

# A Change Is Gonna Come

Solomon Burke

I was born by the river in a little tent  
Just like the river I been running ever since  
It's been a long time coming  
But I know, I know a change is gonna come  
Oh yes, it is

It's been too hard living, I don't wanna die  
I don't know what's up there beyond the skies  
But it's been a long, long, long, long, long, long, long  
Time coming  
But, people, let me tell you a change is gonna come, oh yes it is  
Oh yes, it is, oh yes, it is, oh yes, it is

Then I go to my brothers  
I say: "Brothers, help me, please"  
But my brothers, they wind up knockin' me  
Right down, down on my knees

There was times when I thought I wouldn't last long  
Now I know I'm able to carry on  
Been a long, long, long, long, long, long, long, long  
Time coming  
But people let me tell you a change is gonna come  
Oh yes, it is, oh yes, it is, oh yes, it is

There's been laugh, there's been tears  
There's been joy, there's been sorrow  
Sometimes I thought there'd never be a tomorrow  
It's been a long, long time coming  
But I'm here to tell you a change is gonna come  
Oh yes, it is, oh yes, it is, oh yes, it is

There's been wars, there's been fights  
People are dying, nations are weaken  
Sisters and brothers are crying  
It's been a long, long, long, long  
Long time coming  
Oh, master, a change is got to come  
Oh yes, it is

Then I go to my brothers  
Brother, will you help me, help me  
My brother winds up knocking me  
Right down on my knees

I been so afraid of living  
Too afraid of crying  
There's been times I thought I was almost dying  
Been a long, long, long, long, long, long  
Time coming  
But I know a change is gonna come  
Oh yes, it has

Brother and sister  
Neighbour and neighbour  
Men against men  
Boy against boy, girl against girl

Young and old been destroyed by their own hands  
Problems and situations that parents cannot understand  
Drugs and misused and abused and accused  
War and war and bombs and war and more war  
When

When will it come?  
I wanna know, I wanna know, I wanna know  
Why can't we give together?  
Why can't we live together?

When will the change come?  
It's coming, it's coming, co-co-c-coming, co-co-c-coming, co-co-c-coming  
Change is gonna come, y'all  
Oh yes, it is

England  
Ireland  
Egypt  
Israel

Lebanon  
Bayrut  
South-Africa  
Africa

America  
My brother, my mother  
My sister, your brother

Change  
When will it change, when will it?  
And our minds and time and time and our minds  
And my heart, will it ever be apart?

When we see, we believe  
Can see it  
A change is got to come  
A change is got to come