

Michelle Obama's Hair

When Obama was elected
a revolution had begun
African ancestors stirred just as the president's blood
their drums beating loud and prideful in the ears of black Americans
The Obamas' added color to the paper White House
and proved that black could be first
When I first saw Michelle Obama
I fell in love
with her eloquence and grace
and envied
her symbol of conformity which lay flat on her head
You see, unlike Michelle
My hair represents shackle bond slaves with untamed tresses,
the civil rights movement, Alton Sterling, Trayvon Martin, Philando Castile,
Mike Brown, Eric Garner, Tamir Rice, Stephon Clark
My hair is loud and angry
weaved with sass and history

Michelle Obama
the only thing African American about your hair
is the identical color to the pigmentation of my skin
You were the change I wanted to see
the example to use
when my father told me I'd look better with straight hair
My refutation to Google's depiction of professionalism
When schools suspended black teenagers,
telling them their natural hair couldn't be worn
I envisioned myself standing with them screaming
Yes we can
Michelle Obama
I understand that America loves what is straight
But your husband legalized the love that is not
and there has been acceptance
Where is your acceptance for your hair that is not?
Our hair is protest
being black is objection enough
and your fro would've kept Obama from the Oval
but now we only go in circles
History is repeating itself
and we continue to be suppressed

Michelle Obama

I want to feel my First Lady's hair and find it is just like mine

I want my little sister to love her chocolate crown

for black girls to feel powerful with hair that only goes out

I want nappy to be redefined

as hair that white people have been sleeping on

And Michelle Obama

You are still the epitome of excellence and grace

But a revolution comes from chaos

not from what is relaxed