Word Substitution List, *The Hate U Give*

Chapter 1, pages 3-19

Pg 3  on some bougie shit – a lie
Pg 3  weed – marijuana
Pg 3  rapper – singer
Pg 4  freshest kicks – newest clothes
Pg 4  grind – dance
Pg 4  nana – grandma
Pg 4  you all that – you’re special
Pg 4  Folks kill me – People make me laugh
Pg 5  Jordans – basketball shoes
Pg 5  scopes – looks around
Pg 5  toothpicks on the runway – skinny models
Pg 6  latchkey – a child whose parents aren’t home after school (they’re home alone)
Pg 6  whoop somebody’s ass – beat someone up, kick someone’s butt
Pg 6  trump card – special advantage (her dad)
Pg 6  starting shit – getting into (starting) arguments and fights
Pg 6  stank-eye – evil eye, look of hatred
Pg 6  kick some ass – start a fight
Pg 6  out the side of her neck – but pretending not to be talking (about Kenya)
Pg 7  ‘Ol trick, gon’ say – she said
Pg 7  hoes – short for whores (prostitutes)
Pg 7  Ain’t this some shit – Can you believe this
Pg 7  stuck up – conceited, full of herself
Pg 7  li’l bougie – little rich (bourgeois – French)
Pg 8  Fro-hawk – A Mohawk haircut (shaved on the sides, tall in the middle), but the Mohawk is natural African-American curly hair – an afro.
Pg 8  Why you ain’t – Why didn’t you
Pg 8  once-over – looks her up and down
Pg 9  I cut her a side-eye – I look at her out of the side of my eye
Pg 9  li’l lame – little unimpressive/unimportant
Pg 9  snicker – laugh in a not nice way
Pg 9  doing Molly – taking drugs
Pg 10  dope – awesome, cool
Pg 10  Bitch – Starr (she’s not being nasty here)
Pg 10  running her mouth – talking
Pg 11  Garden party – a party in Garden Heights
Pg 11  retro Jordans … - cool shoes
Pg 11  dope – cool
Pg 11  daps – happy greetings like high-fives
Pg 11  dimples … - cute childlike face ruins any chance of him looking like a tough guy
Pg 11  fine – handsome
Pg 11  wee-wee – penis
Pg 12  wee-ha – vagina
Pg 12  perverted – sexually inappropriate
Pg 12  in a minute – in a while
Pg 12  tee – T-shirt
Pg 12  tear up – cry
Pg 12  a’ight – all right
Pg 12  taking chemo – going through chemotherapy treatments for the cancer
Pg 13  get clean – stop taking drugs
Pg 13  one more hit – one more time getting high
Pg 13  Drake – famous rapper (singer)
whiny – complaining, cry-baby

corny – foolish, goofy

flip him off – raise her middle finger to him
(an insult, but she’s just joking here)

so fresh – so cool

one-fifty - $150

fly – cool

the kicks – your shoes

dab – blot, touch lightly

a bitch – difficult

pops/holla at – dad/talk with

going down – happening

Grown folks business – adult stuff

Cuss words – swear words, bad words

shot/duck – gunshot/quickly bent down

stampedes – runs together

snitch – tell (the authorities)

that bitch – Denasia

handle her ass – fight her

Impala – brand of car

rims – fancy decorations on the tires

tacky – cheap looking

King Lord – name of a gang

fade – hair

Garden Disciples – another gang

bound to pop off – sure to happen

the game – the gang world

cranks/ blasting – turns/playing loudly

Tupac – famous rapper (Tupac Shakur)

wild out – do wild (bad) things

lights and food – having electricity and having food to eat

clowns/ claimed – people/said

pulling her load – doing enough

popped – hit

crush – romantic interest

Chapter Two, pages 20-24

birds and bees – talk about sex

fussed – disagreed with him

cusses – swears (shit, damn, etc.)

brights – bright headlights

have nothing on them – have any drugs

both y’all going down – both of you are going to jail

buzz cut – short haircut

pats Kahlil down – pats Kahlil’s body with his hands to be sure he doesn’t have a weapon.

Chapter Three, pages 25-49

bruh – brother (friend)

rummage – search

hushed tones – a quiet voice

Tahoe – car (a brand name)

spit pools – saliva (mouth water) collects

gag – choke, can’t breathe

recap – replay, summarize

county morgue – building where dead people are taken for autopsies (examinations)

J’s – Jordan tennis shoes

hydrant – fire hydrant

Glock – gun
munching – eating
snaggletooth – a tooth that sticks out
humungous – large
Nana – grandma
potpourri – mixed flowers
dreads – short for dreadlocks (a hairstyle)
RIP – rest in peace (common word on grave headstones)
all hell breaks loose – things get crazy
what went down – what happened
hands down – no contest
bougie – short for bourgeois, meaning upper class
polo and khakis – shirt and pants
Get! – Stop! Go away!
eighteen-wheelers – large trucks
carry a tune... - sing well at all
high-top fade – a modern hairstyle
Afro – an older hairstyle
passed – died
on the dot – exactly
sho’ – sure
Dr. King – Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., civil rights activist in the 1950s and 60s.
Huey Newton – co-founder of the Black Panthers (a black rights organization in the 1960s)
thugs – criminals, bad guys, bullies
day-old grounds – old coffee
bet’ – better
thang – thing
blazed – high
blunt – joint (marijuana)

Lotto – lottery
gon’ – is going to
been gone ten years – died ten years ago
gon’ be trying it – going to try to date/have sex with Starr
guts – courage
rants/Halle Berry – complains/African-American actress
can’t get with brothers – won’t date black men
kicks – shoes
fly – very cool
got into it – had a fight
start something – start a fight
clocked her ass – hit/pushed her
aroma hits – smell gets to
own up to it – take responsibility for it
What up, Queens – hi girls
hey – hi
Nah, she good – No, she’s okay (doesn’t need the money)
il’l homie – good friend
po-po – police
too many eyes – too many police watching
ain’t going down here – isn’t going to happen here
folks get out the game – someone (meaning Starr’s dad) get out of the gang
state pen – state penitentiary (jail)
an ass whoppin’ – a beating
outta line – out of line (do something wrong)
peels out – speeds away
Chapter 4, pages 50-66

