

# Waiting For The Axe To Fall

Gil Scott-Heron

Brother livin' in a cell,  
Doin' time in a county jail,  
Now you might think his life is hell,  
But he told me, first room he ever had to himself  
He's just, waitin' for the axe to fall,  
Sometimes lord I think that's all,  
When you're head is on a block  
ain't no way for it to stop  
You're just waitin' for the axe to fall.

Brother served in Viet Nam,  
and found out no one gives a damn.  
Agent Orange fell on his camp (but everybody went deaf)  
Brother turned around on Uncle Sam.  
Waiting for the axe to fall;  
Sometimes, Lord I think that's all.  
When your head is in the noose  
and won't nobody turn you loose  
you're waiting for the axe to fall.

Sister on the welfare line,  
Examining the threads of her life,  
She never thought she'd be cheatin' and lyin'  
Just makin' sure her and her kids survive  
It's gettin' tougher just, waitin' for the axe to fall  
Sometimes lord I think that's all  
When you're head is on the block  
and ain't nobody trying to stop  
You're just waitin' for the axe to fall

Last night grandma should got shook  
'cause someone took her pocketbook  
She ain't safe in the neighborhood  
'cause too many youngin's up to no good  
They're just, waitin' for the axe to fall  
Sometimes lord I think that's all  
When your head is in the noose  
and won't nobody turn you loose  
You're waitin' for the axe to fall