

# ***WORDS FILL MY HEAD***

## **late songs**

**'Cross The Green Mountain**

**Masquerade**

**Tell Ol' Bill**

**Tell Ol' Bill**

**Tragedy Of The Trade**

**Waitin' For You**

## **'Cross The Green Mountain**

I cross the green mountain, I sit by the stream  
Heaven blazing in my head, I dreamt a monstrous dream  
Something came up out of the sea  
Swept through the land of the rich and the free

I look into the eyes of my merciful friend  
And then I ask myself, is this the end?  
Memories linger, sad yet sweet  
And I think of the souls in heaven who will meet

Altars are burning with flames far and wide  
The foe has crossed over from the other side  
They tip their caps from the top of the hill  
You can feel them come, more brave blood to spill

Along the dim Atlantic line  
The ravaged land lies for miles behind  
The light's coming forward and the streets are broad  
All must yield to the avenging God

The world is old, the world is gray  
Lessons of life, can't be learned in a day  
I watch and I wait, and I listen while I stand  
To the music that comes from a far better land

Close the eyes of our captain, peace may he know

## ***WORDS FILL MY HEAD – The Oh Mercy Outtakes***

His long night is done, the great leader is laid low  
He was ready to fall, he was quick to defend  
Killed outright he was, by his own men

It's the last day's last hour, of the last happy year  
I feel that the unknown world is so near  
Pride will vanish and glory will rot  
But virtue lives and cannot be forgot

The bells of leavening have rung  
There's blasphemy on every tongue  
Let 'em say that I walked in fair nature's light  
And that I was loyal to truth and to right

Serve God and be cheerful, look upward, beyond  
Beyond the darkness of masks, the surprises of dawn  
In the deep green grasses of the blood-stained world  
They never dreamed of surrenderin', they fell where they stood

Stars fell over Alabama, I saw each star  
You're walkin' in dreams, whoever you are  
Chilled are the skies, keen as the frost  
The grounds froze hard and the morning is lost

A letter to mother came today  
Gunshot wound to the breast is what it did say  
But he'll be better soon, he's in a hospital bed  
But he'll never be better - he's already dead

I'm ten miles outside the city, and I'm lifted away  
In an ancient light, that is not of day  
They were calm, they were blunt, we knew 'em all too well  
We loved each other more than we ever dared to tell

[Source: released version on the **Gods And Generals** soundtrack]

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## **Masquerade**

(Gerry Goffin/Bob Dylan)

Hey what's your name  
hey what's your game  
if you put me down I'll do the same  
send horror shows to friends you know

## ***WORDS FILL MY HEAD – The Oh Mercy Outtakes***

cause that's the way things often tend to go  
I'm at a loss to entertain  
you see the cells are paralyzed inside my brain  
I bid adieu to all of you  
I think it's time to end this masquerade

Now life was sweet till they called the heat  
the county jail has just reserved a two room suite  
how do they get to be such drags  
I just can't figure out what's behind their bags  
one thing I know without fail  
white man's justice will prevail  
Buona Notta Aufwiedersehen  
I think it's time to end this masquerade

I forgot to milk the cow  
but I don't wanna do it now  
like to sleep for a hundred years  
till' this old world just disappears  
And so to end this grand affair  
I hear the commander in chief was even there  
he worked so hard he broke his back  
but Ronald Reagan was sleepin' in his sack  
the Hard-ons are in  
with nothin' to win  
it's the same old show  
Buenos Diae Auroueit it's a rodeo  
I think it's time to end this masquerade

[Source: album liner notes to **Back Room Blood** by Gerry Goffin]

## **Tell Ol' Bill**

(released version)

The river whispers in my ear  
I've hardly a penny to my name  
The heavens have never seemed so near  
All my body glows with flame.

The tempest struggles in the air  
And to myself alone I sing  
It could sink me then and there  
I can hear the echoes ring.

***WORDS FILL MY HEAD – The Oh Mercy Outtakes***

I tried to find one smilin' face  
To drive the shadow from my head  
I'm stranded in this nameless place  
Lyin' restless in a heavy bed.

Tell me straight out if you will  
Why must you torture me within?  
Why must you come down off your high hill?  
Throw my fate to the clouds and wind.

Far away in a silent land  
Secret thoughts are hard to bear  
Remember me, you'll understand  
Emotions we can never share.

You trampled on me as you passed  
Left the coldest kiss upon my brow  
All my doubts and fears have gone at last  
I've nothing more to tell you now.

I walk by tranquil lakes and streams  
As each new season's dawn awaits  
I lay awake at night with troubled dreams  
The enemy is at the gate.

Beneath the thunder-blasted trees  
The words are ringin' off your tongue  
The ground is hard in times like these  
Stars are cold, the night is young.

The rocks are bleak, the trees are bare  
Iron clouds go floatin' by  
Snowflakes falling in my hair  
Beneath the gray and stormy sky.

The evenin' sun is sinking low  
The woods are dark, the town is too  
They'll drag you down, they run the show  
Ain't no tellin' what they'll do.

Tell Ol' Bill when he comes home  
Anything is worth a try  
Tell him that I'm not alone  
That the hour has come to do or die.

All the world I would defy

## ***WORDS FILL MY HEAD – The Oh Mercy Outtakes***

Let me make it plain as day  
I look at you now and I sigh  
How could it be any other way?

