

BIG MAN TINGS

I dedicate this column to my friends who shared a memorable Sunday afternoon with me that turned into a mellow dramatic catastrophe through no fault of our own.....

To cut the suspense this Tale commences with a drunken driver speeding down my road the rest of the story will unfold.....

One balmy Sunday afternoon a group of my friends and I were enjoying each other's company on my veranda soaking up Mother Nature's beauty all around us when alas we heard this screeching coming down the road followed by a thunderous crash which we prayed would not end up in fatality based on the sounds we had just processed.

One of my friends feared they crashed into my wall. My fear was even worse that he had crashed into the light post and it fell across my drive way, which would have marooned my friends thus create unnecessary drama, to what was an almost perfect Sunday afternoon.

As two of my "white knights" accompanied me down the drive way and we gingerly crossed the road to where the accident took place. We encountered a crashed vehicle which struck two tress, the bonnet of the vehicle partially opened, due to the impact and a man on the ground. One of my "knights" approached him to assess the situation and asked poignant questions to which the frustrated driver (who we shall call **Boogie** going forward) after a while said "**Boss, This is BIG MAN TINGS**". Well we were all floored and until now the Group of us has found a way to inject this colourful dialogue in our conversations. The Jamaican language is just so ingenious, that even a difficult situation could be expressed in such a simplistic manner

"**Big Man Tings**" truly speaks to the heart of how we need to take serious and complex tasks and carefully analyse how we find a workable and sustainable solution.

"**Big Man Tings**" speaks to how conscience people need to take the bull by the horn and charge forth with conviction for problem solving and a clear cut strategic posture to make meaningful change not only for the individual but the collective success of the communities around us that we influence.

Boogie we hope when you valiantly spoke up that this was "**Big Man Tings**", after the incident you had the strength of conviction to stand up and take responsibility for your actions.

For the rest of us looking on lets improve our game from the perennial talk shop and step up to the plate when "**Big Man Tings**" confronts us. This should not be a quick fix of utterances to divert attention from the real problem but "**Big Man Tings**" must represent the cognitive will to step forward and do the right thing even in the time of adversity.

To my friends who shared that memorable Sunday evening – what can I say – We will always have **BOOGIE** – who reminded us of the serious charge of **BIG MAN TINGS**.