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From ELLE There is a black woman somewhere in America right now, staring at herself in the bathroom mirror, her palms sweating as she clenches a pair of scissors. In Nappily Ever After, Lathan plays Violet, an uptight perfectionist whose obsession with her outward appearance defines her entire lifestyle, ultimately pushing away her boyfriend. After an unexpected breakup and getting kicked off a project at her job, Violet has a breakdown and goes right for the clippers. Ahead, nine women share what their first big-chop experience was like and how they learned to embrace their new identity. Marle Hylton, 23 Photo credit: I moved away from home to study at an amazing school and halfway through the year, I was shocked to find a dime-sized bald spot in the back of my head. I freaked out, I cried and I called mom. I assured myself it would be fine. So at the end of freshman year, I big-chopped. I ended up cutting it into a cute tapered style to hide the areas I felt insecure about. It told me to take care of my natural curls and then my hair would reward me with beauty and length. But every day is different. But even on my worst days--I am free. Nye Cardoza, 24 Photo credit: Courtesy More Do you ever feel like the world you know is falling apart, and that everything you once had a grasp on is slipping away? That is exactly how I felt at the beginning of and the only way I felt I could get a grip of all of the things spiraling out of control was to go full on Britney. But finding myself alone on Valentines Day and at the end of my emotional rope, I decided that instead of crying about all the things going wrong I would finally set myself free. So I went to a local hairdresser I had been eyeing, and asked the hair stylist to cut it all off. For me, a black woman, hair is a defining feature, but deciding to cut it off was exactly what I needed to show me I could let go of anything. Tamara Sarpong, 17 Photo credit: Courtesy More My big chop was one of the most impulsive, yet best decisions I have ever made. I was transitioning at the time, and I heard the rumor that trims cause your hair to grow faster, so I decided to give myself one. I ended up looking like one of those Troll dolls. My dad was mortified, and my mother started to laugh hysterically. She immediately planned for me to get a haircut the next day. So we went to the salon, and all of my relaxed hair was cut off within minutes. I was nervous, as I always had hair at least to my shoulders, and I was afraid I would look boyish. However, it was absolutely liberating, I was shocked yet amazed that I actually went through with it and everyone was shocked as well. Some liked it, others called me a boy. I even went on to cut it into tapered cut. My hair has become a part of me, and I love every single strand. Chaia Raibon, 30 Photo credit: Courtesy More For black women, beauty is an emotional trip. We are taught how to nurture and maintain our hair with monthly, bi-weekly, or even weekly appointments. Hair maintenance is a sign of class, hygiene, and beauty. My first relaxer was around the age of 8 and my last was at I have always had thick, full hair and never imagine cutting my hair short. The liberation, the freedom, the joy I felt by seeing the 6 inches of my hair on the floor. It felt like a literal weight lifted off my shoulders. Sherly Smith, 24 Photo credit: Courtesy More A few months ago, as I finished washing my hair, I walked past the mirror and barely recognized myself. I realized that my hair had thinned, there were strings and knots, my hair was drenched in water but it formed no kinks, it just hung there lifeless, hopeless. In that moment, with no hesitation A few days later I woke up and went into full panic. I had a job interview and my hair was short and kinky-I wanted to hide. This is who you are and who you are is beautiful. Tameka Abraham, 22 Photo credit: Courtesy More For most part of my life I believed that my hair defined my identity. I always needed my hair done-mostly keeping it straight through the use of flat irons and hot combs. Overtime, my hair became thin and very heat damaged. My hair was arguably something I would consider to be one of my best features. Cutting my hair was a chance to redefine my identity-and filter through the more important features that I had lying beneath the surface. The goal is for our hair to be healthy and strong-just like the rest of our body. I went from flat ironing my hair every day to flat-ironing my hair once or twice a year. Obinna Naana, 24 Photo credit: Courtesy More I big-chopped just days after going to a H. I just did it. I guess I was feeling very inspired and empowered, especially after seeing Tiara Thomas perform--who has a cute short cut in pink. But everyone told

