G.PEN: He's a prankster.

B.SO: Very much so. We spoke about this [on our episode](#), our conversation with him.

G.PEN: So here's the story though... So what happened was, he was here, told us... I asked him about the pranks... I was like, "Are you allowed to talk about it, are you not? What is going on?"

N.WALK: And he said...

G.PEN: And he said, "Of course." Told us about how he literally be waiting in the wings for people during *Wait for It*.

N.WALK: Yes.

G.PEN: In different costumes...

B.SO: Or he would be doing like a Shake Weight...

G.PEN: or booty popping...

N.WALK: He's done... I mean there is a whole library...

B.SO: Star Wars mask...

N.WALK: Yeah, he's done a lot...

G.PEN: So after we wrapped that podcast, my husband who was here saw his round glasses and said, "Hey, have you ever done like a Harry Potter prank, because you have Harry Potter round glasses?" He said, "No, but I am kind of known as Black Waldo. Because of those glasses.

N.WALK: Because I named him that.

G.PEN: Right.

B.SO: Absolutely.

G.PEN: He also announced to us before it was out that he was leaving for the tour.

N.WALK: Wow, you guys got the scoop.

G.PEN: So when we knew that ...he left, the door shut...point zero zero zero two seconds, the three of us turned around and said, "His goodbye present is a Waldo costume."

N.WALK: Absolutely.

G.PEN: The next weekend, Jevon McFerrin's here. So we tell *him* about this idea, that we wanta give...And we were like, "Is it cool? We can do that, right?" He said, "You have to do that."

B.SO: "You have to do that."

N.WALK: You have to.

G.PEN: So we said, "Okay, so we're doin' this."

B.SO: You got it the day before his party... a couple days before his party?

G.PEN: It was the day before 'cause his party was on a Sunday.

B.SO: Okay.

G.PEN: And let me tell... we were all, not all, maybe me and Bianca and Michael were talking about you. Because he was like, "I'm gonna do it. I'm showing up..." Wait, "Didn't you have your last show? You can't go back to the Rodgers."

B.SO: He was like, "I'm talking to the stage manager. I'm coming back. I'm doing the Waldo prank."

G.PEN: I'm sorry, Nik, we knew about it.

N.WALK: Everyone knew about it.

G.PEN: He probably couldn't keep his mouth shut!

N.WALK: That was the thing that was so disturbing to me. Because here's what you gotta understand. During that moment ...I turn around and... Michael has any litany of pranks that he does, right? But the key is that it's Michael. It's not like the full freakin' company. But I turn around. They got like five cameras filming this thing.

G.PEN: So you're on as Burr?

N.WALK: No, I was on in my ensemble track.... Thank god.

G.PEN: Okay, thank god because if you were on as Burr...

N.WALK: No. Now granted, I have been on as Burr and seen him do some shit ... when I was on as Burr and I saw him do it, he was doing it to Roddy [Kennedy], who was in my track. But he still saw me and continued to do it. He was actually on as Hamilton when he did it.... That one wasn't too intense.

G.PEN: What was he dressed as?

N.WALK: He wasn't dressed as anything. He was just dancing around like an idiot.

G.PEN: Like a booty pop.

N.WALK: But it's like [sings] "*Hamilton faces an endless uphill climb*" and I turn around and he's doing his little booty pop dance, and I'm like, "Bruh, I can see you... It's not like it's a... And Luwoye, I hope you hear this episode.

G.PEN: I'm gonna send it to him.

N.WALK: Luwoye, I have so many friends in your west coast cast. [Gillian and Bianca gasp] And the way this is coming back to you... he doesn't know... he thinks...

B.SO: This gauntlet is being thrown.

N.WALK: The gauntlet is...It's trashed. Like the gauntlet is broken. I am coming for him. I am coming for him so hard. He needs to know that. He's not gonna be safe. You heard it here first.

G.PEN: This is an unprecedented situation happening on the *Hamilcast* right now.

N.WALK: I'm declaring war on Michael and you heard it here first.

