

Original Faubus Fables: Charles Mingus (1960)

[group] Oh Lord, don't let them shoot us,
Oh Lord, don't let them stab us,
Oh Lord, don't let them tar and feather us,
Oh Lord, no more swastikas!

theme

[group] Oh Lord, no more Ku Klux Klan!
[Mingus] Name me someone ridiculous, Dannie.
[Dannie Richmond] Governor Faubus!
[Mingus] Why is he so sick and ridiculous?
[Richmond] He won't permit integrated schools.
[Mingus] Then he's a fool.

bridge

alto saxophone **[Eric Dolphy]**

[Mingus] Boo, Nazi fascist supremists!

alto saxophone

[Mingus] Boo, Ku Klux Klan **[Richmond]** with your Jim
Crow plan!

trumpet double-time

[Mingus] Name me a handful that's ridiculous, Dannie
Richmond?

[Richmond] Bilbo, Thomas, Faubus. Russell, Rockefeller,
Byrd, Eisenhower.

[Mingus] Why are they so sick and ridiculous?

[Richmond] Two, four, six, eight

[Mingus & Richmond] They brainwash and teach you hate!
etc.

Freedom: Charles Mingus (1963)

[Mingus] This mule ain't from Moscow
This mule ain't from the South
But this mule's had some learnin'
Mostly mouth-to-mouth.

This mule could be called stubborn and lazy
But in a clever sorta way this mule could be workin', waitin'
and learnin' and plannin'
For a sacred kind of day.

A day when burnin' sticks and crosses is not mere child's
play
But a madman in his most incandescent bloom
Whose loveless soul is imperfection in its most lustrous
groom.

So stand fast young-old mule
Soothe in contemplation
Thy burning whole and aching thigh.
Your stubbornness is ever-living
And cruel anxiety is about to die.

[singers] Freedom for your daddy
Freedom for your momma
Freedom for your brothers and sisters
But no freedom for me.

Freedom for your daddy's daddy
Freedom for your momma's momma
Freedom for your brothers and sisters
But no freedom for me.