me I had the head for it LOL. Brittany Jones, 23 Photo credit: Courtesy More I will never forget the day I decided to big chop: I was a sophomore in college and had been transitioning for about 6 months with the help of my trusty sew-ins. I had taken out an old sew-in and started the process of detangling my hair but quickly got frustrated as my hair started knotting up. I instantly grabbed conditioner and scissors and chopped the relaxed ends off, with the help of a friend. After a couple of weeks, I took my weave out and began the journey of loving my hair however it was meant to grow. We all remember having to get our hair combed Sunday night for school, our first relaxer or getting a wash and set with the ends bumped. I am, however, super happy that the narrative of black women having to have long, straight hair to be beautiful has changed to us embracing our kinks, coils, wigs, weaves and everything in between. Danique Green, 24 Photo credit: Courtesy More At some point a few summers ago, after being completely natural since about sophomore year of high school, I decided that not only did I want to get a pixie cut but I also wanted a perm for a new, sleek, edgy look. Pretty in-tune with the fact that my mind changes about as many times as my underwear, I still went for it. After a month and a half, I ended up with box-braids. What the actual f--k did I do? Why did I put a chemical in my hair just to feel different about myself? I woke up, Jackie Chan jumped out of bed, and grabbed a pair of scissors. Before giving myself a chance to breathe or think too hard, I clipped every single box braid from the root. He took me to the barbershop that weekend and held my hand through the chop. Now, on trend with the return to our natural hair, it was the perfect time to be hairless. It made it even more clear that I needed to embrace my hair as it grew, in its purest form.

2: Sonia Sanchez - Wikipedia

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Early life[edit] Sanchez was born in Birmingham, Alabama , on September 9, Her mother died when Sanchez was only one year old, so she spent several years being shuttled back and forth among relatives. One of those was her grandmother, who died when Sanchez was six. The death of her grandmother proved to be a trying time in her life. Though only six, Sanchez suffered from losing her loved one, developing a terrible stutter that caused her to become introverted. However, her stutter only caused her to read more and more and pay close attention to language and its sounds. When in Harlem, she overcame her stutter and excelled in school, finding her poetic voice which later emerged during her studies at Hunter College. Sanchez focuses on the sound of her poetry, admitting to always reading her poetry aloud, receiving praise for her use of the full range of African and African American vocal resources. She is known for her sonic range and dynamic public readings. She now terms herself an "ordained stutterer". This group included other prominent BAM artists: These young poets were introduced and promoted by Dudley Randall, an established poet and publisher. Although her first marriage to Albert Sanchez did not last, Sonia Sanchez would retain her professional name. She and Albert had one daughter named Anita. She also has three grandchildren. Sanchez has taught as a professor at eight universities and has lectured at over college campuses across the US, including Howard University. Sanchez was also a leader in the effort to establish the discipline of Black Studies at the university level. Sanchez was the first to create and teach a course based on Black Women and literature in the United States and the course she offered on African American literature is generally considered the first of its kind taught at a predominately white university. These efforts are clearly in line with the goals of the Black Arts Movement. Sanchez was the first Presidential Fellow at Temple University , where she began working in There, she held the Laura Carnell chair until her retirement in She is currently a poet-in-residence at Temple University. Though she was originally an integrationist in her thinking, after hearing Malcolm X speak Sanchez became more separatist in her thinking and focused more on her black heritage and identity. She continues to advocate for the rights of oppressed women and minority groups. Black Arts Movement[edit] The aim of the Black Arts Movement was a renewal of black will, insight, energy, and awareness. Sanchez published poetry and essays in numerous periodicals in the s, including The Liberator, Negro Digest, and Black Dialogue. Her writing established her importance as a political thinker to the "black aesthetic" program. This collection and her second in , titled We a BaddDDD People established her place in the Black Arts Movement as a poet who used experimental poetic forms to discuss the development of black nationalism and identity. At the time, Broadside Press was a small black publishing venture started by Dudley Randall that became a vehicle for many new voices of the Black Arts era. I am keeping words that are spinning on my tongue and getting them transferred on paper. She also tends to use incorrect spelling to celebrate the unique sound of black English , for which she gives credit to poets such as Langston Hughes and Sterling Brown. The collection describes both the struggle of defining black identity in the United States as well as the many causes for celebration Sanchez sees in black culture. These poems make use of urban black vernacular, experimental punctuation, spelling, and spacing, and the performative quality of jazz. She continues to explores the haiku, tanka, and sonku forms, as well as blues-influenced rhythms. She began writing plays while in San Francisco in the s. Several of her plays challenge the masculinist spirit of the movement, focusing on strong female protagonists. Sanchez has been recognized as a pioneering champion of black feminism. Sanchez is currently among 20 African-American women to be a part of "Freedom Sisters", a mobile exhibition initiated by the Cincinnati Museum Center and the Smithsonian Institution. She served in that position from to She was awarded the National Education Association Award â€”

