

Carter Family Songs

KEEP ON THE SUNNY SIDE

There's a dark and a troubled side of life
There's a bright and a sunny side, too
Though we meet with the darkness and strife
The sunny side we also may view

Keep on the sunny side, always on the sunny side
Keep on the sunny side of life
It will help us every day, it will brighten all the way
If we'll keep on the sunny side of life

[INSTRUMENTAL BREAK]

The storm and its fury broke today
Crushing hopes that we cherished so dear
Clouds and storm will in time pass away
The sun again will shine bright and clear

Keep on the sunny side, always on the sunny side
Keep on the sunny side of life
It will help us every day, it will brighten all the way
If we'll keep on the sunny side of life

[INSTRUMENTAL BREAK]

Let us greet with a song of hope each day
Though the moment be cloudy or fair
Let us trust in our savior always
To keep us every one in his care

Keep on the sunny side, always on the sunny side
Keep on the sunny side of life
It will help us every day, it will brighten all the way
If we'll keep on the sunny side of life

KISSING IS A CRIME

I know a little girl
And I want her for my wife
She's pretty and sweet, a neat little feet
Never been kissed in her life

You can ask for a kiss
She never got a beau
And every time she vows and cries
She'll never do so anymore

Going to be a better girl and never kiss again
Afraid my maw might find out and cause her great pain
You may walk and talk and hold my hand
But kissing is a crime
I'll not kiss you anymore until next time

[INSTRUMENTAL BREAK]

I called at her house one night
But I didn't intend to stay
She laid her head on my shoulder and said
The old folks are away

I kissed her a dozen times
Someone came to the door
And every time she vows and declares
She'll never do so anymore

Going to be a better girl and never kiss again
Afraid my maw might find out and cause her great pain
You may walk and talk and hold my hand
But kissing is a crime
I'll not kiss you anymore until next time

Carter Family Songs

KITTY AND I

(Not recorded by the original Carters, this song was cut by Joe and Jeannet, children of Sara, for County Records back in 1966.)

Tomorrow night, I just can't wait
Me and Kitty's got a date
Kitty alone, Kitty alone **(Chorus-1)**
Kitty alone and I
(chorus-2) Promenade and do-si-do
Cheek to cheek and toe to toe
Kitty alone, Kitty alone
Kitty alone and I

You ought to see her clap her hands
When they play old Sally Ann
Kitty alone, Kitty alone
Kitty alone and I
Take your money if you bet
Never miss a single set
Kitty alone, Kitty alone
Kitty alone and I

Dance all night till the break of day
I don't care what the old folks say
Kitty alone, Kitty alone
Kitty alone and I
(chorus-2)

If she would only marry me
Think how happy we would be
Kitty alone, Kitty alone
Kitty alone and I
Teach our kids to dance and play
Driving all our blues away
Kitty alone, Kitty alone
Kitty alone and I
(Chorus-1)

KITTY WALTZ

[INSTRUMENTAL BREAK]

Waltz, Kitty, waltz, let everybody waltz
Waltz, Kitty, waltz, let everybody waltz
Waltz, Kitty, waltz, let everybody waltz
The guitars are ringing, come on and waltz

[INSTRUMENTAL BREAK]

The girls are singing, their guitars are ringing
Their steps are so neat, their music so sweet
Waltz, Kitty, waltz, let everybody waltz
The guitars are ringing, come on and waltz

[INSTRUMENTAL BREAK]

Boys, come on and join our band
Their guitars are ringing, their music is grand
Waltz, Kitty, waltz, let everybody waltz
The guitars are ringing, come on and waltz

[INSTRUMENTAL BREAK]

Waltz, Kitty, waltz, let everybody waltz
Waltz, Kitty, waltz, let everybody waltz
Waltz, Kitty, waltz, let everybody waltz
The guitars are ringing, come on and waltz

[INSTRUMENTAL BREAK]

Carter Family Songs

LAY MY HEAD BENEATH THE ROSE

Darling, clasp me to your bosom
As you did in days of yore
Lay your hand upon my forehead
'Ere I reach the golden shore

Life is from me fastly falling
Soon I'll be in sweet repose
When I'm gone I ask this favor
Lay my head beneath the rose

[INSTRUMENTAL BREAK]

Darling, first you said you love me
When you gave me hand and heart
There were roses on your cheeks, love
As we vowed we ne'er would part

One more kiss, for I am going
Far beyond all earthly woes
May your life be like your cheeks, love
Covered with the blossomed rose

[INSTRUMENTAL BREAK]

He has crossed the shadowed valley
Where the living waters flow
Love has answered all his pleading
And he sleeps in sweet repose

'Neath a grassy mound he's resting
Where the golden sunset glows
Love has answered all his pleading
And he sleeps in sweet repose

Leaning On The Everlasting Arms

What a fellowship, what a joy divine,
leaning on the everlasting arms.
What a blessedness, what a peace is
mine,
leaning on the everlasting arms.

CHORUS

Lean on Jesus, lean on Jesus,
safe and secure from all alarms.
Lean on Jesus, lean on Jesus,
leaning on the everlasting arms.

