

# The Ballad Of Kathryn Johnston

Shawn Mullins

Old Miss Johnston lived all alone  
On the sorry side of town  
Broke down cars and burglar bars  
On the windows and doors  
In case danger comes around

Sittin' in her yellow kitchen  
Listenin' to bad news on a Radiant radio  
It used to be Louis Armstrong  
Then Martin Luther King  
Where did everybody go?

Out the window where her garden was  
It's not safe to go outside  
Old Miss Johnston in the eye of the storm  
It was the safest place to hide

And life's a gamble for the broken and the weak  
Dealin' with the bangers and the drugs  
The whinos weave and amble  
And shuffle on down the street  
Steerin' clear of all the thugs

And now my city hangs her head in shame  
You can't tell the truth from all the lies  
Everything changed forever and everything stayed the same  
On the night Miss Johnston died