3: 9 Influential Women in Black History You Won't Hear About in School

The conversation surrounding influential moments and people in black history often focuses on the contributions of men â€” leaving the vital efforts of black women by the wayside.

The Black Panther Party, founded in the s, was notorious for being a revolutionary organization that fought for the liberation of Blacks in the United States. With the brilliant activists, community organizers, writers, and thinkers who graced its membership, the BPP is primarily regarded as a male-dominated space and projected itself as such. However, like in most revolutionary movements, there were many women who served important and influential roles. These women made sure they occupied leadership positions, and implemented programs that were vital to the success of the Party and the overall uplifting of the Black community. They also called out sexism within the BPP, never afraid to make their presence known as women. However, their faces seldom grace historical narratives about the Black Panther Party. This list is meant to shine some light on a handful of these women. Although women initially occupied few formal governance positions within the BPP, they played strategic roles as male leadership of the party increasingly faced political repression, incarceration, or exile. Kathleen Cleaver Kathleen Cleaver , like many female revolutionaries, had been exposed to many international experiences during her involvement with the Black Panthers. She joined the foreign service and was able to travel to countries such as Sierra Leone, Liberia, India, and the Philippines. She then left college to work full-time for the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee. Newton released from prison. Kathleen ended up fleeing to Mexico and later Algeria with her husband. Upon returning to the U. Objecting to the misogyny and chauvinism she experienced in the organization, Angela Davis then pursued her activism as a member of the Che-Lumumba Club, an all-black faction of the Communist Party in Los Angeles. In the California Board of Regents and Governor Reagan fired her from the faculty of the University of California, Los Angeles because of her Communist affiliationâ€”despite the fact that Davis was regarded as an unbiased and popular teacher among her students. After strong protests from her pupils and fellow faculty members, she was reinstated by court order. Nonetheless, the Board did not renew her contract in , claiming her unfinished dissertation and her radical political activism with the Soledad Brothers as their reasons. Davis continues to be regarded as a preeminent activist, writer, professor, and leader for civil rights and prison reform. An Autobiography , she gives a clear depiction of her life and the circumstances that led to her seeking political asylum in Cuba. Upon being convicted for the shooting death of a New Jersey state trooper, Shakur was imprisoned, despite being acquitted of all charges. In , she escaped and fled to Cuba. During her time with the Black Panther Party, she contributed significantly to development of the Free Breakfast Program, spreading awareness through writing about the party to potential allies, and working to empower members of the Black community overall. Shakur was also well-known for being one of the few unmarried women Black Panthers. She continues to live in Cuba today. Elaine Brown Throughout the last four decades, Elaine Brown has been committed to and organized significant efforts toward effecting progressive change in the United States. She also ran for public office in Oakland in and , representing the BPP. She would eventually gain a leadership role within the Party as chairwoman from â€” Brown continues her activism work today, with much of her recent efforts focusing on radical reform of the criminal justice system. Brown has written and edited numerous articles and books, as well as lectured widely on university and college campuses about prison reform and the injustices within the prison system. She is regarded by many as a reliable expert on the criminal justice system. In , she announced her bid as a Presidential Election candidate for the Green Party. She continues to write, speak, and lead programs about prison reform today. She became more closely affiliated with the Party due to her husband, Donald Cox, and contributed to the advancement of Party goals during the s. She also helped spread the reach of the Black Panther Party internationallyâ€”first moving to Algiers and then to Korea. Upon her return to the U. She continues to live in Philadelphia, where she consults and volunteers in various community-based capacities. Eventually, she and her husband fled the United States, after being accused of transporting guns across state lines. She moved to Tanzania, and helped her husband launch the United Africa Alliance Community Center, an arts-based community development organization.