O how sweet to walk in the pilgrim way,
leaning on the everlasting arms.
O how bright the path grows from day
to day,
leaning on the everlasting arms.

CHORUS

What have I to dread, what have I to
fear,
leaning on the everlasting arms.
I have blessed peace with my Lord so
near,
leaning on the everlasting arms.

CHORUS

Carter Family Songs

LET THE CHURCH ROLL ON

[CHORUS]

Let the church roll on (my good Lord)
Let the church roll on (oh my Lord)
Turn them out (turn them out)
Let the church roll on

There's gamblers in the church (my good Lord)
And they won't do right (oh my Lord)
What you going to do (turn them out)
Let the church roll on

[CHORUS]

There's drunkards in the church (my good Lord)
And they won't do right (oh my Lord)
What you going to do (turn them out)
Let the church roll on

[CHORUS]

There's members in the church (my good Lord)
And they won't do right (oh my Lord)
What you going to do (take 'em in, watch 'em close)
Let the church roll on

[CHORUS]

LET'S BE LOVERS AGAIN

Jack and May Sweethearts were they
They were engaged to be wed
Many a promise he made her
Many a love word he said
As most lovers do
They quarreled one night
She bid him not come anymore
She gave him his hat
Jack started away
But he lingered to stay at the door

--chorus --

Tie up those broken cords
And lets be lovers again
Darling, you know I love you
To part would give me pain
Let us forget the past
And make up, my pet
Make up and be lovers again.

Years rolled by
Neither were wed
All of Jack's pleadings were vain
One quiet evening poor Jack was found
dead
All through life in dismay
Two lives that have been wrecked
But she loves, oh, too late
She goes to his grave every day
She can't tell you why
But it seems to her cry
The wind seems to whisper and say

-- chorus --

Carter Family Songs

LITTLE ANNIE

(When the Springtime Comes Again)

Once more, little Annie, I must leave you

We shall part at the end of the lane

But promise me, little Annie

You will wait for me till springtime comes again

When the sun shines down on the mountain

And the wild sheep are wandering all alone

When the birds and the bees are a-humming

Makes me think that springtime won't be very long

-- chorus -

When the springtime comes on the mountain

And the wildflowers scattered o'er the plain

I shall watch for the leaves to return to their trees

And I'll be waiting when the springtime comes again

Yodel-ay-ee, ah-lee-oh-lay-ee

Ah-lee-oh-lay-ee-hee-oh-lay-ee

[INSTRUMENTAL BREAK]

Now springtime is here, little Annie

I am on my way back to the lane

For you promised me, little Annie

You'd be waiting when the springtime comes again

-- chorus --

Yodel-ay-ee, ah-lee-oh-lay-ee

Ah-lee-oh-lay-ee-hee-oh-lay-ee

LITTLE BLACK TRAIN

[CHORUS]

There's a little black train a-comin',

Set your business right

There's a little black train a-comin'

And it may be here tonight

Go tell that ballroom lady

All dressed in the worldly pride

That death's dark train is comin'

Prepare to take a ride

God sent to Hezekiah

A message from on high

You'd better set your house in order

For you must surely die

He turned to the wall and, weeping

We see him hear in tears

He got his business fixed all right

God spared him fifteen years

[CHORUS AND INSTRUMENTAL BREAK]

We see that train with engine

And one small baggage car

Your idle thoughts and wicked deeds

Will stop at the judgment bar

[CHORUS AND INSTRUMENTAL BREAK]

That poor young man in darkness

Cares not for the gospel light

Till suddenly heard the whistle blow

With the little black train in sight

"Have mercy on me, Lord

Please come and set me right"

Before he got his business fixed

The train rolled in that night

[CHORUS AND INSTRUMENTAL BREAK]

Carter Family Songs

LITTLE DARLING PAL OF MINE

-- chorus --

My little darling, oh, how I love you
How I love you none can tell
In your heart you love another
Little darling pal of mine

[INSTRUMENTAL BREAK]

Many a night while you lay sleeping
Dreaming of your rambler's life
Lay a poor boy brokenhearted
Listening to the wind outside

-- chorus --

[INSTRUMENTAL BREAK]

Many a day with you I've rambled
Countless hours with you I've spent
Thought I had your heart forever
But I found it only lent

-- chorus --

[INSTRUMENTAL BREAK]

There is just three things I wish for
That's a casket, shroud, and grave
When I'm dead, don't weep for me
Just kiss those lips that you betrayed

-- chorus --

THE LITTLE GIRL THAT PLAYED UPON MY KNEE

Many years have passed away and gone
Since I left my old native home
Since I left the scenes of my childhood there
Where the dark days seem to roam

I left my aged father there
And my mother so dear unto me
I left a brother and a sister fair
And a little girl that played upon my knee

[INSTRUMENTAL BREAK]

Don't Ginny remember, will she ever forget
Those many hours of pleasure to me
Does she sigh when she thinks of those many happy hours
When a little girl she played upon my knee

[INSTRUMENTAL BREAK]