Pg 51 meat locker – refrigerator for raw meat
Pg 51 y'all wanna – you all want to
Pg 51 pig – police officer, cop
Pg 53 Tyrone – just a generic name for a black youth
Pg 53 put on leave – off work, usually with pay
Pg 54 I get that – I understand
Pg 54 stomach bug – stomach ache (virus)
Pg 55 high yella – high yellow
Pg 56 tuck me in – pull the bed covers up around her at bedtime
Pg 56 cuts – gives
Pg 57 going there – going to this topic (again)
Pg 57 breaks a name down – pronounces each syllable slowly
Pg 58 drums – taps his fingers in order
Pg 59 buy/bug – believe/virus (sickness)
Pg 61 You ain’t ever lied – Isn’t that the truth
Pg 62 cracks – breaks (because of emotion)
Pg 62 rehab facility – treatment place for drug/alcohol addicts
Pg 62 gotta wanna get clean – has to want to be drug-free
Pg 62 over the edge – make her do something crazy
Pg 62 former – the first thing (as opposed to “latter” which is the last thing mentioned)
Pg 63 housecoat – robe, bathrobe
Pg 63 check – hit, fight, strike
Pg 64 barrel – race
Pg 64 I wanna cuss Kahlil out – I want to yell and scream angry swear words at Kahlil

Pg 66 empty-handed – without anything (money, in this case)
Pg 66 God’s my witness – I promise
Pg 66 cornrows – rows of small braids close to the scalp (a black hairstyle)
Pg 66 snaggleteeth – teeth that stick out

Starr (also Munch)  Kenya

Kahlil

115 (Brian)
Chapter 5, pages 67-92

Pg 67  crest on my polo – logo on my shirt
Pg 67  wanna puke – want to throw up/vomit
Pg 68  put me on the spot – bring attention to me
Pg 68  You gon’ be a’ight? – Are you going to be all right?
Pg 68  rush hour – a time with lots of traffic
Pg 69  Messed up – I don’t agree with their illogical/unreasonable thinking
Pg 69  gated neighborhood – homes with a gated entrance and a security person stationed at the entrances. Residents have a card to get in.
Pg 69  lower school – for younger kids
Pg 70  give me…credit – trust me
Pg 70  some sugar – some love (a kiss)
Pg 70  station = police station
Pg 71  “hood” – someone from the ghetto
Pg 71  holds her tongue – doesn’t speak
Pg 71  approachable – easy to approach/talk to
Pg 71  dope – cool
Pg 72  Sour Patch Kids – candy
Pg 73  BS – bullshit
Pg 73  foreplay – activity before sex
Pg 73  center – a position in basketball
Pg 73  bitch – complain
Pg 73  egging … on – encouraging
Pg 73  at it – fighting, arguing
Pg 73  pixie cut – a very short, boy-ish haircut
Pg 74  charged – charged with a crime
Pg 75  Hails – nickname for Hailey
Pg 75  have her way – do what she wants
Pg 76  crack up – laugh hard
Pg 76  corny – laughable, silly
Pg 77  hood – neighborhood/Garden Heights
Pg 77  mutilated – destroyed, severely damaged
Pg 77  freaking out – super anxious/emotional
Pg 78  first bell – a bell sound meaning that the first class of the day is starting
Pg 78  AP – Advanced Placement (an extra difficult class)
Pg 78  NCAA brackets and the Final Four – college basketball tournaments
Pg 78  Notre Dame – university in Indiana
Pg 78  NBA – professional basketball
Pg 78  pursed – puckered, pointing out
Pg 78  douche – loser, jerk
Pg 78  shit list – list of people she is angry at
Pg 79  bust out – start
Pg 79  cold-shoulder – ignore
Pg 79  No shade… - No lie, I love Taylor Swift, but she doesn’t do the angry girl thing nearly as well as R & B artists (rhythm & blues, a type of music)
Pg 79  baby blues – pretty blue eyes
Pg 80  Space Jam Elevens - shoes
Pg 80  cock – tilt
Pg 81  empty-nesters – parents whose children are grown and no longer live with them
Pg 81  fooling around – sexual activity
Pg 81  condom – protection against pregnancy
Pg 81  go all the way – have sex
Pg 81  went off – got really angry
Pg 81  pissed/horny – angry/wanting sex
Pg 82  low blow/beatboxes – unfair tactic/sings
Pg 82  booty – rear end, butt
Pg 82  suggestively – in a sexy way
gets – understands

Will – main character in the Fresh Prince of Bel-Air TV show

slipped up and – accidentally

flinch/snatch – jerk/move

in surrender – palms forward and up

jackwad – jerk, idiot

the middle finger – an obscene gesture; a gesture of contempt

kick Chris’ ass – beat Chris up

Condomgate – the issue with Chris and the condom (ask in class about this)

eternally... - will forever be an asshole

still on the table – still good, still available

dreadlock – braid

drum – tap with her fingers or hands

dig in – start eating

pecks – quick kisses

I got your back – I’m here for you; I’ll protect you

gushes – says a lot of good things

laying it on... - heaping on the compliments; trying hard to be friends

perky and shit – bright/cheerful and everything

drum – tap with her fingers or hands

prickle – burn, itch

brights – bright headlights on the police car

pull us over – stop us; make Kahlil pull the car over to the side of the road

yanked – pulled hard

patted K down – patted K’s body looking for weapons or drugs

stay put – don’t move, stay still

her limit – the limit of her patience

telepath – someone who can tell what someone else is thinking, a mind reader

got to the bottom of – completely understand

drug – tap with her fingers or hands

nip – breast

teets – breasts

breast – breast

theex – ex

the last bits – the end

Chapter 6, pages 93-103

on the dot – exactly

my breath catches – I can’t breathe

sweating bottle – bottle with water drops on the outside from cold water warming up

