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\\_//--- Tropic Thunder [~] The dudes are emerging
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In this document, I'm going to review this following clip from the movie [Tropic Thunder].  
<https://youtu.be/Rwks9NneeUM>

## Introduction

| [Actor]           | [Character]       |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| Jay Baruchel      | Sandusky          |
| Jack Black        | Portnoy           |
| Robert Downey Jr. | Lazerus/Blackface |
| Ben Stiller       | Tugg Speedman     |

**Cast**

/ Sandusky

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_/ Portnoy

Probably sounds like a bit of a [contradiction], but- as he states in the scene where the director is blown up by an old French landmine... [he never drops character until the DVD].

Minus all of the scenes where he acts out as someone's idea of a stereotypical black dude, dude seemed to have it somewhat together, throughout a large portion of the movie.

In fact, he gives [Tugg Speedman] some rather helpful advice.

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[Blackface] : You never go [full retard], bro.
              [Sean Penn], [Rain Man]...? [Autistic], but not [stupid].
              [Tom Hanks], [Forest Gump]... [Stupid], but [gets the girl].
              You...?
              You went [full retard], bro.
              There ain't no comin back from that.
              You never go [full retard].
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I'll return to talking about [Blackface]'s character shortly.

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\ Speedman /-----/ Lazerus/Blackface \
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After the director is blown up by the landmine, [Speedman] has the map in his hands and starts issuing commands for the rest of the cast like someone that has no clue what the hell he's even doing.

At some point, [Blackface] steals the map from him, and then the other characters realize they've been going the [wrong direction] for some time, at the direction of [Speedman].

[Speedman] goes off on his own, and winds up being caught and taken prisoner by the villagers. At some point when the villager boy starts beating [Tugg Speedman], he starts to stutter like [Simple Jack].

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[Speedman] : P-p-p-please d-d-d-d-don't h-h-h-hurt m-m-m-meeee~!
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The boy looks at him, and says:

[Boy] : ...say that again...

[Speedman] : P-p-p-p-please d-d-d-d-don't h-h-h-hurt m-m-m-meeee~!

That's when the boy realizes...

[Boy] : You're [Simple Jack]~!

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[Tugg Speedman], having been told that he's a washed up actor, and nobody cares about [Simple Jack] or [Scorcher I-V], by the girl from [Entertainment Tonight]...
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[Entertainment Tonight Girl] : Somebody close to you said that one more flop...?
                              *shakes head* And it's over.
[Speedman]                   : *pauses* Somebody said they were close to me...?
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[Tugg Speedman] had that whole situation in the back of his mind going into this movie.

When the character arch for [Speedman] appears to break down and he's being held prisoner, he thinks he's going to die because [Les Grossman] answers the phone when the dude says:

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[Dude]      : We are flaming dragon.
              Send us many millions of dollars, otherwise he's a dead man.
[Grossman]  : How about I send you a hobo's dick cheese...?
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...but- at some point, the boy says "You are [Simple Jack]...~!" [Speedman] says:

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[Speedman] : Uh... you've seen [Simple Jack]...?
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And the kid is like:

[Boy] : Bro, it is a classic example of perfect American movie...

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...it confuses the dog shit out of [Tugg Speedman], because the movie flopped in the [United States].
But- for some reason, this [kid] and [the entire village] seem to [worship] this friggen movie.
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So, this realization takes [Tugg Speedman]'s psychology over, [completely].  
He begins to feel [empowered] by being there, having put all of his effort into making that particular movie,  
and going... [Full retard], he begins to tell himself that he's right where he belongs.

Of course, this is [sheer stupidity].

-----/ Speedman  
Transcription /-----  
/-----

Time Party Line

0:46 Sandusky C'mon, lets go.

0:48 Portnoy Come on, what are you guys doing...?  
Let's get out of here~!

0:50 Lazerus ...he's on tilt status.  
Same thing happened to me when I played [Neil Armstrong] in [Moonshot].

They found me in an alley in [Burbank].  
Trying to re-enter the [Earth]'s atmosphere in an old refrigerator box...

1:02 Portnoy What's he talkin' about...?

1:04 Sandusky Come on fellas, \*hands waving\* we [really need to go]...

1:06 Lazerus Daggomit, Blamtucky.  
I ain't reprogramming a VCR.

\*scene flash\*

1:11 You're gonna focus up now, motherfucker, and say it.  
"It's me, Tugg!"

