**Cultural Appropriation**

Hilda Kolawole

Appropriate this

This culture

This people

This blood that just won't come out

Appropriate my hard work

Me building this culture out of drift wood and bent nails

Tell me you really like it

That you're gonna put in on your Pinterest

Hashtag bohochic

Hashtag I'm so different

Hashtag this is totally my aesthetic

My culture is totally your aesthetic

That the bindi on your forehead looks really good with the shirt you're wearing

Appropriate this

You call it appreciation but I don't feel appreciated

My culture isn't being learned but stolen

Broken down

Marketed in stores like it doesn't mean anything

Like it's just a trend

A fad that's just passing

My cultures just passing

Ankara material on white models who can't even pronounce the word correctly

Do you feel full eating from trees you never planted

Are you satisfied

Appropriate this

Your cornrows look super edgy

Peoples magazine says Kim k is bringing them back

She's such a trendsetter

Bringing them back from where

When did they leave

Taking credit for something you never started

Love the culture but not the people

Rip it from their hands and what do you leave them

Some left over drift wood

Some left over nails or did you take those too

And I'm not sure where the disconnect started

Or how far back it goes

But this symbolic rape of cultures can't go on

You can't wear me

Or my people

Appropriate this

Those saris look dope

Where'd you get them

Oh urban outfitters is having a sale

Hashtag that never happens

Hashtag I'm gonna look cuter than Vanessa hudgens at coachella this year

Hashtag are Indians and native Americans the same thing

Boom

You have symbolically annihilated a people

What's next

Will you wear their skin like a nightgown

I hope it gives you nightmares

Appropriate this

For Halloween this year I'm gonna be an Indian chief

I'm gonna be a Mexican

Hashtag party city has had the cheapest feathers

Hashtag bring tacos

Culture isn't a costume, but you've heard that before

But privilege doesn't understand

does it

Appropriate this

go ahead

It's not like I have a problem with it