

# Sacrifice

Robbie Robertson

You know we have a million stories to tell  
I'm just one of a million or more stories that could be told

Sacrifice your freedom  
Sacrifice your prayer  
Take away your language  
Cut off all your hair  
Sacrifice the loved ones  
Who always stood by me  
Stranded in the wasteland  
Set my spirit free

My name is Leonard Peltier  
I am a Lakota and Anishnabe  
And I am living in the United States penitentiary  
Which is the swiftest growing  
Indian reservations in the country

I have been in prison since 1976  
For an incident that took place on the Oglala-Lakota Nation  
There was a shoot-out between members of the American Indian Movement  
And The FBI and the local Sheriffs State Troopers  
Two agents were killed and one Indian was murdered

Three of us were charged with the deaths of the FBI agents  
My co-defendants were found not-guilty by reasons of self-defense  
My case was separated and I was found guilty before a jury of non-  
Indian people  
The prosecutor stated that they did not know who killed their agents  
Nor did he know what participation Leonard Peltier may have played in it  
But someone has to pay for the crime

There's a lot of nights that I lay in my cell  
And I can't understand why this hell this hell and this terror  
That I have been going through for twenty-one years hasn't ended

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But yet I know in my heart that someone has to pay sacrifice  
To make things better for our people  
The sacrifice I have made when I really sit down to think about it  
Is nothing compared to what our people a couple hundred years ago  
Or fifty years ago or twenty-five years ago have made  
Some gave their lives  
Some had to stand there and watch their children die in their arms  
So the sacrifice I have made is nothing compared to those

I've gone too far now to start backing down  
I don't give up  
Not 'til my people are free will I give up

And if I have to sacrifice some more  
Then I sacrifice some more