SECTION 1: Present-day Colin tells the story of Romare Bearden to demonstrate that “what you start out as, isn’t always what you become.” Resistance is a core theme and key element that shows up throughout Bearden’s life. From sports to art, he refused to sacrifice his identity or his principles for fame, money, or notoriety. Who was Romare Bearden and why do you believe his story was included in “Colin in Black & White?”

What does Bearden’s life say about how racism operates in sports? What does his life say about how resistance to racism operates in sports? Spend some time with this powerful short video produced by Vox on the history of Black protest in sports through the lens of Tommie Smith and John Carlos’s iconic 1968 protest at the Mexico City Olympics. What similarities and differences do you see between Smith and Carlos’s 1968 protest and protests among athletes today?

SECTION 2: Denied the chance to play major league baseball as a Black man, Romare Bearden later became a successful artist known for his innovative and powerful collages.

Take a close look at Bearden’s The Street, a piece he produced in 1964. What do you think Bearden was intending to communicate through this work of art? How might the themes Bearden explores in The Street intersect with ideas explored throughout “Colin in Black & White?”
SECTION 3: This episode explores how the selective enforcement of rules and double standards in both sports and society can perpetuate racism, microaggressions, and racial injustice. Identify 3 double standards presented in this episode that uphold racial hierarchies and then list 3 ways they can be undone.