

## **Dylan Bob**

### **"The Death Of Emmett Till"**

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by Bob Dylan

"Twas down in Mississippi no so long ago,  
When a young boy from Chicago town stepped through  
a Southern door.  
This boy's dreadful tragedy I can still remember well,  
The color of his skin was black and his name was  
Emmett Till.

Some men they dragged him to a barn and there they  
beat him up.  
They said they had a reason, but I can't remember  
what.  
They tortured him and did some evil things too evil to  
repeat.  
There was screaming sounds inside the barn, there  
was laughing sounds out on the street.

Then they rolled his body down a gulf amidst a bloody  
red rain  
And they threw him in the waters wide to cease his  
screaming pain.  
The reason that they killed him there, and I'm sure it  
ain't no lie,  
Was just for the fun of killin' him and to watch him  
slowly die.

And then to stop the United States of yelling for a trial,  
Two brothers they confessed that they had killed poor  
Emmett Till.  
But on the jury there were men who helped the brothers  
commit this awful crime,  
And so this trial was a mockery, but nobody seemed to  
mind.

I saw the morning papers but I could not bear to see  
The smiling brothers walkin' down the courthouse  
stairs.  
For the jury found them innocent and the brothers they  
went free,  
While Emmett's body floats the foam of a Jim Crow

southern sea.

If you can't speak out against this kind of thing, a crime  
that's so unjust,  
Your eyes are filled with dead men's dirt, your mind is  
filled with dust.  
Your arms and legs they must be in shackles and  
chains, and your blood it must refuse to flow,  
For you let this human race fall down so God-awful low!

This song is just a reminder to remind your fellow man  
That this kind of thing still lives today in that ghost-  
robed Ku Klux Klan.  
But if all of us folks that thinks alike, if we gave all we  
could give,  
We could make this great land of ours a greater place  
to live.

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