Out of the mud grows the lotus; Out of the projects walks Li'l Otis

Li'l Otis got a walk shows he doesn't wonder what to do. Otis got a walk shows he doesn't wonder what to say. Otis got a walk that'll blow you away. There he goes!

He's learnin' a skill in one of the trades.

He stays with his wife and kids at night.

Li'l Otis out walkin' by the quarter arcade.

Picks up a bottle, he puts it in the trash.

He's a good citizen.

Li'l Otis can be seen as a bunch of habits.

Li'l Otis can be seen as black or poor.

Li'l Otis can be seen in his attitudes.

Li'l Otis on a Sunday goin' out the front door.

Here's one instant - there's the next.

Li'l Otis treats each one with respect.

He eats; he sleeps; he stands; he talks; he sits; he breathes and Otis walks.

He walks down the pavement, he walks by the stores.

He waves to the kids, waves to the whores.

And every step he leaves behind things of the world that were on his mind.

He's an inspiration to us all, people smile when Otis walks. An' say - "Hi Otis!"

He says - "Mighty fine!" Otis grins and walks on by. Li'l Otis! Otis got a walk for the ghettos or the avenues