

**India.Arie****"I Am Not My Hair f/ Akon"**

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(Rap)

Akon:

Uh hu

See I can kind of recall a little ways back  
Small, tryna' ball, always been black  
and my hair I tried it all, I even went flat,  
had a Gumby, curly top and all that crap, now.  
Just tryna be appreciated,  
Nappy headed brothers never had no ladies.  
Then I hit the barbershop real quick,  
had them give me lil' twists and it drove 'em crazy.  
but then I couldn't get no job,  
cause Corporate wasn't hiring no dreadlocks.  
Then I thought about my dogz on the block,  
kinda understand why they chose to stealing rock.  
Was it he hair that got me this far?  
all these girls, these cribs, these cars.  
I hate to say it but it seemed so flawed,  
cause success didn't come til I cut it all off.

India.arie

Verse 1:

Little girl with the press 'n' curl  
Age 8 I got a Jheri Curl.  
13 when I got a Relaxer  
I was the source of so much laughter.  
15 when it all broke off,  
18 when I went all natural  
February 2002, I, went on and did what I had to do, oh.  
Because it was time to change my life,  
to become the woman that I am inside.  
'97 dreadlocks all gone,  
looked in the mirror for the first time and saw that  
haair..(hair)

Chorus:

I am not my hair  
I am not this skin  
I am not your ex-pec-tations no, no  
I am not my hair  
I am not this skin  
I am the soul that lives within.

Verse 2:

Good hair, mean curls and waves  
Bad hair, means you look like a slave  
at the turn of the century,  
it's time for us to redefine who we be.  
You could shave it off like a South African beauty,  
got it on lock like Bob Marley,  
You can rock it straight like Oprah Winfrey.  
It's not what's on your head, it's what's underneath,  
and say hair..

Chorus:

1x

(Rap)

Akon:

Who cares if you don't like that,  
with nothing to lose, posted with the wave cap  
and the cops wanna harrass, cause I've got babes  
ain't seen nothin' like that in all my days. (Oh,oh)  
And you gotta' change all this feelings,  
steady judging one another by their appearance.  
Yes, India, I feel ya' girl,  
not go on ahead and talk to the rest of the world,  
Cause..

Bridge:

Oh, oh, oh

Does the way I wear my hair make me a better person?

Oh, oh, oh

Does the way I wear my hair make me a better friend?

Oh, oh, oh

Does the way I wear my hair determine my integrity?

I am expressing my creativity!

Verse 3:

Breast Cancer, Kemotherapy,  
took away her crown and glory.  
She promised God if she was to survive,  
she would enjoy every day of her life, oh  
On national television,  
her diamond eyes are sparkling.  
Bald headed like a full moon shining,  
singing out the the whole wide world like haaair...

Chorus until end.

