

Nuh Meck Mi Monkey Tan Up Inna Mi Back

If someone tells yuh “Yuh a go meck mi monkey tan up inna mi back yuh know”, yuh better quit while you are ahead, because you are making them angry.

“Yuh meck mi monkey tan up inna mi back”, is equivalent to the English “you are going to raise my hackles.” The hackles are the erectile hairs along the back of an animal which rise when the animal is alarmed or upset. For Jamaicans, our monkey tan up inna our back fi any an every reason : somebody tell lie pon yuh, somebody tief yuh tings, somebody get a promotion weh yuh did expeck … anyting.Of course, when yuh monkey tan up inna yuh back, it is usually a precursor to other things, so as ol time people say “a word to di wise is sufficient’ .