

Eric Bogle

"NOW I'M EASY"

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"NOW I'M EASY"

- Eric Bogle

For nearly sixty years, I've been a Cockie
Of droughts and fires and floods I've lived through
plenty
This country's dust and mud have seen my tears and
blood
But it's nearly over now, and now I'm easy

I married a fine girl when I was twenty
But she died in giving birth when she was thirty
No flying doctor then, just a gentle old black 'gin
But it's nearly over now, and now I'm easy

She left me with two sons and a daughter
On a bone-dry farm whose soil cried out for water
So my care was rough and ready, but they grew up fine
and steady
But it's nearly over now, and now I'm easy

My daughter married young, and went her own way
My sons lie buried by the Burma Railway
So on this land I've made me home, I've carried on
alone

But it's nearly over now, and now I'm easy

City folks these days despise the Cockie
Say with subsidies and dole, we've had it easy
But there's no drought or starving stock on a sewerred
suburban block
But it's nearly over now, and now I'm easy

For nearly sixty years, I've been a Cockie
Of droughts and fires and floods, I've lived through
plenty
This country's dust and mud, have seen my tears and
blood
But it's nearly over now, and now I'm easy
And now I'm easy

NOTES:

Cockie: Australian small-scale family farmer

'Gin ("Jen"): an Australian aboriginal woman

(The term is nowadays considered to be derogatory)

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