

ERIC BIBB - ONE MISSISSIPPI - LYRICS

ONE MISSISSIPPI

(Janis Ian - Fred Koller)

Deep in the heart of Dixie
Where cotton's still the king
If ya slide on down to the Delta
You can hear those banjos ring

Might be the muddy water
Comes in the spring wit' the rain
Or a poor boy down on Parchman farm
At the end of a ball an' chain

One Mississippi is a long time
Gone in the blink of an eye
Two Mississippi is a lifetime
The years just drift on by
Mississippi

If ya stand on the banks of the river
As the evenin' sun goes down
When the cattails shake an' shiver
You can hear that lonesome sound

Might be the moon on the water
Or the ol' gray ghost in the trees
Or the scent of the sweet magnolia
Risin' on the breeze

One Mississippi is a long time
Gone in the blink of an eye
Two Mississippi is a lifetime
The years just drift on by
Mississippi

An' the riverboat floats by like a ghost
On it's way to New Orleans
An' the paddle wheel turns, as the coal smoke burns
From the heart of the Delta Queen

If you head on past the levee
Down the road what got no name
There's a white cross on the hillside
An' a sign that says: Jesus saves!

When that congregation
Begin to sing an' shout
You can hear the rafters rattle
In the land of the cottonmouth

One Mississippi is a long time
Gone in the blink of an eye
Two Mississippi is a lifetime
The years just drift on by
Mississippi

Singin' One Mississippi is a long time

Gone in the blink of an eye
Mississippi - I P P I

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MUDDY WATERS

I been to Houston, Dallas too
Ya know it ain't like it used to be
But I'm still blue

I been through Kansas City
Ya wanna talk about the blues
I been rockin' an' a-reelin'
Down in Baton Rouge
Rockin' an' a-reelin'
Down in Baton Rouge

Chorus
I got muddy waters in my shoes
I got Muddy Waters all in my blues
Oh chile, all in my blues

I been down in Alabama
I finally, finally got there
The way they treat me
Was more than I could bear

I been up in Frisco
All across to Newport News
Things ain't exactly like they used to be
But I'm still blue

I got muddy water in my shoes
I got Muddy Waters all in my blues
Oh chile, all in my blues

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THIS ONE DON'T

Turn to the left
Turn to the right
Tell me, what do you see?
Whole lot of folks gettin' all riled up
Not on one simple thing can they agree
Well, I've been 'round the world
A time or two
An' I hear music in the air

Every kind of sound
Every kind of groove
People love to dance everywhere

Some songs got fascinating rhythms
Some songs swing, some won't
Some songs got complicated melodies
This one don't
This one don't

Some songs got chords you never heard of
Four to the bar, it's true
Some songs, like this one
One chord will do
Some songs, like this one
One chord will do

Turn to the left
Turn to the right
Turn to the left
Turn to the right
Tell me what do you see?
Whole lot of folks gettin' all riled up
Not on one simple thing can they agree
Said, I've been 'round the world a time or two
An' I always hear music in the air
Some songs got complicated melodies
This one don't
This one don't
This one don't
This one don't

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DIDN'T I KEEP RUNNIN'

Didn't I keep runnin'
Through the woods in the moonlight
Didn't I keep runnin'
When the hounds found my trail
Kep' on runnin'
After swimmin' 'cross that river
Brother, now I'm here to tell the tale

Didn't I keep runnin'
When I thought about ol' Virgil
Playin' his banjo in the shade
All day long
Had a peg for a foot, nowhere to go
All the time in the world
To sing this song

Didn't I keep runnin'
When I heard those rollers shout
Didn't I keep runnin'
When I thought my heart would fail
Kep' on runnin'
As them dogs was gettin' closer
Brother, now I'm here to tell the tale

Didn't I keep runnin'
In my dreams while I was restin'
Didn't I keep runnin'
Prayin' to my Lord
Kep' on runnin'
Like the ones who musta made it
Followin' the Drinkin' Gourd

Didn't I keep runnin'

When I finally saw the border
Kep' runnin'
'Til I knew that I was free
Started walkin'
Grateful to be livin'
Grateful as a man can be
Grateful as a man can be
Brother, now I'm here to tell the tale

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GO DOWN OL' HANNAH

Go down ol' Hannah
Don't you rise no more
If you rise in the mornin'
Bring a judgement sure

If you hada been on the river
'Roun' nineteen an' ten
They were drivin' the women
Just like the men

Go down ol' Hannah
Don't you rise no more
Now if you rise in the mornin'
Set the world on fire

Go down ol' Hannah
Don't you rise no more
If you rise in the mornin'
Don't you rise no more

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IT'S A GOOD LIFE

How can I count the trees
That rise from earth
All the stars that sparkle
High above
There's no way for me to measure
The treasure
Of your love

It's a good life
Here we're livin'
Doin' good things we're all
Here to do
I will never tire of prayin'
Sayin' "I love you"

Bless this intoxicating mystery
It's an ancient story - retold
Yes, I'm talkin' 'bout that feelin'
That healin' in our souls

It's a good life here we're livin'
Every day I'm learnin'
Somethin' new

Still, there's no way for me to measure
The pleasure of you

It's a good life
Here we're livin'
Doin' good things that we're
Here to do
I will never tire of prayin'
Sayin' "I love you"

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NO CLOTHES ON

You know we all got a road
We're born to walk
A tribe, a culture, a tongue to talk
Instead of talkin' we're fightin'
Over that an' this
I don't care about that
For me the question is

How can you be so vain?
So far gone?
You're struttin' down the street like the boss
With no clothes on

Power can swell your head
Bit by bit
'Til it gets to the point
Where your cap don't fit
'Til your mind refuses to see
What's in front of your eyes
People marchin' through the streets
Shoutin' "No more lies!"

