

# Great Mandella

by Peter Yarrow, Albert Grossman, and Mary Travers (1967)

*F#m(1/2) /D(1/2) /E(1/2) /A(1/2) F#m/A(1/2) /D(1/2) /E(1/2) /A(1/2) (2X)*

So, I told him that he'd bet ter shut his mouth and do his job like a man.

*E E A A*

And he answered, "Listen, father, I will

Ne ver kill a no ther. "He thinks he's bet ter than his brother that died.

*F# F# G G E E A A*

What the hell does he think he's doing to his father who brought him up right?

*Em Em Am Am*

Take your place on the Great Mandella as it  
moves through your brief moment of time.

*Am11 Am9 Em Em*

Win or lose, now, you must choose, now.

*Am11 Am9 Am6/9 Am6/9*

And, if you lose, you're only losing your life.

Tell the jailer not to bother with his meal of bread and water today.

He is fasting 'til the killing's over.

He's a martyr. He thinks he's a prophet

But, he's a coward. He's just playing a game.

He can't do it. He can't change it.

It's been going on for ten thousand years.

Tell the people they are safe, now.

Hunger stopped him. He lies still in his cell.

Death has gagged his accusations.

We are free now. We can kill now.

We can hate now. Now, we can end the world.

We're not guilty. He was crazy.

And it's been going on for ten thousand years.