I am homeward bound with the thrills of joy
Of my wandering so far o'er the sea
I shall soon see my home, my old native home
And the little girl that played upon my knee

[INSTRUMENTAL BREAK]

I am tired of life, I cannot live
In this dark world so weary unto me
Come bury me low by the one I love so well
By the little girl that played upon my knee

Carter Family Songs

LITTLE LOG CABIN BY THE SEA

There is a precious volume all
fingerworn and old

In that little log cabin by the sea

It is the old, old Bible, more precious
now than gold

It's the Bible that my mother gave to me

-- chorus --

It's the old precious Bible, blessed
Bible

That she read in the cabin by the sea
(by the sea)

It's that precious, precious Bible

That blessed, blessed Bible

The Bible that my mother gave to me

How often I have listened to the
tempest howl and rage

'Round that little log cabin by the sea

My mother read of Jesus, who walked
upon the waves

How Jesus calmed the stormy Galilee

-- chorus --

[INSTRUMENTAL BREAK]

How often, oh, how often she read the
glowing word

With the message from the precious
word above

It told of faithful Daniel, who trusted in
the Lord

While she led me in the pathway that
she trod

-- chorus --

[INSTRUMENTAL BREAK]

There is no other volume so precious
as this book

It tells me how to live and how to die

It tells me of that city, oh, wondrous,
wondrous book

And that I'll meet my loved ones bye
and bye

-- chorus --

[INSTRUMENTAL BREAK]

Carter Family Songs

LITTLE MOSES

Away by the river so clear, the ladies
were winding their way
And Pharaoh's little daughter stepped
down in the water
Tobathe in the cool of the day

Before it was dark she opened the ark
And found the sweet infant was there
Before it was dark she opened the ark
And found the sweet infant was there

And away by the river so blue, the
infant was lonely and sad
She took him in pity and thought him so
pretty
And it made little Moses so glad

She called him her own, her beautiful
son
And sent for a nurse that was near
She called him her own, her beautiful
son
And sent for a nurse that was near

[INSTRUMENTAL BREAK]

And away by the river so clear, they
carried the beautiful child
To his own tender mother, his sister
and brother
Little Moses looked happy and smiled

His mother so good done all that she
could
To rear him and teach him with care
His mother so good done all that she
could

To rear him and teach him with care

[INSTRUMENTAL BREAK]

And away by the sea that was red, little
Moses, the servant of God
While in him confided the sea was
divided
As upward he lifted his rod

The Jews they could cross while
Pharaoh's host
Was drowned in the waters and lost
The Jews they could cross while
Pharaoh's host
Was drowned in the waters and lost

And away on the mountain so high, the
last one that ever might see
While in his victorious, his hope was
most glorious
He'd soon o'er the Jordan be free

When his labors did cease he parted in
peace
And rested in the heavens above
When his labors did cease he parted in
peace

And rested in the heavens above

Carter Family Songs

LITTLE POPLAR LOG HOUSE ON THE HILL

Now kind friends I want to tell you
Of our little country home
It is made of poplar logs upon the hill
That's where father died and left us
When we were very young
But our mother kept us settled on the
hill

(chorus)

When our days work on the farm was
done
She'd would gather us around
She would have us get down on our
little knees
She would pray for God to keep us
Through the night until next day
In our little old poplar log house on the
hill

Our father died a good man
Which we all would like to be
When I get to Heaven soon his face I'll
see
When I'm get through with my singing
I will bid this world adieu
And my little poplar log house on the
hill

LONESOME FOR YOU

Now I know what it means to be
lonesome
And I know what it means to be blue
And I know what it means to be
lonesome in dreams
When there's someone missing you

'Cause I've tried and I've tried since
we've parted

And there is no one know what I gone
through

I'd give all that I own just to have you
back home

'Cause I'm lonesome, lonesome for you

My best friend left me this morning

As the clock was striking four

And the smiling face of my darling

I may not see no more

Now I know what it means to be
worried

To be all lonesome and blue

For the one that I love so dearly

Has turned her back on me

Oh, my mind is full of sorrow

And my hear is filled with pain

And I feel so broken-hearted

Won't you please come back again

'Cause I've tried and I've tried since
we've parted

And there is no one know what I gone
through

I'd give all that I own just to have you
back home

'Cause I'm lonesome, lonesome for you

Carter Family Songs

LONESOME FOR YOU DARLING

I am lonesome for your darling
though from me you're far away
In a lonely little cottage
I am waiting day by day

Though you went away and left me
Left me alone in this old world
How it hurts me little darling
To hear you say those parting words

I can see you in the moonlight
Strolling down lover's lane
I know it's you I love my darling
Won't you take me back again

Do you think we could be happy
Do you think you could be true
To the one that's always loved you?
No one loves you as I do

Won't you take me back my darling
So I can prove my love to you?
If you'll accept me little darling
We will start our lives anew.

I will take you back my darling
If you'll promise to be true
Let me look my little darling
In your loving eyes of blue

We are happy now together
In the moonlight all alone
And we'll settle down forever
In our little cottage home.

