

## **Syleena Johnson**

# **"Is It Because I'm Black"**

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THE DARK BROWN SHADES OF MY SKIN ONLY ADD  
COLOR TO MY TEARS. THAT SPLASH AGAINST MY  
HOLLOW BONES, THAT ROCKS MY SOUL.  
LOOKING BACK OVER MY FALSE DREAMS THAT I ONCE  
KNEW. WONDERING WHY MY DREAMS NEVER CAME  
TRUE.

CHORUS:

IS IT BECAUSE I'M BLACK..SOMEBODY TELL ME WHAT  
CAN I DO..

SOMETHING IS HOLDING ME BACK, IS IT BECAUSE I'M  
BLACK.

(REPEAT)

IN THIS WORLD OF NO PITY I WAS RAISED IN THE  
GHETTO OF THE CITY

MOMMA SHE WORKED SO HARD TO EARN EVERY  
PENNY..OH LORD

SOMETHING IS HOLDING ME BACK CAUSE..IS IT  
BECAUSE I'M BLACK

(REPEAT)

2ND VERSE:

LIKE A CHILD STEELING HIS FIRST PIECE OF CANDY.  
THAT COST..EVEN IN MY CORNER SOMEWHERE I GOT  
LOST

SOMETHING IS HOLDING ME BACK..I WONDER..IS IT  
BECAUSE I'M BLACK

SOMEBODY TELL ME WHAT I CAN DO.

BRIDGE:

WILL I SURVIVE OR WILL I DIE.

KEEP ON HOLDING ME BACK

KEEP ON HOLDING ON

KEEP ON PICKING ON ME

KEEP ON HOLDING ME BACK

KEEP ON HOLDING ON, KEEP ON HOLDING ME BACK

KEEP ON HOLDING BE BACK, I WONDER WHY YOU DO  
ME LIKE THAT

BUT YOU KEEP ON PUTTING YOUR FOOT ON ME

BUT I'VE GOT A BREAK A WAY, SOME HOW, SOME DAY,  
CAUSE I WANNA BE SOMEBONDY SO BAD, SO SO BAD, I

WANNA BE SOMEBODY. I WANNA BE SOMEBODY SO  
BAD.  
BUT SOMETHING IS HOLDING ME BACK  
IS IT BECAUSE I'M BLACK, IS BECAUSE I'M BLACK...IS  
BECAUSE I'M BLACK  
SOMETHING IS HOLDING ME BACK,  
I WANT DIAMOND RINGS AND THINGS.

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