lose my nerve – get too afraid

pecks – quick kisses

I got your back – I’m here for you; I’ll protect you

gushes – says a lot of good things

laying it on... - heaping on the compliments; trying hard to be friends

perky and shit – bright/cheerful and everything

drum – tap with her fingers or hands

prickle – burn, itch

brights – bright headlights on the police car

pull us over – stop us; make Kahlil pull the car over to the side of the road

yanked – pulled hard

patted K down – patted K’s body looking for weapons or drugs

stay put – don’t move, stay still

her limit – the limit of her patience

telepath – someone who can tell what someone else is thinking, a mind reader

got to the bottom of – completely understand

narcotics – illegal drugs

baiting me – leading me into a trap

dead – directly

flat-out – directly

move – tactic, strategy
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Definition</th>
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<tr>
<td>105</td>
<td><strong>Staawp</strong> – stop</td>
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<tr>
<td>105</td>
<td><strong>moves</strong> – dance movements</td>
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<tr>
<td>105</td>
<td><strong>dab</strong> – a dance step</td>
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<tr>
<td>105</td>
<td><strong>go-to</strong> – favorite</td>
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<tr>
<td>105</td>
<td><strong>linebacker</strong> – football player</td>
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<td>105</td>
<td><strong>mixes</strong> – mix of songs</td>
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<td>106</td>
<td><strong>hoop/shot</strong> – basketball ring/throw</td>
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<tr>
<td>106</td>
<td><strong>homegirl’s</strong> – Bridgette’s</td>
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<tr>
<td>106</td>
<td><strong>way off</strong> – really terrible</td>
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<tr>
<td>106</td>
<td><strong>shoot</strong> – throw the basketball</td>
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<tr>
<td>106</td>
<td><strong>all up on her</strong> – all over her</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>106</td>
<td><strong>soft</strong> – easy (letting them win)</td>
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<tr>
<td>106</td>
<td><strong>pooching</strong> – sticking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>107</td>
<td><strong>catches my eye</strong> – looks at me</td>
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<tr>
<td>107</td>
<td><strong>déjà vu</strong> – all over again</td>
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<tr>
<td>107</td>
<td><strong>bust out</strong> – abruptly start singing</td>
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<tr>
<td>108</td>
<td><strong>beckons</strong> – invites</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>108</td>
<td><strong>three on three</strong> – three players against three players</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>108</td>
<td><strong>stank-eye</strong> – an angry look</td>
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<tr>
<td>109</td>
<td><strong>checks</strong> – throws</td>
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<tr>
<td>109</td>
<td><strong>passes</strong> – throws the ball</td>
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<tr>
<td>109</td>
<td><strong>dribble</strong> – bounce the ball up and down</td>
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<tr>
<td>110</td>
<td><strong>Old Spice</strong> – men’s aftershave (scent)</td>
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<tr>
<td>110</td>
<td><strong>crotch</strong> – area between his legs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>110</td>
<td><strong>dirtier</strong> – more like sex</td>
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<tr>
<td>111</td>
<td><strong>Nails</strong> – sinks (scores)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>111</td>
<td><strong>give me away</strong> – reveal what I’m really thinking</td>
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<tr>
<td>111</td>
<td><strong>Hustle!</strong> – Work hard!</td>
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<tr>
<td>111</td>
<td><strong>surges forward</strong> – moves on</td>
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<tr>
<td>112</td>
<td><strong>funk</strong> – stink, smell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>112</td>
<td><strong>place of solace</strong> – peaceful place</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>112</td>
<td><strong>cuss</strong> – swear</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>113</td>
<td><strong>snap</strong> – say angrily</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>113</td>
<td><strong>into that sort of thing</strong> – interested in that kind of stuff or activity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>113</td>
<td><strong>suspected</strong> – thought to be dealing drugs, but not proven to be a drug dealer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>114</td>
<td><strong>bawling</strong> – crying a lot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>114</td>
<td><strong>even</strong> – dare (to call her a racist)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>114</td>
<td><strong>flat-out</strong> – completely</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>114</td>
<td><strong>sob</strong> – cry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>114</td>
<td><strong>shrink</strong> – psychologist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>115</td>
<td><strong>go-to line</strong> – what they always said to me</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>115</td>
<td><strong>hall pass</strong> – a piece of paper that allows a student to walk the halls when classes are in session (instead of being in class)</td>
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<tr>
<td>116</td>
<td><strong>cramps</strong> – pain from menstruation</td>
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<tr>
<td>116</td>
<td><strong>fro-yo</strong> – frozen yogurt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>117</td>
<td><strong>nape</strong> – back</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>118</td>
<td><strong>latchkey kids</strong> – kids whose parents aren’t home when they get home from school</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>118</td>
<td><strong>Mwah!</strong> – the sound of a kiss</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>118</td>
<td><strong>go off on somebody</strong> – yell at them</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>118</td>
<td><strong>call them out</strong> – call them a liar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>118</td>
<td><strong>buying</strong> – believing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>119</td>
<td><strong>first-name basis</strong> – they call each other by their first names (not as formal as Mr.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>120</td>
<td><strong>blurt out</strong> – say suddenly</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Starr’s Mom (Lisa)

Starr’s Dad (Maverick/Mav)

Starr’s brothers (Seven and Sekani)

Iesha (Seven’s mom)

King (Iesha’s boyfriend)

Chris (Starr’s boyfriend)

Hailey (Starr’s friend at Williamson High School - left); Maya (Starr’s friend at Williamson – right)

Chapter 8, pages 122-135

Pg 122  casket – box that the dead are buried in

Pg 122  RIP – Rest In Peace (common on gravestones)
their shit don’t stank – their poop doesn’t smell (they’re better than everyone else)

acting up – misbehaving

service – the worship service/meeting

offerings – requests for money

viewing line – the line of people waiting to see (view) Kahlil in the casket

had a fit – been very angry or upset

program – a paper listing the order of speakers and songs in the funeral service

look gangster – look tough (like gangsters)
tighter – closer, best friends

wailing – crying loudly

“My Father’s... - a Bible quote

cap and gown – special clothing that is worn at a school graduation

phony – someone who isn’t what they appear to be; a fake

credible – believable

standing ovation – clapping while standing (an act of extra respect or appreciation)
eulogy – (you-la-gee) speech about the dead person given at the person’s funeral

post up – stand

weave – fake hair that is woven into a woman’s real hair in order to make it longer

swagger – walk proudly

a hot mess – awful

Achilles’ heel – weak spot

You ol’ hag – You ugly old woman

Got some nerve – How dare you

take your behind... - leave

tslept with that nasty ho – had sex with that vile/awful prostitute

gangbanging – being involved in a gang
crown their fallen comrades – show respect to their dead members

 crush – love interest

stomach butterflies – a nervous feeling in the stomach

commend her – applaud her; give kudos to

Exploited/pimped – used for someone else’s gain

advocate – someone who speaks out on behalf of someone else (or a group of people)

Just Us for Justice isn’t... - Ms. Ofrah isn’t the lawyer for Kahlil’s family, she and Just Us are supporting them and getting publicity for the case

willing to represent Starr – willing to be Starr’s lawyer (if she decides to sue the police)

by default – automatically (because he’s the oldest male)

put him in his place – remind him that he’s the child, not the parent

old-school – old-fashioned

high-top fade – hair

patrol/set ablaze – police/set on fire

police precinct – police station (building)

looted/staggers – broken into/walks unsteadily

drama – incident, argument

low blow – unfair or especially mean thing
tore me up – really bothered/hurt me

holed up – hidden, trapped, secluded

Like we’re about... - Like we would actually go out into the riot to get to Nana’s house