1:13 Speedman \*unconvincingly\* It's me, Tugg.

1:16 Lazerus That's right!  
Now, [Tugg] who...?

1:17 Speedman [Tugg] who?  
I don't know.  
Who are you...?

1:19 Lazerus Me...?  
I know who I am~!

1:22 [I'm a dude, playin' a dude, disguised as another dude~!]

1:26 Sandusky ...what...?

1:27 Lazerus [You a dude that don't know what dude he is~!]

1:29 Speedman Or are [you] a [dude] who has [no idea] what [dude] he is...  
...and [claims] to know what [dude] he is...

1:33 Portnoy \*annoyed\* What the fuck are you guys talking about...?

1:35 Speedman ...by [playing other dudes]...?

1:36 Lazerus [I know what dude I am~!]

1:38 Speedman You're [scared].

1:39 Lazerus [I ain't scared], scared of what...?

1:41 Speedman Or [scared of who]...?

1:42 Lazerus Scared of who...?

1:42 Sandusky \*rushing\* Come on, guys.  
We really need to go~!

1:45 Speedman [Scared of you].

-----/ Transcription  
Interpretation /-----  
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As for [Blackface], he seems to be pretty [level-headed], coming to [Speedman]'s rescue and whatnot.

It isn't until this conversation with the [lead character] occurs, that [Blackface]'s character begins  
to [rupture] and [fall apart]. The lead character is of course, [Ben Stiller]'s character [Tugg Speedman].

In this [chaotic moment], full of [turmoil], and [confusion], we get a really good look at the  
[philosophical implications] here, surprisingly spoken by [Tugg Speedman].

To the untrained eye, the dialog is simply [comedic], appearing to be rather [non-sensical]...

...but the words are rather [simple], yet incredibly [sharp].

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[Speedman] : ...are [you] a [dude] who has [no idea] what [dude] he is...  
...and [claims] to know what [dude] he is, by playing other dudes...?  
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Who knew, that a man caught within the character of [Simple Jack], would phrase an utterance that could cut deeply beneath the shallow surface of [Blackface]'s character, and soul...  
...whereby resulting in the [collapse] of [Blackface]'s persona...?

[Tugg Speedman], having had a somewhat loose grip with reality, and being an oblivious idiot, he [internalizes] the same sort of [philosophical glimpse] into his own character, and provides [Blackface] the moment he truly needs to finally come to grips with his reality.

However, this also causes him to break away from the somewhat catatonic state that he was locked within. As soon as he shows him the mirror...?  
That's when [Blackface]'s character breaks down, and [Speedman] says...

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[Speedman] : The dudes are emerging.  
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That is when [Kirk Lazarus] comes out, basically having a nervous breakdown on camera. He didn't wait until the DVD to drop character completely.

[Before...?]  
You had an [Australian dude], having had a skin pigmentation procedure to play in the role of another dude named [Blackface]... who dresses up as a farmer who has [rice] and [poppy] paddies. You're sorta getting a little bit of the [Inception] vibe, characters nested within characters, nested within characters...

[After...?]  
The [Australian] dude comes out, and he's basically like "Everything about my life is a lie..."

-----/ Interpretation /-----  
Conclusion /-----

[What is it about this particular scene that causes it to be rather climactic...?]

I think that it literally comes down to how simple the dialog is, and how the reflection in the mirror causes the character to realize his vanity...

...and it is a perfect metaphor for people in real life.  
In society, people play this game with one another, and they base so many things on their appearance.

Very rarely, do we as human beings ever base our values on things that are more than just skin deep.

The words that cause the climax of the film to be realized...  
...they come down to someone realizing that they went on an adventure...  
...to save somebody that, when found, didn't even want to be saved...  
...and that person who didn't even want to be saved starts to ask the the savior rhetorical questions...  
...those rhetorical questions cause the savior to feel as if they were broken all along...  
...and in need of saving themselves.

The savior comes to terms with the fact that they were living in denial that entire time...  
...and then as they took a long hard look in a mirror, the veil of denial was lifted.

The fact of the matter is that it really does come off as being extremely [silly] and [stupid], but given a lot more thought into the things that are stated...?

[There's something a lot deeper going on here, in this scene].  
The moral of the story, is that while [seeing is believing], [appearances may be deceiving].

-----/ Conclusion /-----

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