

Wilburn Brothers

"Remember The Mountain Bed"

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Do you still sing of the mountain bed we made of limbs
and leaves?

Do you still sigh there near the sky where the holly
berry bleeds?

You laughed as I covered you over with leaves

Face, breast, hips, and thighs

You smiled when I said the leaves were just the color of
your eyes

Rosin smells and turpentine smells from eucalyptus
and pine

Bitter tastes of twigs we chewed where tangled wood
vines twine

Trees held us in on all four sides so thick we could not
see

I could not see any wrong in you, and you saw none in
me

Your arm was brown against the ground, your cheeks
part of the sky

Your fingers played with grassy moss, as limber you
did lie

Your stomach moved beneath your shirt and your
knees were in the air

Your feet played games with mountain roots as you lay
thinking there

Below us the trees grew clumps of trees, raised
families of trees, and they

As proud as we tossed their heads in the wind and
flung good seeds away

The sun was hot and the sun was bright down in the
valley below

Where people starved and hungry for life so empty
come and go

There in the shade and hid from the sun we freed our
minds and learned

Our greatest reason for being here, our bodies moved
and burned

There on our mountain bed of leaves we learned life's

reason why

The people laugh and love and dream, they fight, they
hate to die

The smell of your hair I know is still there, if most of our
leaves are blown

Our words still ring in the brush and the trees where
singing seeds are sown

Your shape and form is dim but plain, there on our
mountain bed

I see my life was brightest where you laughed and laid
your head...

I learned the reason why man must work and how to
dream big dreams

To conquer time and space and fight the rivers and the
seas

I stand here filled with my emptiness now and look at
city and land

And I know why farms and cities are built by hot, warm,
nervous hands

I crossed many states just to stand here now, my face
all hot with tears

I crossed city, and valley, desert, and stream, to bring
my body here

My history and future blaze bright in me and all my joy
and pain

Go through my head on our mountain bed where I
smell your hair again.

All this day long I linger here and on in through the
night

My greeds, desires, my cravings, hopes, my dreams
inside me fight:

My loneliness healed, my emptiness filled, I walk above
all pain

Back to the breast of my woman and child to scatter my
seeds again

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