LONESOME HOMESICK BLUES

I've got the lonesome homesick blues
I've got them bad, babe, down in my
shoes
I love someone there that I might lose
That's why I've got these old homesick
blues

It makes me homesick to hear your
name
And hold you, dear, in my arms again
I'm a-gonna ride that lonesome train
To the one I left in Maces Springs

[INSTRUMENTAL BREAK]

You told me once, dear, you loved me
so
And it's on my mind everywhere I go
I'll soon be knowing if it is so
Or has your love for me grown cold

Oh, listen to that old lonesome train
It's a-gonna carry me back again
To the one that told me their love was
true
I'll spend the rest of my days with you

[INSTRUMENTAL BREAK]

I've been away, babe, a long long time
Now I'm riding down this old railroad
line
And the one I love there I hope to find
To ease this lonesome blue heart of
mine

Carter Family Songs

LONESOME PINE SPECIAL

I was walking out this morning
With rambling on my mind
I am going to catch the special
That train called Lonesome Pine

You can hear the whistle blowin'
And she's coming down the line
That's the train I catch this morning
To ease my troubling mind

(chorus) Well, ah-le-ho, ah-le-ho-lay
Well, ah-le-ho, ah-le-ho-lay
Take me back to Texas
Back to my old home

Oh, I'm weeping like a willow
And I'm mourning like a dove
There's a girl way out in Texas
That I know I really love

Oh, I'm going back to Texas
Where the lonesome coyotes whine
Where the longhorn cattle are roaming
'Round that cabin home of mine

-- chorus --

[INSTRUMENTAL BREAK]

Oh, give me back my rifle
Oh, give me back my gun
Give me back my home in Texas
And my rambling days are done

Well, ah-le-ho, ah-le-ho-lay
Well, ah-le-ho, ah-le-ho-lay
Take me back to Texas
Back to my old home

LONESOME VALLEY

Everybody's got to walk this lonesome
valley

We've got to walk it by ourselves
There's nobody here can walk it for us
We've got to walk it by ourselves

My father's got to walk this lonesome
valley

He's got to walk it by himself
There's nobody here can walk it for him
He's got to walk it by himself

[INSTRUMENTAL BREAK]

My mother's got to walk this lonesome
valley

She's got to walk it by herself
There's nobody here can walk it for her
She's got to walk it by herself

All sinners got to walk this lonesome
valley

They've got to walk it by themselves
There's nobody here can walk it for
them

They've got to walk it by themselves

[INSTRUMENTAL BREAK]

Everybody's got to walk this lonesome
valley

We've got to walk it by ourselves
There's nobody here can walk it for us
We've got to walk it by ourselves

Carter Family Songs

LONGING FOR OLD VIRGINIA

'Mid the green fields of Virginia, dear, I miss you
Where the roses red and white around us grew
When I held you in my arms and gently kissed you
The robin sang the sweetest song he knew

-- chorus --

I'm longing for old Virginia
For old Virginia and you
And I'm hoping the soul within you
Is longing for me, too
To Virginia, just like an eye beam
My heart flames ever true
And I reckon in the spring I'll bring a little rain
To old Virginia and you

[INSTRUMENTAL BREAK]

Though tonight I'm far from you in old Virginia
I love you as I did that day in June
And when springtime comes again to old Virginia
I'll build a little cottage just for two

-- chorus --

[INSTRUMENTAL BREAK]

LOOK AWAY FROM THE CROSS

Look away from the cross to that glittering crown
From your cares, weary ones, look away
There's a home for the soul where no sorrows can come
And their pleasures will never decay

[CHORUS]

Look away (weary ones, look away)
Look away (from the cross to the crown)

From the cross to that glittering (crown),
glittering crown

Look away (weary ones, look away)

Look away (from the cross to the crown)

From the cross to that glittering crown.

Though the burdens of life may be heavy to bear

And your crosses and trials severe

There's a beautiful hand that is beckoning, "Come!"

And no heartaches and sighin's are there.

[CHORUS]

'Mid the conflicts, the battles, the struggles and strife

Bravely onward your journey pursue

Look away from the cross to that glittering crown

That's a-waitin', in Heaven for you.

[CHORUS]

Carter Family Songs

LOOK HOW THIS WORLD HAS MADE A CHANGE

We see our friends are weeping with
the badges on their door
We see their homes in mourning for the
loved ones come no more
You can say just what you please,
death rides on every breeze
Look how this world has made a
change

-- chorus --

Just look how this world has made a
change(made a change)
Just look how this world has made a
change(made a change)
You can see every day how the people
pass away
Look how this world has made a
change

[INSTRUMENTAL BREAK]

Our friends are passing over to some
far distant shore
We seek them and we call them but
they answer us no more
Their throbbing hearts today tomorrow
pass away
Look how this world has made a
change

-- chorus --

[INSTRUMENTAL BREAK]

Dear sinner, o get ready, you must
meet your god on high

For death is all around you and it will
not pass you by
Death knocks at every door no matter
where you go
Look how this world has made a
change