anchor – newscaster
bleary-eyed – with tired eyes
against my will – even though I don’t want them to move
Glock – gun
kill you on the court – beat you in basketball
Thirteens ... - basketball shoes like Michael Jordan (professional basketball player) wore before he left the team he played on (the Chicago Bulls)
check – throw
shoots for a three – tries to get three points instead of two by making an extra long shot
got game – knows how to play
call it – end and decide the winner
Nigga, you Kinging? – Hey nigger, are you a King gang member?
going down – happening
claim their set – say we’re one of them
GD – Garden Disciple (gang member)
flashing his piece – showing his gun
You straight, bruh? – everything okay, brother?
Good looking out, Vante – Good job paying attention, DeVante
a type – a type of girl he finds attractive
killing you – beating you (in basketball)
Chapstick – lip balm, lip lotion
posted up – stationed here
d-boy – drug dealer
how to pick them – how to pick men (she’s being sarcastic, of course)
wifebeater – a white undershirt with a scoop neck and no sleeves
are ashy – look white-ish because his skin is dry
bet’ not beat y’all there – better not get there before you do
haul ass – run as fast as we can
suicides – incredibly difficult/tiring runs
National Guard – part-time soldiers called in by the President to protect Americans
Got some nerve – How disrespectfully bold of you
you Kinging now? – are you a member of the Kings gang now?
hollered – yelled
KO – knock out (in boxing, when one boxer hits the other one until he’s unconscious – knocks him out)
skimpy – clothing that shows a lot of skin
pits – pit bulls (dog breed thought to be aggressive)
Sir-Farts-a-Lot – comes from Sir Lancelot (pronounced Lans-a-lot) fart = butt gas
the whole nine – the whole nine yards, which means “everything.”
one a-freaking-gain – once again
grounded – a punishment meaning the child can’t leave the house
eating your words – wishing you hadn’t said that (because she’ll be wrong)
throw down – show you how good I am
the look – gives me an angry look

whoop – spank, hit

heffa – heifer (cow)

taking it too damn far – doing so much that I just can’t stand it any more

ex-con – former convict (person who has spent time in prison)

pull up – drive in

silent treatment – not talking to him

kinds shitty – kind of mean/unfair

Bruh – brother, friend

straight up – for sure, definitely

Lisa Janae – her mom (Lisa)

a line – a sentence a boy uses to convince a girl to forgive him, or go out with him, etc.

flashbacks – sudden memories

You on it – You’re getting it right.

dap – kudos, a fist bump, positive feedback

get the short end of the stick – get less than everyone else

In his shoes – in his exact situation

get away with it – not be punished for it

the key – the important thing

movement – political issue

flatbeds – large, flat carts

Glock – gun

carry – own, have it in his possession

piece – gun

something is up – something is about to happen

stick me up – rob me

GDs – Garden Disciples (gang members)

scuffed-up Chucks – dirty shoes

have that on me – have the burden of killing someone on him (probably legally and emotionally)

got into it – started fighting

get out the game – stop being in a gang

pops - dad
**Fangirling** – being a big fan, worshipping him (Starr’s dad)

**Watch my back** – protect me

**Down to die for it** – ready to die for the King Lords

**Pickup** – drug pickup

**Busted** – caught by the police

**Two strikes** – had been arrested twice already

**Life** – life in prison

**A record** – a police history (of arrests)

**The charge** – got arrested for the drug deal

**A few years** – a few years in prison

**Motha** – mother, short for motherfucker, or sucker/loser

**Charge** – arrest

**I’m the exception, not the rule** – it doesn’t always go like this for everyone

**Slinging or banging** – drugs or gangbanging

**Death wish** – certain death

**Nuff said** – enough said

**Caught an attitude** – were not nice to me

**Dealing** – busy

**Déjà vu** – feeling like you’ve had this same experience before

**Do-over** – second chance

**Banging** – gang

**Scoffs** – grunts in disagreement

**Messsed up** – not right

**Bust my butt** – work so hard

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**Ms Rosalie** (Kahlil’s grandmother)

**April Ofrah** (lawyer who wants to help Starr)

**Uncle Carlos** (Starr’s uncle and Lisa’s brother)

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**Chapter 11, pages 182-200**

**Is up** – is going on, is going to happen

**I’m game** – I’ll do it!

**So did not** – I really, really did not

**Lighten up** – relax, stop being so serious

**All over this** – in agreement with this
going off – starting an argument
Floyd Mayweather – a professional boxer
zero fucks to give – no cares at all
Love Connection – a TV show about romance
plays dumb – pretends she doesn’t know
puke – vomit, throw up
go out of their way – make a point of
sit out – don’t go to
pixie cut – short haircut
S’up? – What’s up?
straight – heterosexual
hyper butt – high-energy self
jumped – attacked
stomped – beat, hit
go live in five – go on live TV in five minutes
sholl – sure
all’a – all of
Wasn’t nobody but his boys – It was surely his boys (his gang members)
cuss word – swear word (like shit, damn)
snitched – told everyone that the King Lords beat the police officers
curfew – time when everyone has to be indoors, applies to the entire city
show you a thang or two on Madden – I can beat you on Madden football (computer game)
wraps up – ends, finishes
dead man walking – going to be killed
that nigga – that nigger (King)
how the game work – how it is with gangs
prosthetic – artificial leg
I done – I have already
gotta go – have to go (die)
You don’t get it – You don’t understand
following all’a that ‘don’t snitch’ mess – going along with all of that ‘don’t tell’ stuff
blabbed – talked to each other
interlock – weave together, clasp
onlookers – people watching
pats him down – touches him to see if he has any weapons or drugs
Bile pools – vomit collects
do Daddy like that – do that to Daddy
pang – pain
Yo – Hey
Fuck them pigs – The hell with those cops
The hell you... - What in the world are you talking about?
ing Kenya up – take her to the cash register and have her pay for her items
rang that up twice – charged me twice for that item
trash-talk – say bad things about
dropped him for them bougie-ass kids – quit being his friend in order to be friends with the rich (white) kids at your rich school
Fucked up part – Know what’s wrong
cover – to, stand by
Tacky – Not cool
J’s – shoes
King throwing Iesha around – King is beating and pushing Iesha around
wanna say shit – want to say anything
got your back – will take care of you
tank – military tank
Humvees – military vehicles
subject to arrest – arrested
sit up – stay awake
pissing – peeing, going to the bathroom
pies – pizzas
OTP – One True Pairing (favorite couple)
Jordans – shoes
Saran Wrap – brand name of plastic covering for food
a.k.a – also known as/which means
captioned – wrote below it
suds – bubbles
beaming – smiling
back in the day – a long time ago
snapback/fly – baseball cap/very cool
dead in his face – right at him
reggae chants – Carribbean music
hypocrite – someone who says one thing, but does something else; not true to their word
dreads – hair (in braids)
Slytherin comforter – Harry Potter bedspread
HP – Harry Potter
hooked on – interested in
He burnt his... - He ruined his DVD drive by making all of those illegal copies
putting him out – putting him out of her house, not letting him live with her any more
snickering – laughing quietly
Kumbaya – happy, peaceful
covers the receiver – puts her hand over the phone so the caller can’t hear her
DA – District Attorney (the lawyer defending the police officer who shot Kahlil)
represent you – be your lawyer
petty – small-minded
drama – things going on (violence, fighting)
the messed up part about – what’s wrong with
line – statement meant to make me attracted to you
catches me off guard – surprises me
make a layup – score a point
shot clock is winding down – time is running out
forward – suggestive, direct
in-your-face slam dunk – loud impression
jump shot – easy basketball score
cash advance place – a place where you can get money before you get paid, if you have a job
bite her tongue – be careful about what she says
Malcolm X, Huey Newton, Black Panthers – all are black rights activists
prankster/chalupa – joker/Mexican food
situated – settled
dumb behind = dumb ass (sorry self)
pritching – reporting on someone’s misbehavior
guts/upfront – courage/direct, honest
running my mouth – talking too much
DA – District Attorney (lawyer for the cops)
turned over to – given to
Pg 217  **grand jury** – group of people (American citizens)

