

# Every Ghetto, Every City

Lauryn Hill

I was just a little girl, skinny legs, a press and curl  
My mother always thought I'd be a star  
But way before my record deal  
Streets that nurtured Lauryn Hill  
Made sure that I'd never go too far

Every ghetto, every city and suburban place I've been  
Make me recall my days in the New Jerusalem

Story starts at Hootaville, grew up next to Ivy Hill  
When kids were stealin' quartervilles for fun  
Kill the guy in Carter Park  
Rode a mongoose 'til it's dark  
Watchin' kids show off the stolen ones

Every ghetto, every city and suburban place I've been  
Make me recall my days in New Jerusalem

You know it's hot, don't forget what you've got  
Lookin' back, lookin' back, lookin' back, lookin' back  
You know it's hot, don't forget what you've got  
Lookin' back, lookin' back, lookin' back, lookin' back

Bag of Bontons, twenty cents and a nickel  
Springfield Ave. had the best popsicles  
Saturday morning cartoons and Kung-Fu

Main street roots tonic with the dreds  
A beef patty and some coco bread  
Move the patch from my Lees to the tongue of my shoe  
'Member Frelnq-Huysen used to have the bomb leather  
Back when Doug Fresh and Slick Rick was together  
Lookin' at the crew, we thought we'd all live forever

You know it's hot, don't forget what you've got  
Lookin' back, lookin' back, lookin' back, lookin' back  
You know it's hot, don't forget what you've got  
Lookin' back, lookin' back, lookin' back, lookin' back

Drill teams on Munn Street  
Remember when Hawthorne and Chancellor had beef  
Movin' Records was on Central Ave.  
I was there at dancing school  
South Orange Ave. at Borlin' Pool  
Unaware of what we didn't have

Writin' my friends' names on my jeans with a marker  
July 4th races outside of Parker  
Fireworks at Martin Stadium  
The Untouchable P.S.P. where all them crazy nigga be  
And car thieves got away through Irvington

Hillside brings beef with the cops  
Self-Destruction record drops  
And everybody's name was Muslim  
Children grow and women produce and

Sensations and '88 attracted kids from out-of-state  
And everybody used to do the wop  
Jack, jack, jack ya body  
Nah, the Biz Mark used to amp up the party  
I wish those days, they didn't stop

Every ghetto, every city and suburban place I've been  
Make me recall my days in New Jerusalem

You know it's hot, don't forget what you've got  
Lookin' back, lookin' back, lookin' back, lookin' back  
You know it's hot, don't forget what you've got  
Lookin' back, lookin' back, lookin' back, lookin' back

You know it's hot, don't forget what you've got  
Looking back, lookin' back, lookin' back, lookin' back

Lookin' back, lookin' back, lookin' back  
Lookin' back, lookin' back, lookin' back  
Lookin' back, lookin' back, lookin' back  
Lookin' back, lookin' back, lookin' back  
Lookin' back, lookin' back, lookin' back