-- chorus --

LORD, I'M IN YOUR CARE

Oh, Lord, I'm in your care
Oh, Lord, I'm in your care
Your loving arms around me
Evil cannot harm me
Oh, Lord, I'm in your care

All day long I'm in your care
All day long I'm in your care
Your loving arms around me
Evil cannot harm me
Lord, I'm in your care

When I was sick, I was in your care
When I was sick, I was in your care
Your loving arms around me
Evil cannot harm me
Lord, I'm in your care

I'm a friendless child, but I'm in your
care
I'm a friendless child, but I'm in your
care
Your loving arms around me
Evil cannot harm me
Lord, I'm in your care

Carter Family Songs

THE LOVER'S FAREWELL

We have met and we have parted
We have spoke our last goodbye
You have proved to me falsehearted
You may now forever go

You have wrecked the heart I've
cherished
You have doomed me day by day
You are false, but I forgive you
To forget you, I cannot stay

-- chorus --

For I love you, dear, I love you
More than all this world I know
You have proved to me falsehearted
You may now forever go

[INSTRUMENTAL BREAK]

On the river bank I'll loiter
Till I'll see your face once more
Then I'll plunge beneath the water
And I'll land on some far shore

And among the trees and bushes
Where the dark green willow waves
In the cold and silent rushes
There you'll find my lonely grave

-- chorus --

Oh, I wish I was white marble
Cold and white on some white shore
This poor heart would cease from
troubling
And I'd feel the pain no more

-- chorus --

LOVER'S LANE

I first met you down in lover's lane
You were just like an angel
With an angel's golden wings
We walked along, we sang a song
The birds were singing, too
It seems like heaven's here on earth
Just to be again with you

-- chorus --

You're just the girl of my dreams
Though it seems that my dreams never
come true

[INSTRUMENTAL BREAK]

At night we'd sit out in the old porch
swing
The stars were shining brightly
And softly you would sing
You'd sing of happy days gone by
It makes me happy, too
It'd be like heaven here on earth
If I could be with you

-- chorus --

[INSTRUMENTAL BREAK]

I first met you down in lover's lane
You were just like an angel
My little brown-eyed Jane
We walked along, we hummed a song
The birds were singing, too
It seems like heaven's here on earth
Just to be again with you

Carter Family Songs

-- chorus --

[INSTRUMENTAL BREAK]

-- chorus --

LOVER'S RETURN

And so you have come back to me
And say the old love's growing yet
You've tried through all these weary
years
You've tried so vainly to forget

No, no, I cannot take your hand
God never gives us back our youth
The loving heart you slighted then
Was yours, my friend, in perfect truth

Farewell, farewell now we must part
You never meant to do me wrong
God sent this anguish to my heart
To teach me to be brave and strong

No, no, I cannot take your hand
God never gives us back our youth
The loving heart you slighted then
Was yours, my friend, in perfect truth

Farewell, I think I love you yet
As friend to friend, God bless you, dear
And guide you through these weary
years
To where the skies are always clear

LULA WALLS

One evening getting dark we first met
at the park

A-sittin' by the fountain all alone
I lifted up my hat and then began to
chat

She said she'd 'low me to see her at
her home

-- chorus --

Such a star I've never seen
She's as pretty as a queen
She's as perfect as an angel from
above
If she'd only be my wife
I'd live happy all my life
With that aggravating beauty Lula
Walls

If she was only mine, I would build a
house so fine

And around it so many fences tall
It would make me jealous free that no
one else but me
Could gaze upon that beauty Lula
Walls

-- chorus --

[INSTRUMENTAL BREAK]

One evening getting late I met her at
the gate

I asked her if she'd wed me in the fall
She only turned away and nothing
would she say

That aggravating beauty Lula Walls

-- chorus --

Carter Family Songs

Maple on the hill

Verse 1.

Near a quiet and country village stood
a maple on the hill

there I set with my Geneva long ago
when the stars were shining brightly we
could hear the whippoor will
and we set beneath the maple on the
hill

Verse 2

Don't forget me, little darling, when
they've laid me down to die
just one little wish, darling, that I pray
As you linger there in sadness you are
thinking of the past
let your teardrops kiss the flowers on
my grave

Verse 3

We would sing love songs together
when the birds had gone to rest
we would listen to the murmur of the hill
Will you love me, little darling, as you
did those starry nights
when we set beneath the maple on the
hill

Repeat 2

MARCH WINDS GOIN' TO
BLOW MY BLUES ALL
AWAY

Sun's gonna shine in my back door
some day
Sun's gonna shine in my back door
some day

Sun's gonna shine in my back door
some day

March wind's goin' to blow my blues all
away

Low down foreman, dirty engineer
Low down foreman, dirty engineer
Low down foreman, dirty engineer
Stole my gal, left me standin' here

Sun's gonna shine in my back door
some day

Sun's gonna shine in my back door
some day

Sun's gonna shine in my back door
some day

March wind's goin' to blow my blues all
away

My mama told me long years ago
Never to marry no girl that I know
Spend all your money, wear out your
clothes
What will become of you, God only
knows

