

## **Nina Simone**

# **"Mississippi Goddam"**

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(1963) Nina Simone

The name of this tune is Mississippi Goddam  
And I mean every word of it

Alabama's gotten me so upset  
Tennessee made me lose my rest  
And everybody knows about Mississippi Goddam

Alabama's gotten me so upset  
Tennessee made me lose my rest  
And everybody knows about Mississippi Goddam

Can'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 prayer

Alabama's gotten me so upset  
Tennessee made me lose my rest  
And everybody knows about Mississippi Goddam

This is a show tune  
But the show hasn't been written for it, yet

Hound dogs on my trail  
School children sitting in jail  
Black cat cross my path  
I think every day's gonna be my last

Lord 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 prayer

Don'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 slow"

You'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 know

Just try to do your very best

Stand up be counted with all the rest

For everybody knows about Mississippi Goddam

I made you thought I was kiddin' didn't we

Picket lines

School boycotts

They try to say it's a communist plot

All I want is equality

For my sister my brother my people and me

Yes 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 Sadie

Oh 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 slow"

Do 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 know

You 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 Goddam

That's it for now! see ya' later

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