B.SO: Oh, wow. Okay.

N.WALK: So get ready, because it's not gonna be light.

B.SO: "It isn't pretty"

G.PEN: I cannot wait to see how this unfolds.

N.WALK: It is not pretty.

G.PEN: I have to say I cannot...

B.SO: I can't wait for it actually.

G.PEN: I will not "wait for it" I cannot wait.

N.WALK: Things are so in the works right now. There are so many closed door discussions happening.

B.SO: Oh man.

N.WALK: And I can't wait for it. I'm very excited.

G.PEN: Are you guys like in a room?

N.WALK: Like a room where it happens? Absolutely.

B.SO: Like a room where the podcast happens....

G.PEN: But you're having actually a 'room where it happens' conversation where he's not allowed...

N.WALK: Absolutely. He is not allowed to know anything about this.

G.PEN: Only but now he's Hamilton...

N.WALK: I would go further. I would say it's *Washington on Your Side*. Because we are not approaching him yet. We are still in the planning phases of this. We're putting the

seeds together. But he...I'm fine with him knowing that something's coming. I'm fine with it.

G.PEN: It's almost better.

B.SO: Then he won't know. He won't know what's coming.

N.WALK: That's what I want more than anything. It's not even the prank itself. It's the fear...I'll tell you something. You guys want some inside dirt, I'll tell you something: Brandon Victor Dixon. Brandon Victor Dixon is again, one of my good friends, I love him dearly, I look up to him so much. Brandon Victor Dixon is a habitual nut tapper. Onstage...

G.PEN: Wait, onstage?

N.WALK: This man, when you're about to go on for an entrance, he's done it to Jevon, he's done it to me, somebody else probably gonna have it happen... He will hit you in the balls. And it's usually like when you're on the surround and you're not in the lights, he'll just smack your balls and continue on his story, as Burr. and the thing is, he has me so afraid of it that...There will be moments like... And he knows it. He'll just walk by and I'm... I freak out. And that's what I want for Michael. I want Michael to go through his first six months as Hamilton not knowing where it's gonna come from, how it's... I just want that fear.

B.SO: Sleeping with one eye open

N.WALK: That's what I want. I'm sick.

G.PEN: That's what you want for your friend. For someone you consider a brother...you want him to be horrified.

N.WALK: For someone I wrote a beautiful poem for. I want that for him.

G.PEN: I look forward to hearing...

N.WALK: Absolutely...

G.PEN: Any and all updates...

B.SO: I look forward to All the updates...

N.WALK: You'll be updated.

G.PEN: Hopefully some videos maybe? Or some photos...

N.WALK: Oh I hope so.

B.SO: What we even just saw... the Black Waldo picture he posted on Instagram the other day, we were like, "Yes!"

N.WALK: It was so creepy too. It was so, because...again he wasn't supposed to be in that building! So, not only was he in a Waldo costume, not only was he in a Waldo costume during *Wait For It*, but he was in a Waldo costume during *Wait For It* at a time when I thought this was over. And so literally all he did was stand there and then...

B.SO: Did he give you like a Waldo wave?

N.WALK: He put his fingers to his lips, and he disappeared into the darkness. It was like, "Sshhhh!"

G.PEN: No!

N.WALK: And I... What the real problem was...the way that choreography works...in my regular ensemble track I'm Man Six. Man Six is so fortunate in that...I, as Nik, I cannot dance...

G.PEN: You are also a liar.

N.WALK: I can move...

[cross talk]

N.WALK: I'm an actor singer who moves. But I can't do what Tanari [Vasquez] does. I can't do what Karla does, right?

B.SO: That's fair.

N.WALK: So most of my stuff is on the side. Just singing and watching and having a good time. But there is a moment where you're supposed to... improv during *Wait For It*... of like angst and like turmoil. Then that big last chorus.

G.PEN: What part? What are the lyrics of it?