Pg 217  **testify** – tell her story

Pg 218  **Hold up** – wait

Pg 218  **airing** – going to be on TV

Pg 218  **backfire** – go wrong

Pg 218  **And at the end...** - And in the end, the public has nothing to say about this

Pg 218  **drive-by** – shooting from a car

Pg 219  **Pro bono** – for free

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**Chapter 13, pages 220-239**

Pg 220  **exami**ning **room** – room where doctors see (or examine) their patients

Pg 220  **Ain't that something** – Isn't that incredible

Pg 220  **Snitches get...** - People who tell on other people eventually get told on themselves. But with the King Lords it's more like, people who tell on other people get killed (put in a grave)

Pg 221  **He ain't come in** – He didn’t come into the store

Pg 221  **Michelin Man** – google this ;)

Pg 222  **King tripping** – King is just dreaming

Pg 222  **messed up** – drunk, high, on drugs

Pg 222  **five G's** - $5,000

Pg 222  **handle the dudes...** - beat up or kill the guys who killed Dalvin (his brother)

Pg 222  **GDs come...** - Garden Disciples (gang members) try to kill him

Pg 222  **I was a dead...** - I was going to be killed no matter what

Pg 223  **He bet' not** – He had better not

Pg 223  **cuss God out** – yell at God

Pg 223  **pull up** – drive in

Pg 223  **Nana and her mouth** – the things Grandma says (critical, mean things)

Pg 224  **nosy** – asking a lot of private questions

Pg 224  **stops dead** – stops instantly

Pg 224  **the homies/snitching** – my friends/telling the police about King

Pg 225  **on leave** – a forced “vacation” from his job

Pg 225  **sweats** – sweatpants (casual clothes)

Pg 225  **takes a drag of** – inhales

Pg 226  **Like you going to heaven** – As if you would be going to heaven (In Christianity, only good people go to heaven after they die)

Pg 226  **hand that over** – give him the backpack

Pg 226  **got money on my head** – has paid someone to kill me

Pg 226  **I got a piece** – I have a gun

Pg 226  **No cursing** – No swearing (shit, damn, etc.)

Pg 227  **Like hell I can!** – I absolutely will not!

Pg 227  **being nosy** – trying to find out other people’s business

Pg 227  **for shit** – for things

Pg 227  **Jordan Twelves** – shoes

Pg 227  **MJ** – Michael Jordan (basketball player)

Pg 227  ‘**97 finals**’ – basketball championship in 1997

Pg 228  **twice-over** – looks at him carefully

Pg 228  **mean-mugs the hell outta him** – gives him an angry look (your “mug” is your face)

Pg 228  **Hold up** – Wait a minute

Pg 228  **around a minute** – around you for a while (like you know him)

Pg 229  **put myself out there** – be brave

Pg 229  **stand up** – be brave
bite my tongue – hold back what I want to say
pipes up – says, interjects
master snooping – excellent spying
get your swirl on – be romantic
bound – certain
goose off on – yell, be angry
sizes Chris up – evaluates Chris
I'd side-eye the shit... - I'd be super angry
Point made – I see what you mean, I see your point
play-by-play – minute-by-minute recounting or retelling
crack up – laugh
somebody else's child – she’s referring to DeVante
 zeroes...in – focuses on, looks at
rom-com – romantic comedy movie
Zoe..Ashton – actors
don't get a pass – don't get to be right
Adam’s apple – bump on the front of throat
cycle – menstrual cycle
Y'all got some nerve – You two were pretty bold (by kissing)
slobbering – kissing wetly
wigga at that – a white person who tries to be a black person even (white + nigger)
J's, Converse, Vans – shoe brands
My bad – My mistake
It’s cool – That’s okay
corny – uncool, goofy
look out for – take care of
save face – look cool
nah – no
homies riding for him – guys in the neighborhood are wanting to be seen as his friend
turned him down – said no to him (about joining the King Lords)
repped – was one of the
posted up – gathered/working together
had our backs – took care of us, protected us, backed us up when we were in trouble
My head’s ... - My mind is racing in a hundred different directions

Chapter 14, pages 240-257
Truth be told – in truth, honestly
Yang – Maya's last name
wiggle – extra
for shit – at all (not at all)
No lie, it stings a little – I’m not lying, it hurts a little bit
That protest shit though? – That stupid protest?
headset – headphones
comfy – comfortable
belly flops – lands on her stomach
cut the crap – quit pretending nothing is the matter, get to the point
irks the hell out of me – really irritates me
fall for it – be tricked by it
everything in her – all her self-control
BS move – bullshit (stupid) behavior
it’s whatever – I don’t care
pictured – imagined
Pg 244  **spot-on** – accurate
Pg 245  **blurred-out** – intentionally blurry (so they can’t be recognized)
Pg 245  **voice-over** – narrator, speaker (a reporter you can hear but not see, while they show something else on screen)
Pg 245  **footage** – film
Pg 245  **gangbangers** – gang members
Pg 246  **cursing him out** – swearing at him
Pg 246  **up to something** – planning to do something bad
Pg 246  **taken him down** – assaulted him, wrestled him to the ground
Pg 246  **teamed up** – worked together
Pg 246  I'm gon' show... - a threat (I'm going to show you who’s boss, or I’m going to show you what I will do to you)
Pg 247  **puking** – vomiting
Pg 247  **people person** – someone who likes other people, friendly
Pg 249  **cut the bullshit** – quit lying
Pg 250  **dashboard** – computer screen, home page
Pg 251  **wracking my brain** – trying to remember
Pg 252  whooped...butt – I won, I beat Maya
Pg 252  **chugging back/Heineken** – drinking/beer
Pg 253  **cuts me a look** – looks at me hard
Pg 254  **on leave** – not allowed back at work, forced vacation
Pg 254  **lost my cool** – gotten angry
Pg 254  Muhammad Ali – famous boxer
Pg 255  **give me a big head** – make me egotistical
Pg 255  **brand new** – innocent
Pg 256  **clocked him** – hit him, punched him
Pg 256  **precinct** – the geographical area of the city his police office covers
Pg 256  **dropped the ball** – didn’t keep my responsibility
Pg 256  **out of sight and out of mind** – not on my mind any more, forgotten
Chapter 15, pages 258-278
Pg 258  **IHOP** – restaurant
Pg 259  DA – District Attorney (the lawyer who will decide if Officer 115 will be charged with a crime)
Pg 260  **Tom Cruise** – an actor
Pg 260  **backfired** – didn’t work
Pg 260  **BS** – bullshit (lies)
Pg 260  **save face** – try to look respectable
Pg 260  **some mess** – something
Pg 261  play dumb – pretend you don’t know
Pg 261  **crush** – romantic interest
Pg 261  **ho** – whore (prostitute)
Pg 261  **get out of whack** – go crazy
Pg 261  **hangovers** – the sick feeling the morning after a lot of alcohol drinking
Pg 262  **Jonas boys** – the Jonas brothers who were in a rock band together
Pg 262  fine as all get-out – very handsome
Pg 263  **recipes** – faults
Pg 264  **kicked him to the curb** – kicked him out, ended the relationship
Pg 264  have a stroke – be shocked, very surprised
Pg 265  pulled some mess like that – done that (had sex with Iesha or another woman)
Pg 265  **lowriders** – cars that are close (low) to the ground
Pg 266  **fist bump** – high five (kind of)
he the one y’all let in… he’s the one you guys tell all your secrets to and everything

