

# The Revolution Will Not Be Televised

Gil Scott-heron

You will not be able to stay home, brother  
You will not be able to plug in, turn on and cop out  
You will not be able to lose yourself on skag  
And skip out for beer during commercials  
Because the revolution will not be televised  
The revolution will not be televised  
The revolution will not be brought to you by Xerox  
In 4 parts without commercial interruptions  
The revolution will not show you pictures of Nixon  
Blowing a bugle and leading a charge by John Mitchell  
General Abrams and Spiro Agnew to eat hog maws  
Confiscated from a Harlem sanctuary  
The revolution will not be televised  
The revolution will not be brought to you by the  
Schaefer Award Theater and will not star Natalie Woods  
And Steve McQueen or Bullwinkle and Julia  
The revolution will not give your mouth sex appeal  
The revolution will not get rid of the nubs  
The revolution will not make you look five pounds thinner  
Because the revolution will not be televised, Brother  
There will be no pictures of you and Willie May  
Pushing that shopping cart down the block on the dead run  
Or trying to slide that color TV into a stolen ambulance  
NBC will not be able predict the winner at 8:32  
Or report from 29 districts  
The revolution will not be televised  
There will be no pictures of pigs shooting down  
Brothers on the instant replay  
There will be no pictures of pigs shooting down  
Brothers on the instant replay  
There will be no pictures of Whitney Young  
Being run out of Harlem on a rail with a brand new process  
There will be no slow motion or still life of Roy Wilkins  
Strolling through Watts in a red, black and green  
Liberation jumpsuit that he had been saving  
For just the proper occasion  
Green Acres, The Beverly Hillbillies and Hooter ville Junction  
Will no longer be so damned relevant  
And women will not care if Dick finally gets down with Jane

On search for tomorrow because black people  
Will be in the street looking for a brighter day  
The revolution will not be televised  
There will be no highlights on the eleven o'clock news  
And no pictures of hairy armed women liberationists  
And Jackie Onassis blowing her nose  
The theme song will not be written by Jim Webb  
Francis Scott Key, nor sung by Glen Campbell, Tom Jones  
Johnny Cash, Englebert Humperdink or the Rare Earth  
The revolution will not be televised  
The revolution will not be right back after a message  
About a white tornado, white lightning, or white people  
You will not have to worry about a dove in your bedroom  
The tiger in your tank or the giant in your toilet bowl  
The revolution will not go better with Coke  
The revolution will not fight the germs that may cause bad breath  
The revolution will put you in the driver's seat  
The revolution will not be televised, will not be televised  
Will not be televised, will not be televised  
The revolution will be no re-run brothers  
The revolution will be live

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