Sun's gonna shine in my back door
some day

Sun's gonna shine in my back door
some day

Sun's gonna shine in my back door
some day

March wind's goin' to blow my blues all
away

Carter Family Songs

MEET ME BY THE MOONLIGHT

(see also: The Prisoner's Song)

I'm going to the new jail tomorrow
To leave the one that I love
To leave my friends and relations
And, oh, how lonely, my love

-- chorus --

Meet me by the moonlight, love, meet
me

Meet me by the moonlight alone
For I have a sad story to tell you
To be told by the moonlight alone

My parents, how cruel they treat me
They drive me away from their door
If I live 100 years longer
I'll never go back any more

-- chorus --

[INSTRUMENTAL BREAK]

If I had a ship on the ocean
All laden and lined with pure gold
Before my darling should suffer
I'd have that ship anchored and sold

-- chorus --

If I had the wings of an angel
O'er land and sea I'd fly
I'd fly to the arms of my darling
Then I'd be willing to die

-- chorus --

[INSTRUMENTAL BREAK]

MEETING IN THE AIR

You have heard of little Moses in the
bulrush

You have heard of fearless David and
his sling

You have heard the story told of
dreaming Joseph

And of Jonah and the whale you often
sing

There are many, many others through
the Bible

I should like to meet them all, I do
declare

By and by the Lord will surely let us
meet them

At that meeting in the air

-- chorus --

There is going to be a meeting in the air
In the sweet, sweet bye and bye

I am going to meet you, meet you over
there

In that home beyond the sky

Such singing you will hear never heard
by mortal ear

'Twill be glorious, I do declare

And God's own son will be the leading
one

t the meeting in the air

[INSTRUMENTAL BREAK]

Many things will there be missing in
that meeting

For the mourner's bench will have no
place at all

There will never be a sermon preached
to sinners

For the sinners had refused to heed the
call

There will be no mourning over
wayward loved ones

There will be no lonely nights of
pleading prayer

All our burdens and our anguish will be
lifted

At that meeting in the air

-- chorus --

Carter Family Songs

'MID THE GREEN FIELDS OF VIRGINIA

[INSTRUMENTAL BREAK]

'Mid the green fields of Virginia in the
vale of Shenandoah
There's an ivy covered homestead that
I love
With its white old fashioned chimney
and its simple homelike airs
'Tis the home of my dear parents now
above

-- chorus --

There's a peaceful cottage there, a
happy home so dear
My heart is longing for them day by day
Where I spent life's golden hours in the
vale of Shenandoah
'Mid the green fields of Virginia far
away

[INSTRUMENTAL BREAK]

'Mid the green fields of Virginia stands
an old mill by the stream
I would wander to that spot to sing and
play
And how often I would throw a stone
into the babbling brook
And dream some day it would carry be
away

-- chorus --

[INSTRUMENTAL BREAK]

-- chorus --

MOTHERLESS CHILDREN

Motherless children sees a hard time
when their mother is dead

Motherless children sees a hard time
when their mother is dead

They are driven out in the cold, God
knows where to go

Motherless children sees a hard time
when their mother is dead

[INSTRUMENTAL BREAK]

Orphan children sees a hard time in
this world

Orphan children sees a hard time in
this world

Sister does the best she can, but she
really don't understand

Orphan children sees a hard time in
this world

Brother won't treat you like mother will
when your mother is dead

Brother won't treat you like mother will
when your mother is dead

You may ask for a piece of bread, you
are told to go to bed

Motherless children sees a hard time
when their mother is dead

[INSTRUMENTAL BREAK]

Orphan children sees a hard time in
this world

Orphan children sees a hard time in
this world

Sister does the best she can, but she

Carter Family Songs

really don't understand
Orphan children sees a hard time in
this world

[INSTRUMENTAL BREAK]

Friends won't treat you like mother will
when your mother is dead
Friends won't treat you like mother will
when your mother is dead
They will tell you what to do, but they'll
turn their back on you
Motherless children sees a hard time
when their mother is dead

[INSTRUMENTAL BREAK]

Orphan children sees a hard time in
this world
Orphan children sees a hard time in
this world
Sister does the best she can, but she
really don't understand
Orphan children sees a hard time in
this world

THE MOUNTAINS OF TENNESSEE

[INSTRUMENTAL BREAK]

Take me back, take me back to my old
mountain home
Take me back where my heart longs to
be
Where we played by the brook in the
cool, shady nook
In the mountains of Tennessee

In my old mountain home where the
wild roses bloom
Is a spot just like heaven to me
Take me back, take me back to my old
mountain home
In the mountains of Tennessee

[INSTRUMENTAL BREAK]

Take me back, take me back to my old
mountain home
Take me back to my old mother's knee
Where the stars shine bright and the
birds sing free
In the mountains of Tennessee

'Round my old mountain home where I
used to roam
They're waiting a welcome for me
Take me back to my old log cabin home
In the mountains of Tennessee

[INSTRUMENTAL BREAK]

Carter Family Songs

MY CLINCH MOUNTAIN HOME

Far away on the hills
To a sunny mountainside
Many years ago we parted
My little Ruth and I
From this sunny mountain side

