

## Roots

By Jordyn Colbert

Shake, shake, shake the hairspray  
Trying buns, bob cuts, and even bangs  
Nothing's working my hair's too thick,  
I don't think YouTube tutorials will do the trick

Shake, shake, shake the hairspray once more,  
Maybe the bob cut isn't the look I'm going for  
I browse and browse through the magazines,  
None of these girls look like me

Shake, shake, shake the hairspray again,  
Ugh! I'll never get it right! this will never end!  
The ladies in the magazines are all white girls,  
And nothing's working for these crazy curls

Shake, shake, shake the hairspray one more time,  
If this doesn't work it'll be the end of the line  
I straighten and style and all done let's see,  
Anything it takes to look like the girls on the magazine

Shake, shake, shake the hairspray but this time I won't,  
I put down the empty spray can and I feel a tightness in my throat  
I look into the mirror then take another glance at the magazine,  
Watching other light-skinned girls live out my dream

Mama walks in and comforts me,  
"You are beautiful and you're the best you'll ever be"  
I hug my mama tight as I look into the mirror and smile,  
I'm different, I'm dark, and I love my profile