grand jury proceedings – how everything will work legally

bile/gag – vomit/choke

gawk – look

give a flying monkey’s ass – care

be there for – be a father to

blubbering/skinned – crying/scraped

salty – argumentative

put a hit on – pay someone to kill them

cracks up – laughs

background checks – check into their police/criminal history

Duh! – Obviously!

BMW – car

piece – gun

lumbers – walks heavily

stands a chance – could possibly win

five G’s – $5,000

Starr-Starr the witness – Star is the witness

his hustle – his drug business

people – he means Starr

ran their mouth – talked to much, told the DA too much information

staring each other down – looking hard at each other, not blinking

peels out – speeds away in his car

He’s gonna mess.. – He’s going to beat me up if I tell the DA about him (and his drug dealing)

ribs – pork meat (dinner)

he’s itching – he can’t wait

It’s cool – I don’t mind

higher-ups – executives

six figures - $100,000 or more

You got my word – I promise

dreads – dreadlocks (hair)

put you out – kicked you out of her house

busted lip...whooping – I hit him in the mouth and I got a spanking (slap from parents)

Central Community – a community college (less expensive, but you can’t get a four-year degree)

Gimme my dollar! – Give me a dollar (for swearing – saying “hell”)

Chapter 16, pages 281-290

testify – speak in front of

limo – limousine

discovered – seen by a television or movie producer and then become famous

hood rats – ghetto people

got my back – support me

drum – tap

prom – an important high school dance

Something about – She says

ASAP – as soon as possible

Junior-Senior – 11th grade and 12 grade

Dr. Davis – the principal of Williamson High

Btw/sup – by the way/what’s up?

kill him on Madden – beat him at a football video/computer game

bros – brothers, best friends

thot – That Ho Over There (remember “ho” means whore or prostitute)
show people – television people
in the flesh – in person
props – kudos, congratulations
the suite – the hotel room
mics me up – puts a microphone on me
transitional shot – a scene meant to connect one part of the show to another
simple my ass – not at all simple!
jokey, light – joker/happiness
crack – stops because of crying
corny – stupid, foolish
His nosy ass – He
prep – preparatory, getting ready
gear up to throw a punch – get ready to fight
dry snitching – veiled tattling, not obvious who she’s talking about, but still exposing King
repped his set – represented his gang, was a member of the King Lords
hook straight to the jaw – a good, solid “punch” (as in boxing)
jab to the mouth – good, useful “hit”
jab – hit
up to no good – doing something bad
minding our business – keeping to ourselves, only paying attention to ourselves
Straight up – for real, really, definitely
put yourself out there – take a risk
blow – punch, hit
aired – was on TV
Bout – It’s about
go to your head – make you egotistical

heated/snitched – angry/told on him
NWA – Niggers With Attitude (black people being disrespectful to whites/people in authority)
prom – high school dance
Chuck Taylors – shoes
a.k.a. – also known as
taste – ability to choose nice things
Nae-Naed... - dance moves
be dope – be cool
You clean up nice – you look good when you’re all dressed up (formal)
Voldemorted – a reference to the evil Harry Potter character
take sides – choose one of us (Starr or Hailey) to be friends with over the other
silent treatment shit – not speaking to us
call you out – speak honestly to you
cold shoulder – to be ignored
Nah/guilt-tripping – No/making me feel guilty
in my feelings just a tad – focused on my emotions just a tiny bit (sarcasm)
get over it – forget it, let it go
lose our minds – go crazy
Beyonce – famous singer
Cousin Bey – Beyonce
throw shade – say anything negative
got beef – have issues between us
zero to one hundred – a reference to cars that can go from standing still (0 mph) to 100 mph in a very short time. It means Maya goes from happy (0) to angry (100) very fast
What do you know – Surprise, surprise
an attitude – a bad attitude, be grumpy
sucker punch – a hit you don’t see coming
pervert – sexually inappropriate man
I’m sinking here – I’m not saying the right things, I know
drive-by – shooting from a car while driving
I have to an extent – I have chosen which Starr I’m going to be, even when I’m with Chris
bust their butts – work really hard
food stamps – government assistance
ex-con – former convicted criminal (he went to jail)
moved out the projects – moved out of the (not good) government housing
We were struggling... - We were poor, but Kahlil was in an even worse situation, so we took care of him

crackhead – drug addict (on crack cocaine)
turned all the way off – become uninterested in romance or sex
not getting some – not having sex
won’t get any – be having sex with me
partna – partner, buddy, friend
IHOP – breakfast restaurant

Chapter 18, pages 306-323

pass his – pass by his, go past his
straight up – honestly, in truth
cul-de-sac – a street that doesn’t go through to another street, a court
mortgage to be approved – home loan to be approved by the bank
get that from – hear that
grilled – questioned hard

hood – ghetto (Garden Heights)
first dibs – to make the first request
I call dibs! – This one’s mine!
rock, paper, scissor – a hand game to determine a winner
master suite – the largest bedroom with an attached bathroom (suite) for the parents
gonna close – going to sign the final papers to own the house
moving ain’t no joke – moving isn’t funny at all (it’s hard)
low blow – cheap shot, unfair thing to say
flipping him off – making a disrespectful gesture with her hand (middle finger up)
look out – take care of, protect
got your back – will take care of you
bow our heads – get ready to pray
suite – a living area with a bathroom

