

Mississippi Goddam

Nina Simone

The name of this tune is Mississippi Goddam
And I mean every word of itAlabama's gotten me so upset
Tennessee made me lose my rest
And everybody knows about Mississippi GoddamAlabama's gotten me so upset
Tennessee made me lose my rest
And everybody knows about Mississippi GoddamCan't you see it? Can't you feel it?
It's all in the air
I can't stand the pressure much longer
Somebody say a prayerAlabama's gotten me so upset
Tennessee made me lose my rest
And everybody knows about Mississippi GoddamThis is a show tune
But the show hasn't been written for it, yetHound dogs on my trail
School children sitting in jail
Black cat cross my path
I think everyday's gonna be my lastLord, have mercy on this land of mine
We all gonna get it in due time
I don't belong here, I don't belong there
I've even stopped believing in prayerDon't tell me, I tell you
Me and my people just about due
I've been there so I know
They keep on saying, "Go slow!"But that's just the trouble, do it slow
Washing the windows, do it slow
Picking the cotton, do it slow
You're just plain rotten, do it slowYou're too damn lazy, do it slow
The thinking's crazy, do it slow
Where am I going? What am I doing?
I don't know, I don't knowJust try to do your very best
Stand up be counted with all the rest
For everybody knows about Mississippi GoddamI bet you thought I was kiddin'Picket lines, school boy cots
They try to say it's a communist plot
All I want is equality
For my sister, my brother, my people and meYes, you lied to me all these years
You told me to wash and clean my ears
And talk real fine just like a lady
And you'd stop calling me Sister SadieOh, but this whole country is full of lies
You're all gonna die and die like flies
I don't trust you any more
You keep on saying, "Go slow! Go slow!"But that's just the trouble, do it slow
Desegregation, do it slow

Mass participation, do it slow
Reunification, do it slowDo things gradually, do it slow
But bring more tragedy, do it slow
Why don't you see it? Why don't you feel it?
I don't know, I don't knowYou don't have to live next to me
Just give me my equality
Everybody knows about Mississippi
Everybody knows about Alabama
Everybody knows about Mississippi GoddamThat's it!

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