

“Fables of Faubus”

Charles Mingus

“Fables of Faubus” by Charles Mingus

What historical event do you think became the inspiration for “Fables of Faubus”?





Governor Faubus

On September 2, 1957, Governor Faubus orders the Arkansas National Guard to prevent the integration of Little Rock Central High School.



“A man without a great deal of courage would have taken the easy way out and said to the Negroes, ‘Go in there and get hurt,’ But I’d rather take the criticism than face the prospect that I’d been negligent and caused someone’s death in this integration thing.”

“I just write tunes and put political titles on them. *Fables of Faubus* was different, though--I wrote that because I wanted to.” -Charles Mingus

- What parts of the tune stick out to you and why?
- How does the tune make you feel and why?
- What do you picture when you hear the melody?

Sources

<https://www.allaboutjazz.com/news/charles-mingus-fables-of-faubus>

<https://www.thenation.com/article/archive/september-4-1958-arkansas-governor-calls-out-the-national-guard-to-prevent-public-school-integration/>

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