Basketball season paragraph: Starr and her dad are fans of James LeBron (who used to play for Miami but now plays for Cleveland) and Starr’s mom and Seven dislike LeBron and root for the other team (not LeBron’s)
hateration – a made-up word for hate
jersey – shirt with LeBron’s name and player number on it
sectional – large couch or sofa
butt whooping – lose big, lose by a lot
dirtiest tactics – sneakiest strategies
smack – talk like you’re the best
funkified – a made-up word to mean “gotten gross or smelly or funky”
Kobe – another famous basketball player
sorry teams – bad teams, losing teams
three-peat – a team that has won a championship three times in a row (repeated three times)

Them li’l girls... - Those girls (on the Garden High basketball team) don’t have any skills or talents that we don’t have

playing her ass off – playing really well

have any game – have any good, clever things to say

Hate all y’all want – Hate me (or make fun of me) as much as you want to, I don’t care

He dunks it – He scores

In yo’ face – In your face (right in front of your eyes! Where you can’t miss it!)
on point – working well together

Cavs – Cavaliers (Cleveland’s team)

Mothaf – he’s starting to yell “motherfucker!”

Glock – gun

piece – gun

Hell nah! – Hell no!
crooked pig – dishonest police officer

behind this – caused this (brick through the window) to happen

Drake – hip-hop musician

That’s some shit your buddies – That’s the type of thing your fellow police officers

classic Maverick – this is so typical of you, Maverick

dirty shit – illegal or unethical things

Black Panthers – activist group formed to protect and uplift black people

Pledge of Allegiance – something patriotic that American children recite at the beginning of each school day

Brother Malcolm – Malcolm X, a black activist in the 1950s and 1960s

Huey Newton/crackhead – founder of the Black Panthers/crack cocaine addict

we got you – we’ll protect you

GDs – Garden Disciples (a gang)

beefing – fighting

fall back – back off

thang/dap – thing/hand greeting like a high five

They strapped, ain’t they? – They have guns, don’t they?
wanna go there – want to talk about protecting Starr

locked up – in jail

took a charge – went to jail

so-called boy – fellow King Lord

sorry-ass baby momma – pathetic mother of your baby (Seven). He means Iesha.

insinuate – suggest
two pecks – two quick kisses

standing-room-only – full of people

S’up – What’s up?

work the stove – cook

runs her mouth – talks a lot

head-on – directly

inhaler – eat

Keep us company – sit with us, talk to us

too refined – too fancy, too high-class

seal the deal – make it final (their agreement not to tell their wives what they ate)
Y'all cool all of a sudden – You two like each other now

Fo’ty ounce from… - Forty ounce [bottle] from the liquor store right now

green thumb – is good at gardening

Still kicking it – still alive

Y – off drugs for a short while

Birds of Paradise – flowers

You not gon’ say hey to me – You’re not going to say “hi” to me?

crack up – laugh hard

trail – follow

dope boys on corners – drug dealers standing on the street corners

deja-vu – the feeling that she’s been here before

orange jumpsuit – prisoner’s uniform

haul him off – take him away

clerical collars – the white collar worn by priests

flank me – walk on either side of me

you have that right – you are allowed to do that

my entourage – all the people with Starr

pulls back – lets go of me

You got this – you can do this

mic – microphone

not the focus… - you’re not being charged with any type of crime; you’re not on trial

holed up... - staying inside like the world’s going to end

You’re good? – Are you okay?
pissed I dry snitched – angry that I told everyone about him (in the TV interview)
gives me dap – gives me a friendly tap

flat-out – completely

thugshot – a play on “mugshot” or the photo the police take of you when they arrest you

throwing up… - holding up two fingers sideways

go angry black… - become the stereotypical angry black woman/girl

upside – on the side of
drawers – underwear
cuss words – swear words
ratchet site – website
dreadlocks – hair (Seven’s)
throws blows like… - can fight (throws punches) like a pro

hooks and jabs – punches

three days’ suspension – they can’t come back to school for three days

zero-tolerance policy – a rule that if you get in even one fight you are kicked out of school

expelled – kicked out

running her mouth – talking

WebMD – a medical website

polo – shirt

claim a set – belong to one of the gangs

indict – find the police officer guilty of murdering Kahlil

li’l dudes – guys (other gang members)

burn this neighborhood... - riot
plaits – braids
way back in the day – long ago
go down – happen
give a damn – care
brothers and sisters – friends, gang members
out the game – are not in gangs any more
put aside – ended
street shit – ordinary gang stuff
Damn, li’l momma... - Wow, girl, you can fight!
I ain’t know your li’l nerdy... - I didn’t think you (Seven) had the courage to fight so well
They could’ve broken out... - They could have all started singing a gangster version of (the peace song) “Kumbaya” and I wouldn’t be...
I got it like that – I’m special like that
H ran her mouth, so I popped her – Hailey said disrespectful things so I hit her
Dude came at my sister – Someone was going to hit my sister
spoiled ass don’t... - She (Hailey) is spoiled and sheltered and doesn’t know anything, yet she still feels free to speak rudely and disrespectfully
Parentish – a made-up word meaning the language of parents

Chapter 21, pages 353-370

cornrows/J’s – hairstyle/shoes
Spide-Man = Spider Man
blood...thicker than water – people who are related to you by blood are closer to you (and should be more loyal to you) than people who are not blood related, like friends or neighbors
bust out – abruptly start
middle of nowhere – in the countryside, away from the city
been a mess – been very worried, anxious
loses her damn mind – goes crazy
ratchet – crazy, sexy
spades – a card game?
jittery – nervous
Shit is exhausting – This stuff (trying to be white, but not too white) is tiresome
“bro” – brother (good friend)
Besties before testes – best friends (besties) before testicles (boyfriends)
paths last crossed – they last met
kicks – shoes
blondie – the blonde-haired girl (Hailey)
licking her wounds... – sulking, feeling sorry for herself after Starr beat her up
Mayweathered – famous boxer (Starr hit Hailey like a professional boxer)
eats it up – loves it, “eats” every word
my brother don’t play – my brother (Seven) doesn’t let anyone be mean to his sister
boo – a term of endearment, like “dear”
crack up – laugh
dig my feet... - put her feet on the ground so her mom can’t drag her to dance
egg her on.. – encourage her (Lisa) in her encouraging of Starr

team up – work together
MIA – Missing In Action (a military term that here simply means “missing”)
atrocity – horrible dancing
You ain’t know... - You didn’t know your daddy had those dancing skills, did you?
A bob haircut... - A short haircut has replaced her long, native-American style hair