N.WALK: It's [singing] "*Wait for it, duh duh, Life doesn't discriminate between the sinners and the saints. It takes and it takes and it takes.*" When he's like riffing and stuff. You're supposed to be frustrated and angsty - not specific moves - but you're supposed to be doing that. After he did that, I literally fell down to my knees and started weeped-laughing-crying. Like I was just shaking. And he got it all on film. He has it all on film. They all have it on film.

[gasps]

G.PEN: This is coveted footage.

N.WALK: It's Holy Grail footage of me just standing there just ... and Hope [Endrenyi] comes up behind me and she's like she's doing her dance ... and she's like, "What's wrong with you?"

G.PEN: Are you all right?

N.WALK: Did you not see him? Look at him! Look at him! It was the worst. And he was laughing like a goddamn banshee.

G.PEN: I wish we could apologize for our part in it but I feel no remorse.

B.SO: Sorry, not sorry.

N.WALK: You shouldn't feel... Objectively, It's one of the most brilliant moments that's happened off stage.

[cross talk]

G.PEN: And also onstage, because you know that someone in that audience was ... that man, that person...someone fell to his knees!

B.SO: He was really feeling it there.

N.WALK: That's the issue too. I think Man Six, we call it the Shadow Ninja track, cause you're a shadow Ninja...

G.PEN: What else does he do? 'Cause Karla walked us through the Dead Mother track.

B.SO: Yeah, she walked us through the Lady tracks.

N.WALK: I dare you to find Man Six. I actually challenge you. When you come again, 'cause you will be there again...the one thing that you'll see him do, he says "*In love with France*," that's it.

G.PEN: What's his first thing?

N.WALK: His first noticeable thing?

G.PEN: Yeah.

N.WALK: Uh... During Schuyler Sisters, He walks behind Angelica.

G.PEN: That's the noticeable thing.

N.WALK: That's the noticeable....

G.PEN: I feel like many people walk behind Angelica.

N.WALK: They do. I'll tell you a story. Brandon and Cody, who's one of our stage managers, who is again from *Motown*, they had friends come to see the show. And their friends were like, "Amazing show, amazing show." They were like, "Did somebody get hurt, like, in Act II? Cause there was a guy in Act II that we had not seen for the entire show. Was there a replacement on?" And they were like, "No, that's Man Six."

B.SO: That's Man Six, you just haven't seen him the whole time.

N.WALK: You just haven't seen him the entire show.

B.SO: Oh no!

N.WALK: I'm telling you. If me and Elizabeth Judd are in the shadows, you will not find us.

G.PEN: What track is [Elizabeth Judd](#)?

N.WALK: She's Woman Five.

G.PEN: Woman Five, Elizabeth, we love you, please come on.

N.WALK: Elizabeth Judd is amazing. She's a dear friend. Our tracks were built, number one, for extra voices, and number two, for coverage. So Elizabeth covers all the Schuyler sisters; I cover Washington, Burr, and actually now - ooh, this is a little scoop for you...

B.SO: Yes!

N.WALK: Nobody knows this.

B.SO: We love a scoop.

G.PEN: Should we be ready to raise a glass?

N.WALK: Ready to raise a glass, sure.

N.WALK: So Washington, Burr, and now Mulligan/Madison as well.

G.PEN: Ooh, yay!

N.WALK: Clink!

B.SO: Clink!

G.PEN: Congrats! Awesome!

N.WALK: Thank you so much.

G.PEN: Oh, Mulligan/Madison. Mulligan is...

B.SO: That's her boy.

G.PEN: He's my boy.

N.WALK: Oak.

G.PEN: No, just Mulligan. Sure, Oak, yes! Oak. Please come on the show.

B.SO: Always Oak.

G.PEN: Always Oak, but Mulligan is...

N.WALK: Mulligan's awesome. He has the best rap in the show.

G.PEN: Yeah he does.

B.SO: That's awesome!

G.PEN: You know what I wonder? Do you think they meant it that Man Six is not so noticeable?

N.WALK: Absolutely.

G.PEN: Is he a dual character?

