

## Freddie Gray Blues

Kevin Devine

I'm talking Freddie Gray blues  
I'm talking what happened to you  
You were just 25  
When they ended your life  
When "to serve & protect"  
Meant break your leg, snap your neck  
Meant to kill you, to sever your spine  
No matter what, there's no good reason why

When I'm talking these killer cop blues  
I'm kinda talking my family to you  
See, my dad was a cop  
And his dad was a cop  
And my uncles were cops  
And my cousins were cops  
I'm partly here because of cops  
And I love all those cops  
And I know not every cop  
Is a racist, murdering cop  
But this is bigger than the people I love  
The system's broken  
Not breaking  
It's done

I'm talking white privilege blues  
I'm talking confession to you  
I can't know what it's like  
To be afraid all my life  
Looking over my shoulder  
Behind each officer, a coroner  
Entrenched inequality  
No access, no empathy  
Crushed in stacked decks  
Institutions & death  
This is not my reality  
I'm afforded the luxury  
Of shaking my head  
I shut the screen, go to bed  
I can turn off what you never can  
And watch it happen again and again (and again and again and again and again, and again)

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