

# The Train From Washington

Gil Scott-Heron

During reconstruction time they were folks who have been promised 40 acres and a mule.

And they were told a man with their legal papers could be expected on a train from Washington.

They were folks who waited for him and there are folks still waiting for him .

But you can't depend on the train from Washington, it's 100 years overdue...

You can depend on the stars and planets yeah  
They'll always tell you the truth  
You can depend on the 15th of April Yeah  
Somehow it always gets through  
You can depend on the daily paper's calls  
They surely bring you the blues  
But don't depend on the train from Washington  
It's one hundred years overdue

R:

I see people, dragging on their own  
I see them standing  
Anxious near the tracks  
I see people, a long long way from home  
Wondering how they'll ever get back

You can depend on the politicians yeah  
Always got a point of view  
They are contemporary court magicians yeah  
Sleight of mouth will dazzle you  
You can depend on the repositions from them  
Changes that you've got to go through  
But don't depend on the train from Washington  
It's one hundred years overdue

R: (x2)

You can depend on the folks and gravity  
Cuz both of them will bring you down  
You can depend on catching something Yeah  
Cause something is going around  
You can depend on the first two numbers, but  
Damn if the last one come through  
But don't depend on the train from Washington  
It's one hundred years overdue

You can't depend on the train from Washington  
It's one hundred years overdue  
Oh lord you see  
You can't depend on the train from Washington  
It's one hundred years overdue  
Don't you over  
But don't depend on the train from Washington  
Eh eh eh .. eh you know it might not make it  
You can't depend on the train from Washington  
Everybody knows it's it's it's running late  
You can't depend on the train from Washington  
It's one hundred years overdue  
It's long long time

You can't depend on the train from Washington  
It's one hundred years overdue ...