N.WALK: No, it's very smart to have characters... whenever you're casting a big show like this, it's very smart to have an actor who you kind of... reserve. Let's say that you had your standby on, cause we all... so everyone who covers in the ensemble also has a standby who's covering the same role, right? So, I cover Washington, Burr; Treco'll cover Washington, Burr. Donald covers Ham, Lafayette/Jefferson and...Laurens/Philip; Jevon covers Ham, Lafayette/Jefferson and Laurens/Philip. So there's a double of us. So let's say... the show's going on one night, god forbid Brandon goes down and Treco's already on for Washington...So then you throw me on for Burr.

N.WALK: So you always have coverage.

G.PEN: That's why Man Six would be...

N.WALK: Cause he's a cuttable track.

B.SO: That's perfect.

G.PEN: This creative...Don't you want to just... Elaine-push them from Seinfeld, "Get Out!"

G.PEN: Get out of here! It's rude!

N.WALK: It's brilliant.

G.PEN: As Jevon would say, it's stupid.

N.WALK: It is stupid. And that's exactly what he would say.

B.SO: It's ridiculous.

N.WALK: Did Jevon tell you... did he talk to you about our friendship at all?

G.PEN: He said That you have a very strong friendship from *Motown*.

N.WALK: Before. So he was one of my groomsmen...

G.PEN: Really?

G.PEN: And you got married when?

N.WALK: October.

B.SO: Yay.

N.WALK: Of 2016...

B.SO: To the groom!

G.PEN: To the groom!

G.PEN: Another raise a glass. And we won't pull another Angelica. We'll just say to the groom...

N.WALK: It's beautiful. If there's a whole song about it, that's fine too. No, Jevon and I have known each other going on nine years. We did our first professional show together. It was *Rent* out in Ithaca.

B.SO: Oh.

G.PEN: Who was who?

B.SO: A little show called *Rent*...

N.WALK: Jevon was Benny and I was Collins.

[gasp]

G.PEN: Of course you both were.

N.WALK: You want to talk getting me through hard times, Jevon was with me for one of the worst breakups of my life and he got me through.

G.PEN: Right.

N.WALK: Getting me through involved taking me to a bar and getting me completely wasted.

B.SO: As You do.

N.WALK: As you do. But it was he... He's... family. We've always done shows together and whenever we are on for leads together, we call it the Brothers Darkness. So that's why if you saw the picture that me and Jevon posted as Hamilton and Burr...

G.PEN: Oh we did.

B.SO: We liked it...

N.WALK: We Add a hashtag, #TheBrothersDarkness.

B.SO: That's so great I love the people who came up together still get to share your successes together and you have this bond in this friendship. It's so special.

N.WALK: And that's the thing I think that's crazy to me about this, it's like there's so many people that I just came up with. Donald, Jevon, Oak! I mean, People that I've known for a decade and we're doing the show together. And you guys understand this, to be able to do a show that not only is such an amazing piece of art but like, quite honestly, is a government job... Is a job that...so often you're doing these shows and you're like, "I don't know when we're closing so I'm just squirreling it away," but for those of us who are trying... like, I'm trying to save for a house. It's such an honor to be part of a show that is this big. And will go on.

[cross talk]

B.SO: It's more than just a show, it's a cultural phenomenon.

N.WALK: It's a thing.

G.PEN: It's a community.

N.WALK: It's a whole thing.

B.SO: It's a community, it's a culture in and of itself and it's great.

N.WALK: Yeah, so. It's a blessing, it really is.

[Exit music begins]

G.PEN: That's it for part one of our conversation with Nik Walker. I'm a little nervous for Michael Luwoye, right? Aren't you? This is going to be a prank battle for the ages. I don't think anyone's ready for it. Especially you, Michael. Next week, Nik gets into the details of playing both Aaron Burr and George Washington on Broadway. You definitely don't want to miss that. Thanks so much for listening. We'll talk to you soon. I am G.Pen.

[Exit music]

[Outro]

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[Music: Hamilton – The World turned upside down – Instrumentals play]

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