nothing here needs fixing

there is nothing here / needs fixing
black-eyed pea monday nights / jamaican bun
spiced rice pudding / mild mama love
jerk chicken / and coconut rice
but on friday nights / we wing it
in fish finger / tinned spaghetti
and oven chips style
(cause isn't tiredness
a single mother's way/ of life)

love lives here / though things are tight
if these walls could talk / they'd stand tall
and say there have been dark nights
and even darker days
but only tenderness / was ever spoken
things are tight / but love lives here
if these walls could talk / they'd stand and say
this home was never broken

look around / i steer
a second hand / hand-made
home baked / and obedient ship:
children should be heard / not silenced
but both kids must be in bed by six
and just somebody even think / about giving me lip

broken home / nuh uh
there is nothing here / needs fixing

2013 Poetry winner: Maxine Beneba Clarke