How can you be so vain?
So far gone?
You're struttin' down the street like the boss
With no clothes on
No clothes on

I see old attitudes
Breakin' down
New ways of thinkin' croppin' up
Goin' round
Still, some people hide their eyes
Can't bear to look
They're rippin' out entire chapters
From the history books
How can you be so vain?
So far gone?
You're struttin' down the street like the boss
With no clothes on
No clothes on

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CROSSROADS MARILYN MONROE

Twenty-one years of age
When the whole world saw her face
Been married to Roy since she was sixteen
He was rough
She was made of finer stuff
A Mississippi delta beauty queen

She was really somethin'
I mean somethin'
No man in town would say no
One newspaper called her
A crossroads Marilyn Monroe

Emmett Till walked into her store
An' his name forevermore
Will be linked to that infamous story
Part of which very few people
Very few people know

She lied
She lied
For her husband Roy
An' that brother-in-law
On trial for Emmett's murder
On the stand in the court room
She lied

That's perjury
She made up stuff that never happened
That convinced the jury
To set the men free
Free to lynch a fourteen year-old boy
Down in Mississippi

Fifty years later
In an interview
She admitted she'd lied to the jury
An' I'm so glad for her sake
An' the sake of the world
'Cause the truth will set you free
Truth will set us free

One newspaper called her
A crossroads Marilyn Monroe
A crossroads Marilyn Monroe

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NEW WINDOW

Someone hurled a brick
Through the front window
Shattering glass
A hateful crime
Sweepin' up the pieces won't be easy
Like healin' a nation
It's gonna take time

Lookin' through this new window

A better world I pray we'll see
Lookin' through this new window
I know - Love's the key

After all the noise
I still wonder
Have we heard
The wake-up call?
Have we heard the warning?
Will we heed it?
Together we stand
Divided we fall

Lookin' through this new window
A better world I pray we'll see
Lookin' through this new window
I know - Love's the key

Picture a new world
Where the old one used to be
Finally free from the tyranny of fear
In harmony

Lookin' through this new window
A better world I pray we'll see
Lookin' through this new window
I know - Love's the key

Lookin' through this new window
A better world I pray we'll see
Lookin' through this new window
I know - Love's the key

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IF YOU'RE FREE

If ya got food on your table
Gas in the tank
Roof overhead
Money in the bank
Tell me you're grateful
As anyone can be
'Cos there's plenty people
Livin' in misery

Widespread hunger
Here an' there
Some got nothin'
Not a crumb to spare
Some have the power
To cut your supply
Just like that
I can't tell you why

I got water when I'm thirsty
Heat when I'm cold
A friend I can depend on
A helpin' hand to hold
You know I'm grateful

As anyone can be
'Cos I know there's plenty people in the world
Livin' in misery

I know, if you're livin' in a country
Free to speak your mind
If you're free to disagree
With the party line
Consider yourself blessed
With hard-won liberty
'Cos there's plenty people
Longin' to be free

Plenty people in the world
An' they're longin'
To be free

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CHANGE

We're gonna change
Our way of thinkin'
We're gonna change
Not a little but a lot
The way we see each other
The way we treat one another
We're gonna change
If we wanna change, or not

We're gonna change
Our way of livin'
We're gonna change
That's what we're here to do
The way we treat Mother Earth
Our sense of self worth
We're gonna change
If we wanna change or not

We're gonna change
All the numbers
Talkin' 'bout the haves
An' the many have-nots
The way we share with each other
The way we care for one another
We're gonna change
If we wanna change or not

We're gonna change
Our way of thinkin'
We're gonna change
Not a little but a lot
The way we speak to a brother
A sister or another
We're gonna change
We're gonna change

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WAITING ON THE SUN

I see no light on the horizon
But there's a new day comin' on
In the dark of night
No sun risin'
I'm trustin' the dawn
In my mind I can see it
In my heart I can feel it
No matter how long, I'll be holdin' on
Waitin' on the sun

So much hunger, so many homeless
People sufferin' in every land
Why sit around, feelin' hopeless
Why not lend a hand?
We can turn, turn a blind eye
Or we can try, yes, you and I
To bring a brighter day to everyone
Waitin' on the sun

To bring a brighter day to everyone
Waitin' on the sun
No matter how long, I'm just holdin' on
Waitin' on the sun
To bring a brighter day to everyone
Waitin' on the sun

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SHOW YOUR LOVE

Don't wait another minute
Don't wait another hour
Don't wait another circle 'round the sun
Don't wait - show your love

Don't wait 'til tonight
Don't wait 'til tomorrow
'Cos tomorrow may not come
Don't wait - tomorrow may not come
Show your love

If you're grateful
For the gift of
Every new day, don't delay
Show your love in every way

Don't wait for Sunday
Don't wait for Christmas
Don't wait for mayday
Show your love
Don't wait - show your love

How many times have we waited
Too long
Just to find we're too late an'
Someone's gone

Don't wait another minute
Don't wait another hour

Not another circle 'round the sun
Don't wait - show your love
Sister, don't wait
Show your love

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WE GOT TO FIND A WAY

We got to live in peace, someday
Got to live in peace
Study war no more

We got to find a way, somehow
We got to find a way
We got to find it now

We got to face the past, it's true
We got to face the past
Heal our hearts at last

We got to make amends today
We got to make amends
Wash our sins away

We got to come back home, my friends
We got to come back home
We've been gone too long
We've been gone so long

We got to find a way, somehow
We got to find a way
We got to find it now

