

## Small Talk at 125th and Lenox

Gil Scott-Heron

This is just like listening  
to a conversation being held  
by the many people who congregate  
on one of the most popular blocks  
in the largest area of black America

Did you ever eat cornbread and black eye peas  
Or watermelon and mustard greens?  
Get high as you can on Saturday night  
Go to church on Sunday to set things right

Listen

I seen Miss Blake after Willy yesterday  
She'd've killed anybody who got in her way  
Hey look I got a TV for a pound on the head  
And Jimmy Jean got the best Panamanian Red

No I ain't got on no underclothes  
But we all got to get through this gypsy rose  
I think Clay got his very good points  
You say a trade bag with thirteen joints?

Who cares if LBJ is in town?  
Up with Stokely and H. Rap Brown  
I don't know if the riots is wrong  
But whitey's been kickin' my ass for too long

I was s'posed to baby but they held my pay.  
Did you hear what the number was yesterday?  
Junkies is all right when they ain't broke  
They leaves you alone when they high on dope

Damn, but I wish I could get up and move  
Shut up. Hell you know that ain't true.