

# Nick Cave - The Mercy Seat

Tom: C

Note: Every version of the Mercy Seat is different and almost infinitely extendable. The version here is how I play the chords, plus the lyrics that appear in the booklet for the Tender Prey CD (with quite a few changes).

In short, this is just an approximation, so choose your own

lyrics from the vast selection that appear below. The chords are defined at the end.

It began when they come took me from my home  
And put me in Dead Row  
Of which I am nearly wholly innocent, you know  
And I'll say it again  
I am not afraid to die.

Em B  
I began to warm and chill  
Em B  
To objects and their fields

A ragged cup, a twisted mop  
Em B  
The face of Jesus in my soup  
Em B  
Those sinister dinner deals

Em B  
The meal trolley's wicked wheels  
Em B

A hooked bone rising from my  
Em B  
food. All things good or ungood.

E  
And the mercy seat is waiting  
E  
And I think my head is burning  
E E  
And in a way I'm yearning to be  
D D  
done with all this measuring of  
D D  
truth, An eye for an eye and a tooth for a  
F F  
tooth, And anyway I told the  
C C  
truth, And I'm not afraid to die.

Em B  
Interpret signs and catalogue

A blackened tooth, a scarlet fog  
Em B  
The walls are bad. Black. Bottom kind.

Em B  
They are the sick breath at my hind

Em B  
They are the sick breath at my hind

Em B  
They are the sick breath at my hind

Em B  
They are the sick breath gathering  
Em B  
at my hind.

E E  
I hear stories from the  
E E  
chamber, How Christ was born into a  
E E  
manger And like some ragged stranger  
D D  
Died upon the cross, And might I  
D D  
say it seems so fitting in its  
F F  
way He was a carpenter by

C C  
trade, Or at least that's what I'm  
Em B  
told.

Em B

Em B  
Like my good hand  
Em B  
I tattooed E.V.I.L. across it's  
Em B  
brother's fist  
Em B  
That filthy five! They did  
Em B  
nothing to resist.

E E  
In heaven His throne is made of gold  
E E  
The ark of His testament is  
E E  
stowed, A throne from which I'm told all  
D D  
history does unfold, Down here it's  
D D  
made of wood and wire, And my  
F F  
body is on fire  
C C  
And God is never far away.

Em B  
Into the mercy seat I climb  
Em B  
My head is shaved, my head is  
Em B  
wired, And like a moth that tries to  
D D  
enter the bright eye, so I go  
D D  
shuffling out life, Just to  
F F  
hide in death a while  
C C  
And anyway I never lied.

Em B  
My kill-hand is called E.V.I.L.  
Em B  
Wears a wedding band that's G.O.O.D.

Em B  
'Tis a long suffering shackle  
Em B  
Collaring all that rebel blood

E  
And the mercy seat is waiting  
E  
And I think my head is burning  
E E  
And in a way I'm yearning to be  
D D  
done with all this measuring of  
D D  
truth, An eye for an eye and a tooth for a  
F F  
tooth, And anyway I told the  
C C  
truth, And I'm not afraid to die.

E  
And the mercy seat is burning  
E  
And I think my head is glowing  
E E  
And in a way I'm hoping to be  
D D  
done with all this weighing up of

D truth, An eye for an eye and a tooth for a  
 F tooth, And anyway I told the  
 C truth, And I'm not afraid to die.

E And the mercy seat is glowing  
 E And I think my head is smoking  
 E And in a way I'm hoping to be  
 D done with all these looks of disbelief  
 D An eye for an eye and a tooth for a  
 F tooth, And anyway I there was no  
 C proof, Nor a motive why.

E And the mercy seat is smoking  
 E And I think my head is melting  
 E And in a way I'm helping to be  
 D done with all this twisting of  
 D truth, An eye for an eye and a truth for a  
 F truth, And anyway I told the  
 C truth, And I'm not afraid to die.

E And the mercy seat is melting  
 E And I think my blood is boiling  
 E And in a way I'm spoiling all the  
 D

fun with all this truth and consequence  
 D An eye for an eye and a truth for a  
 F truth, And anyway I told the  
 C truth, And I'm not afraid to die.

E And the mercy seat is waiting  
 E And I think my head is burning  
 E And in a way I'm yearning to be  
 D done with all this measurement of  
 D proof, A lie for a lie and a truth for a  
 F truth, And anyway there was no  
 C proof, And I'm not afraid to tell a lie.

E And the mercy seat is waiting  
 E And I think my head is burning  
 E And in a way I'm yearning to be  
 D done with all this measurement of  
 D proof, An eye for an eye and a truth for a  
 F truth, And anyway I told the  
 C truth, And I'm afraid I told a lie.

Chords:

Em B E E D D F F C C

## Acordes

