

# Pieces of a Man

Gil Scott-Heron

"?Jacky? jigsaw pieces  
Tossed about the room  
I saw my grandma sweepin'  
With her old straw broom  
But she didn't what she was doin'  
She could hardly understand  
That she was really sweepin' up  
Pieces of a man

I saw my daddy greet the mailman  
And I heard the mailman say  
"now don't you take this letter to heart now Jimmy  
Cause they've laid off nine others today"  
But he didn't know what he was saying  
He could hardly understand  
That he was only talkin' to  
Pieces of a man

I saw the thunder and heard the lightnin'!  
And felt the burden of his shame  
And for some unknown reason  
He never turned my way

Pieces of that letter  
Were tossed about that room  
And now I hear the sound of sirens  
Come knifing through the gloom  
But they don't know what they are doing  
They could hardly understand  
That they're only arrestin'  
Pieces of a man

I saw him go to pieces  
I saw him go to pieces  
He was always such a good man  
He was always such a strong strong man  
Yeah, I saw him go to pieces  
I saw him go to pieces"