She clung to me and trembled
When I told her we must part
She said "Don't go, my darling
it almost breaks my heart
To think of you so far apart"

(chorus)

Carry me back to old Viginny
Back to my Clinch Mountain home
Carry me back to old Virginy
Back to my Clinch Mountain home
Well, a-le-ho, le-ho-lay-ee
Well, a-le-ho, le-ho-lee
Yeah, lee-oh-lay-ee-hee
Oh, my mountain home

I folded my arms around her
Leaned her head against my breast
I told her I would wed her
When I came back from the west
Back to my Clinch Mountain home

In my hand I hold a picture
Of the old home far away
In the other one my sweetheart
I'm thinking of today
On the sunny mountainside

(chorus)

[INSTRUMENTAL BREAK]

My mother's old and feeble
My father's getting gray
I'm going back to Virginia
And I expect to stay
At my old Clinch Mountain home

(chorus)

MY HEART'S TONIGHT IN TEXAS

In the distant state of Texas by the
silver Rio Grande
Strolled a couple out one evening was
two sweethearts hand in hand
Was a rich man's pretty daughter and
the lad she loved so dear
Though tomorrow they must part for
many a year

My heart's tonight in Texas though I'm
far across the sea
The band is playing "Dixie" and there's
where I long to be
Dad says an earl I'll marry but although
here is my hand
My heart's tonight in Texas by the silver
Rio Grande

[INSTRUMENTAL BREAK]

To Europe she was going to become a
lady grand
Where her father hopes an earl, of
course, she'll wed
But she went away next morning and
her heart was true to Jack
But a letter came one day and this it
read

Carter Family Songs

My heart's tonight in Texas though I'm
far across the sea
The band is playing "Dixie" and there's
where I long to be
Dad says an earl I'll marry but although
here is my hand
My heart's tonight in Texas by the silver
Rio Grande

[INSTRUMENTAL BREAK]

At a stately ball in England stood the
Texas lad one night
The scenes were splendid and lights
were dazzling bright
It was there the earl knelt beside her
asking her to be his bride
But her thoughts were by the silver Rio
Grande

My heart's tonight in Texas though I'm
far across the sea
The band is playing "Dixie" and there's
where I long to be
Dad says an earl I'll marry but although
here is my hand
My heart's tonight in Texas by the silver
Rio Grande

MY HOME AMONG THE HILLS

Got a home in the hills of old Virginia I
love still
And it stand near the lonesome pine
And I long to go back to that vine
covered shack
Where I left that old mother of mine

I can still see her there in that old
rocking chair
In my home among the hills
And I seem to hear her say "Why did
you go away
From your home among the hills?"

The pine tree stands alone near my old
Virginia home
And that silver haired mother of mine
I can see her smiling face and that old
familiar place
In my home among the hills

I'm leaving here today, I am going back
to stay
In my home among the hills
How happy we will be near the
lonesome pine tree
In my home among the hills.

Carter Family Songs

MY HOME'S ACROSS THE BLUE RIDGE MOUNTAINS

My home's across the Blue Ridge mountains

My home's across the Blue Ridge Mountains

My home's across the Blue Ridge Mountains

For I never expect to see you anymore

[INSTRUMENTAL BREAK]

How can I keep from crying

How can I keep from crying

How can I keep from crying

For I never expect to see you anymore

My home's across the Blue Ridge mountains

My home's across the Blue Ridge Mountains

My home's across the Blue Ridge Mountains

For I never expect to see you anymore

[INSTRUMENTAL BREAK]

Oh, how I hate to leave you

Oh, how I hate to leave you

Oh, how I hate to leave you

For I never expect to see you anymore

My home's across the Blue Ridge mountains

My home's across the Blue Ridge Mountains

My home's across the Blue Ridge Mountains

For I never expect to see you anymore

[INSTRUMENTAL BREAK]

Good-bye, my little darling

Good-bye, my little darling

Good-bye, my little darling

For I never expect to see you anymore

MY HONEY LOU

When the sun sets in the west, my Honey Lou

Then the time I love you best, my Honey Lou

Come and look into my eyes

When the moon shines in the skies

I'll be in paradise, my Honey Lou

-- chorus --

Last night I waited long, my Honey Lou
And told the birds my song, my Honey Lou

When the bright and silver moon

Sheds its soft and mellow light

I love you more each night, my Honey Lou

[INSTRUMENTAL BREAK]

When the birds have hushed their song, my Honey Lou

All the twilight shadows on my Honey Lou

My heart forever beats

For my Honey gal so sweet

I'll lay it at your feet, my Honey Lou

-- chorus --

[INSTRUMENTAL BREAK]

-- chorus --

Carter Family Songs

MY LITTLE HOME IN TENNESSEE

[INSTRUMENTAL BREAK]
Every night I'm dreaming of a little home
Down among the hills of Tennessee
And I'm always lonely, longing to return
To the place that means the world to me

Just a little shack, roof all turning black
Still it is a palace fair to me
Songbirds always singing 'round my kitchen door
In my little home in Tennessee

