

# AMERICAN LIFE IN POETRY

A FREE COLUMN FOR NEWSPAPERS BY TED KOOSER, POET LAUREATE OF THE UNITED STATES, 2004-2006  
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## American Life in Poetry: Column 128

BY TED KOOSER, U.S. POET LAUREATE, 2004-2006

Our poet this week is 16-year-old Devon Regina DeSalva of Los Angeles, California, who says she wrote this poem to get back at her mother, only to find that her mother loved the poem.

### Snip Your Hair

I'll snip your hair  
Cut it all off until you look like a man  
I will replace your weight loss bars with bars to make you gain  
I will cut your credit cards in half  
I will shrink all your clothes  
Every trick in the book I will try  
I will give all your shoes to the dog  
I will do it all  
Crazy is where you will be driven  
Off a cliff you will want to jump  
Then when I am all done  
I will look at you with big doughy eyes  
And I will say I am sorry  
But I have my fingers crossed

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