

# ***WORDS FILL MY HEAD***

## **late songs**

**'Cross The Green Mountain**

**Tell Ol' Bill**

**Tell Ol' Bill**

**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  
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

***WORDS FILL MY HEAD – late songs***

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]

## **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.

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.

## ***WORDS FILL MY HEAD – late songs***

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  
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]

### **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.

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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  
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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## **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,  
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]