

## Phil Ochs "Ballad of Medgar Evers"

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Pre>em g d

In the state of mississippi many years ago

Am em

A boy of 14 years got a taste of southern law

Em g d

He saw his friend a hanging and his color was his  
crime

Am em

And the blood upon his jacket left a brand upon his  
mind

Am d g

Chorus: too many martyrs and too many dead

Am d g (em optional)

Too many lies too many empty words were said

Am d g

Too many times for too many angry men

Am d em

Oh let it never be again

His name was medgar evers and he walked his road  
alone

Like emmett till and thousands more whose names  
we'll never know

They tried to burn his home and they beat him to the  
ground

But deep inside they both knew what it took to bring  
him down

\*chorus\*

The killer waited by his home hidden by the night

As evers stepped out from his car into the rifle sight

He slowly squeezed the trigger, the bullet left his side

It struck the heart of every man when evers fell and  
died.

\*chorus\*

And they laid him in his grave while the bugle sounded  
clear

Laid him in his grave when the victory was near

While we waited for the future for freedom through the  
land (\*)

The country gained a killer and the country lost a man  
\*chorus\* /pre>

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