

## **Gil Scott-Heron**

### **"Running"**

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Because I always feel like running  
Not away, because there is no such place  
Because, if there was I would have found it by now  
Because it's easier to run,  
Easier than staying and finding out you're the only  
one... who didn't run  
Because running will be the way your life and mine will  
be described  
As in "the long run"  
Or as in having given someone a "run for his money"  
Or as in "running out of time"  
Because running makes me look like everyone else,  
Though I hope there will ever be cause for that  
Because I will be running in the other direction,  
Not running for cover  
Because if I knew where cover was,  
I would stay there and never have to run for it  
Not running for my life,  
Because I have to be running for something of more  
value  
To be running and not in fear  
Because the thing I fear cannot be escaped, eluded,  
avoided,  
Hidden from, protected from, gotten away from,  
Not without showing the fear as I see it now  
Because closer, clearer, no sir, nearer  
Because of you and because of that nice  
That you quietly, quickly be causing  
And because you're going to see me run soon  
And because you're going to know why I'm running  
then  
You'll know then  
Because I'm not going to tell you now

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