[Source: released version on the **North Country** soundtrack]

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### **Tell Ol' Bill**

(alternate version with one more verse)

The river whispers in my ear  
I've hardly a penny to my name  
The heavens never seemed so near  
And all my body glows with flame.

The tempest struggles in the air  
And to my lone myself I sing  
It could sink me then and there  
I can hear the echoes ring.

I tried to find one smilin' face  
To drive the shadow from my head  
I'm stranded in this lonesome place  
Layin' restless in a heavy bed.

Tell me straight out if you will  
Why must you torture me within?  
Why must you come from your high hill?  
Throw my fate to the clouds and wind.

Far away in a silent land  
Secret thoughts are hard to bear  
Remember me, you'll understand  
Emotions we can never share.

You trampled on me as you passed  
Left the coldest kiss upon my brow  
All my doubts and fears have gone at last  
I've nothing more to tell you now.

I walk by tranquil lakes and streams  
As each new season's dawn awaits  
I lay awake at night with troubled dreams  
The enemy is at the gate.

## ***WORDS FILL MY HEAD – The Oh Mercy Outtakes***

Beneath the thunder-blasted trees  
The words are ringin' off your tongue  
The ground is hard in times like these  
The stars are cold, the night is young.

From white to green, from brown to black  
Not one more minute can I waste  
They go too far, they drive me black  
At a slow and steady pace.

The rocks are bleak, the trees are bare  
Iron clouds go floatin' by  
Snowflakes falling in my hair  
Beneath the dark and stormy sky.

The evenin' sun is sinking low  
The woods are dark, the town is too  
They'll drag you down, they run the show  
Ain't no tellin' what they'll do.

Tell Ol' Bill when he come home  
Anything is worth of try  
Tell him that I'm not alone  
And that the hour has come to do or die.

All the world I would defy  
Let me make it plain as day  
I look at you and now I die  
How could it be any other way?

[Source: circulating session recording]

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## **Tragedy Of The Trade**

(Gerry Goffin, Barry Goldberg, Bob Dylan)

A young girl dies in the gutter face down  
Taxi driver pulls up to the curb, dies without a sound  
Copin' a squad car ridin' round is nowhere to be found  
Each one has seen his last  
But we must let it pass  
Too much money to be made  
The tragedy of the trade

***WORDS FILL MY HEAD – The Oh Mercy Outtakes***

And if you don't give ice to the mob  
Life around here gets awful hard  
You're likely to lose more than just a job  
And if that aint bad enough  
Times are getting so tough  
Most people beggin to be underpaid  
The tragedy of the trade

Young man working for the fast food store  
Ses a recruiting poster and goes off to war  
I don't think he ever knew what he was fighting for  
They play Taps and lower the flag  
When they bring him home in a body bag  
But don't you be dismayed  
It's just the tragedy of the trade

A baby cries in the ghetto morn'  
Before he's five he'll wish he'd never been born  
'Cause all society shows him is their hatred and their scorn  
He knows he doesn't stand a chance  
So he grows up with a gangster's stance  
Just one more reason to be afraid  
The tragedy of the trade

Remember the hum of the factory town  
Business was booming  
fo a thousand miles around  
But they farmed out the work  
and let so many people down  
I hear it happened just recently  
Another change in our history  
The billionaire's promenade  
The tragedy of the trade

The trade takes place around the world  
on a derelict street  
Where the masters and the slaves  
often congregate to meet  
They make deals - turn the big wheels  
With starving children dying at their feet  
The world's been run with Backroom Blood  
Long before the time of the flood  
And it's you who are betrayed  
The tragedy of the trade

## ***WORDS FILL MY HEAD – The Oh Mercy Outtakes***

If you still have innocence, better lock it in a vault  
Once it was a virtue, but now it's a fault  
Too many people waiting around  
just to rip you off  
And as I understand  
No one really gives a damn  
It's not a game, but that's the way it's played  
The scales of justice have really never been weighed  
The tragedy of the trade.

[Source: album liner notes to **Back Room Blood** by Gerry Goffin]

### **Waitin' For You**

I never dreamed it could be  
A someone made just for me.  
When I'm letting her have her way,  
I'm here to see what she has to say.  
Ah, the poor girl always wins the day.  
I'm stayin' ahead of the game,  
And she's a-doin' the same,  
And the whiskey flyin' into my head.  
The fiddler's arm has gone dead,  
And talk is beginning to spread

When did our love go bad?  
Whatever happened to the best friend that I had?  
It's been so long since I held you tight  
Been so long since we said goodnight.  
The taste of tears is bittersweet.  
When you're near me, my heart forgets to beat.  
You're there every night  
Among the good and the true,  
And I'll be around, waitin' for you.

Well, the king of them all  
Is starting to fall.  
I lost my gal at the boatman's ball.  
The night has a thousand hearts and eyes.  
Hope may vanish, but it never dies.  
I'll see you tomorrow when freedom rings.  
I'm gonna stay on top of things.  
It's the middle of summer,



***WORDS FILL MY HEAD – The Oh Mercy Outtakes***

And the moon is blue.  
And I'll be around, waitin' for you.

Another deal gone down,  
Another man done gone.  
You put up with it all, and you carry on.  
Something holding you back,  
But you'll come through.  
I'd bet the world and everything in it on you.  
Happiness is but a state of mind.  
Anytime you want, you can cross the state line.  
You don't need to be rich or well-to-do  
I'll be around, waitin' for you.

[Source: released version on the **Divine Secrets Of The Ya-Ya Sisterhood** soundtrack]

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