li'l fast thang – little fast (loose with sex) thing (meaning Kenya)

whoop your ass – give you a beating

his sights square on – Looking straight at

trick – the man a prostitute has sex with (in this case, she seems to be calling Lisa a prostitute)

fuck ya'll up – beat up Starr’s family

snitch – said that King was the reason Kahlil was selling drugs

my daddy’s – Kenya’s dad is King

went off on me – yelled at me

let that slide – let that comment slide right by me (ignore it)

sheet cake – a short (one layer) cake

hits notes – sings notes

young brothers – black teen boys

messed up – on drugs or in a gang

going places – going to be successful

red velvets – a chocolate cake dyed red

pigs out – eats a lot

old-school/Dre and Snoop/back in the day – classic/rappers/a long time ago

charge him – arrest the police officer who shot Kahlil

gangbanger – gang member

projects – government housing

not in a good place – not right emotionally

groogy – sleepy

go off on me – yell at me

revving up his engine – pushing on the gas pedal while still in “park”

junkies – drug addicts

fitted with rims – with fancy tire rims

I should be good – I’ll be safe

high-tops dangle – basketball shoes hang

decipher the code – understand the message that shoes hanging from a telephone line

takes two steps at a time – climbs the (porch) steps two at a time

fetal position – curled up on his side

jumped me – attacked me by surprise

whoop King’s ass – beat King up

going a kick out of – enjoying

out his trance – out of his daydream

the game work – life works

ass whooping – beating

dry snitches – people who tell authorities on other people (Starr, in this case)

sorry ass – pathetic body

got the nerve – is rude enough

glare – angry stare

go off – get angry

‘Pac’s – Tupac is
DJ – disc jockey (the radio announcer)

tuning in – beginning to listen (to the radio)

Chapter 23, pages 388-402

thug – criminal, bad guy

I'm down – I’ll do it with you

Give the word – Just say so

gives me dap – slaps me in a friendly way

settling with himself – convincing himself

going down – happening

initiated – admitted into Kings' gang

slacked up – slowed

Madden – computer football game

flames lick the sky – flames from distant fires can be seen

boarded up – covered with wood boards

indict – bring charges against the officer

I can deal – I can handle/manage this

bruh – bro (brother, friend)

It's on – The riot has started

GDs stomp out – Garden Disciples kick in

Flip that mothafucka – flip that motherfucker (turn that police car over)

gangbangers jump off – gang members jump off of the police car

Molotov cocktail – homemade fire bomb

Ice Cube – a rapper

nigga – nigger (a rude word for black)

hook hits – part of the song begins

looters – people who steal things during riots

that bitch – the building

riot gear – extra protective clothing

Disperse now... Leave now or we’ll arrest you

Yo – Hey (probably to DeVante)

The hell – What

Niggas tired... - Black people are tired of being mistreated, or treated like shit

They’re not thinking... - They’re not thinking clearly. They’re just acting.

He straight up... - He absolutely hated you

NWA – Niggers With Attitude. Maybe if you talk like a pissed off black person like you did at the riot, Mav will think you’re all right

lose it – start laughing

Jeopardy! – a quiz game show

bust out – start

pops – dad

GD – Garden Disciples (a gang)

Chapter 24, pages 403-419

pump – repeatedly tap

dreads – hair

Lord – (picture an eye-roll here)

On my momma – I swear; that’s the truth

Bruh – Bro (brother, friend)

Your boy ain’t... - Your boyfriend doesn’t know how to treat a woman

I'm good – I’m happy

bubble guts - ?? (not sure, sorry)

wilding – getting wild

Timbs – Timberland boots (extra tough)

Rottweiler – dog
Carnation – street name

twists/bullhorn – hairstyle/loud speaker

Disperse – Leave

for the crowd – because of the crowd

give a word – say something, talk a little

does a double-take – looks twice at me (in surprise)

Looters took over – Everyone was stealing things from stores that were burned or broken into

client confidentiality – lawyers are not required to share the secrets their clients tell them

represent you – be your attorney

shrine – memorial

up to no good – about to commit a crime, looking for trouble

amps – fires, excites me

eggs me on – makes me want to continue

trigger happy – an expression meaning someone who is quick to pull the trigger and fire a gun; someone who shoots first and thinks later

combust – burst into flame

chuck – throw

All hell breaks loose – Everything goes crazy

stampede – run

whizzes – sails, flies

Bri – short for “Brian”

Unc – short for “uncle”

Get li’l homie – grab this kid

token – one white representing all whites

ransacked – looted, broken into, destroyed

lamb’s blood – a reference to the Christian/Jewish story of Passover in the Bible

li’l homie – friend

pops/ya’ll here – dad/you all are here

Ain’t no thang – It isn’t anything (it’s no trouble)

gon’ snatch your life – going to kill you

deep shit – lots of trouble

a hand up – offers his hand to help them stand up

Chapter 25, pages 420-430

engulfed – filled with fire

bulletproof – won’t let bullets through

inferno – great fire

screech – make a loud stopping noise

on her heels - right behind her

God knows what – I don’t know what; I can’t imagine why

Bass rattles – low, loud music

pieces/bring it – guns/start fighting

this shit – this (fire) is

Punk ass – loser

You ain’t shit – You’re nothing

gleaming – shining (proud, happy)

knock him upside… - hit him in the head

done got to him – has made him crazy

twitches – moves like he’s going to smile

watch yourself – be careful what you say

snitched – told the cops about King

draw – take out

a shell – a small part

Timbs – shoes, boots

step up – improvement
increments – little pieces

do got some balls – do have testicles (balls) - are a man, are brave

crack up – laugh loudly

give C dap – high-five him

for a minute – for a while

wifebeater – sleeveless T-shirt

detectivey – like a detective

putting me out – kicking me out of your house

You’re grounded – You’ll be punished (your activities and privileges will be limited)

get King for arson – be able to convict King for intentionally starting this fire

He’ll be out – He (King) will be out of jail

If ya’ll knew... - If the police knew where King kept all of his drugs, would that help?

rat on him – snitch (or tell) the police about King’s illegal activities

turn witness - work with the police to get evidence to arrest King

community minded – caring about your community

I snicker. Only... - I laugh quietly. Only Fo’ty Ounce would panic about the liquor store closing

Wait a minute – think about this, Mr. L

Wait nothing – Don’t tell me to think this through. I know what I’m doing.

ain’t no joke – isn’t funny (it’s seriously hot)

You took it kinda far – You took my advice farther than I intended (you did more than I meant for you to do)

They raided – The cops went through

DeVante struck already – DeVante’s work with the police has had consequences (the raid on King’s house) already

Messed up, huh? – That’s weird, isn’t it?

cornrows – braids (of hair) on her head

Chop-chop – Quick, quick

Mr. Lewis