

## KHADIJAH QUEEN

### Montell Jordan came to the Fatburger drive-thru

Montell Jordan came to the Fatburger drive-thru as I was clocking out so I went outside to get his autograph for one of my nieces back East who thought he was soooooo fine he was in a black Suburban with 50-11 dudes & was really cool about it & didn't try to hit on me I probably smelled like Fat Fries even though I'd changed out of my uniform & into khaki shorts & a tank top he turned the music way down to hear me better & seemed really tired I knew that feeling I still had to take two buses home & get up at 5:30 in the morning to make it to campus for 8am statistics & try not to get flashed like earlier that day by a barefoot man in a filthy cloth diaper I was too tired to be anything but mad that I had to stop studying & leave my seat on the bus bench as he swung his pale penis around like a stripper tassel I screamed get the hell out of my face! & he burlap sack sagged away revealing the thong quality of the diaper a cop strolled out of the nearby Winchell's sipping coffee it smelled hella good & he asked if I was all right he said do you want me to arrest him I said no I just want to keep reading *The Salt Eaters*

My mom has never been very starstruck but she loved her some Billy Dee

My mom has never been very starstruck but she loved her some Billy Dee my sister & I loved Star Wars & when she saw Billy Dee Williams' picture on some trading cards we had she went a little nuts hollering & snatching at who we thought of as Lando Calrissian she shouted Whoa! Oh! & smiled & said May I have that one to put in my wallet please my mother has a gorgeous Libran smile I liked Lando too but not THAT much so I said sure & giggled & probably had on a Kmart short set when *Star Wars* came out I must have been 6 or 7 & when she ran into him at the Whole Foods in Studio City in 2004 she said to herself OHMYGODMYHAIR ISNOTRIGHT MYCLOTHES ARENOTRIGHT MYSHOES ARENOTRIGHT & hid behind a pyramid of assorted vitamins

## I was nine or ten when I met Minister Louis Farrakhan at Mosque No. 27 on Crenshaw

I was nine or ten when I met Minister Louis Farrakhan at Mosque No. 27 on Crenshaw everyone kept saying how he wouldn't be giving that many appearances anymore because he had cancer & I stood in line with my mother & sister to meet him we had on our white MGT-GCC uniforms my mother was a captain so she had on a fez & my sister & I had pristine head scarves the same thick material as our dresses & starched to perfection the line was really long but we were close to the front so my white patent leather shoes hadn't yet started to pinch when I climbed the steps of the dais & he held both his hands out for my hands & smiled & his skin was so clear I remember how shiny it was not in a greasy way but a bright kind & he called me little sister & asked my name & said it was the same as his wife's & he expected me to live up to its greatness