[INSTRUMENTAL BREAK]

I can see my mother standing by the gate
As I drove the old horse up the lane
She would never scold me when I'd get in late
How I wish I'd never caused her pain

With her tender smile beaming all the while
No one could be so kind to me
Now she's gone to heaven and she'll never return
To my little home in Tennessee

[INSTRUMENTAL BREAK]

I can still remember many years ago
When my sweetheart wandered by my side
Down among the mountains where wildflowers grow
There she promised she would be my bride

Then another man won her heart and hand
Then I knew how much she meant to me
I was brokenhearted and I went away
From my little home in Tennessee

MY NATIVE HOME

I'd like to see my native home
The lofty trees, the golden sand
The rugged hills all crowded 'round
My mother's voice how sweet would sound

Sometimes I dream of home and friends
My dreams are false, my heart it rends
And when I wake I'm all alone
My dreams are false, my friends are gone

[INSTRUMENTAL BREAK]

I'd like to see my heart's delight
Her beautiful face and eyes so bright
And how she'd smile as I drew near
I'd kiss her with a falling tear

It fills my heart with fondest love
To listen to that lonesome dove
She mourns as if her mate was gone
As if, like me, left all alone

[INSTRUMENTAL BREAK]

Nine or ten years have passed and gone
And I'm still left here all alone
Virginia, o my native home
Among your hills I'd love to roam

Carter Family Songs

MY OLD COTTAGE HOME

I am thinking tonight of an old cottage
home

That stands on the brow of the hill
Where in life's early morning I once
loved to roam
But now all is quiet and still

-- chorus --

Oh, my old cottage home, my old
cottage home

That stands on the brow of the hill
Where in life's early morning I once
loved to roam
But now all is quiet and still

[INSTRUMENTAL BREAK]

Many years have gone by since in
prayers there I knelt
With dear ones around the old hearth
But my mother's sweet prayers in my
heart still are felt
I'll treasure them all while on earth

-- chorus --

[INSTRUMENTAL BREAK]

One by one they have gone from the
old cottage home
On earth we shall see them no more
But we'll meet them again on that
beautiful shore
Where parting will come nevermore

-- chorus --

MY OLD VIRGINIA HOME

[INSTRUMENTAL BREAK]

It was on one winter day, from my
home I went away

Far away from friends and home I
longed to roam

But tonight I'm lone and sad, just a little
homesick lad

And I'm longing from my old Virginia
home

-- chorus 1 --

I'm a lad from old Virginia
Bravely knocking my way back home
To that cabin home in the mountain
Never more let me roam

-- chorus 2 --

I'm a lad from old Virginia
And I'm coming, coming home
There I'll settle down forever
In my old Virginia home

[INSTRUMENTAL BREAK]

Since I left that little shack, how my
mind has wandered back

How mother often prayed for her lad
But from her I went away, and I know I'll
dearly pay

So I'm coming back to mother and my
dad

-- chorus 1 & 2 --

[INSTRUMENTAL BREAK]

Carter Family Songs

MY TEXAS GIRL

All my life I've wondered
If what I done was wrong
All I ever cared to do
Was ride my pony on
I never had no heartaches
Was always happy and gay
Until I met a Texas girl
Who stole my heart away

Where the sleepy Rio Grande
Goes slowly to the sea
It was there she promised to be mine
Throughout eternity
But the angels, they grew jealous
Of her beauty and her smile
And came along one stormy night
And stole away my bride
The birds have hushed their singing
Sadness is over the land
The birds miss my darling
By the sleepy Rio Grande

[INSTRUMENTAL BREAK]

Her lips was like the Russian wine,
Her hair it hung in curls
Her cheeks were like the dawn of day,
That breaks upon the world

She's gone and left me lonely,
I miss the touch of her hand
Tonight while I am walking,
By the sleepy Rio Grande

Where the sleepy Rio Grande,
Goes slowly to the sea

It was there she promised to be mine,
Throughout eternity

But the angels, they grew jealous,
Of her beauty and her smile
And came along one stormy night,
And stole away my bride

The birds have hushed their singing,
Sadness is over the land
The birds miss my darling,
By the sleepy Rio Grande

Carter Family Songs

MY VIRGINIA ROSE IS BLOOMING

It's a long long ways from my darling,
Just a little too far to be
My Virginia rose is blooming, She's
waiting now for me

My Virginia rose is blooming
She's waiting now for me
In the hills of old Virginia
Is where I long to be

She wears a winning smile
And her loving eyes are blue
She's won my heart forever
For she's a girl that's true

Beneath the scarlet maple
By the trickling little spring
Was where I made the promise
And gave to her the ring

Springtime is approaching
The birds and doves are here
They are singing so sweetly
But none can sing like her

It's love that calls you to me
My rose that never fades
And lose its crimson leaves of love
Love that's perfect made

I long to see my darling
There in the midst of dew
With the sparkling dewdrops all around
her
She'll be a queen and a view

She's a wild rose in the forest, A fairy
in a dream
My darling's in Virginia, Her age is
just 16