9 PLAYS BY BLACK WOMEN pdf

Tarika Matilaba Tarika Matilaba is known as as the first woman who demanded to have space for black women in the Black Panther Party. Growing up in Oakland, she experienced a number of injustices in the city: It is said that at age 16, Matilaba walked into the Black Panther office in Oakland and demanded that she not only be made a member of the party, but she demanded that she be given a gun as well. Prior to joining the Black Panthers, she held several leadership roles, including being a student leader at Oakland Technical High School. During her time at Oakland Tech, she was one of the first students to petition for a black history club and proudly wore her natural hair in an afro. As a Black Panther, she took on many roles, including writing editorials and drawing over 40 political cartoons. Many male Black Panther members respected her, due to her strong presence. Newton and Bobby Seale. She was initially drawn to the Black Panthers because of their fight to end police brutality. Since then, she has written a number of plays and novels. The band was later renamed Rufus and Chaka, before Chaka Khan began her career as a successful solo artist in the s. Melody Blossom enjoys documenting stories of female revolutionaries.

4: www.enganchecubano.com: Customer reviews: 9 Plays by Black Women

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5: Nappily Ever After: 9 Black Women on Their Big Chop Experience

For black women, beauty is an emotional trip. We are taught how to nurture and maintain our hair with monthly, bi-weekly, or even weekly appointments. Hair maintenance is a sign of class, hygiene.

6: Diary of a Mad Black Woman () - IMDb

Television shows starring black women have been few and far between on the Big 3 television networks, but that changed after the success of ABC's "Scandal," which paved the way for a number of black women to appear on television.

A walk in the forest U00a7 50. *The Reformed Confessions* 354 *Transgressing to transform : the feminist engagement with art history* Susan Shifrin, Robert Bambic *Tremendous worlds Sister, Girl It Aint Easy Loving A Married Man Cup of Never Mind Stedmans Abbreviations, Acronymns Symbols (Stedmans Word Book Series) Note on Original Documents of the Process of Condemnation* 331 *Highest education Computers, their structure, use, and influence The butchers theatre. Carter County, Tennessee marriages, 1871-1920* 5 *Orchestrating Realism and Idealism Talent LPS endoluminal stent graft S. Scovell, L. Jordan, Roy K. Greenberg The Canterbury Tales (Oxford Worlds Classics) The Promise of Partnership The Schreuderspitze. Works of Lucian of Samosata V. 11. Sir Jasper Carew. Rokujouma no shinryakusha volume 23 Variation and correlations of certain taxonomic characters of Gryllus Shakespeare in Japan Purim (Rookie Read-About Holidays) Bibliography (p. [530]-542) Easy laser printer maintenance and repair Family Science 371 Sample of introduction in thesis List of academic degrees Ugc net syllabus for life science 2013 The Charles A. Briggs heresy trial Lok prashasan by laxmikant Coloured pencil drawing techniques Vol. 1. E Pluribus Unum: Large-scale connections in the opening scenes of Don Giovanni Carl Schachter Chile-Canada Free Trade Agreement Sebastin Herreros The Jewellery making tutorials The American government Modern Marriage and the Clergy (Pastoral Psychology, Vol 25, No 4, Summer 1977) CLAST Preparation Guide (Cliffs Preparation Guides) Landmine Monitor Report 1999: Toward a Mine-Free World Civilisation and its discontents*