

## Taylor James

### "Up Er Mei"

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#### Notes:

JT on Sony.com: Er Mei is a mountain in China (Sechuan province). Before the cultural revolution there were maybe 100 Buddhist shrines, temples, etc. on the way to the summit which usually pokes through the clouds like an island in the sea.

Sally and I went there to meet Ben in '93 (he was traveling out of Tibet). It took three days to climb the many miles of stone steps carved centuries ago into the living rock of the mountain. At the time, I might as well have been on the Stairmaster at Jack LaLane on Broadway and 76th.

We were walking in paradise  
Never did notice  
Blind in the Buddha land  
Looking for solace  
We had been told of a place  
Far beyond this vale of tears  
We could never have guessed  
We were already blessed  
There we were, where we are  
In the garden

Didn't we climb on up er mei  
Temple to temple  
Yes and all and all along the way  
The day was simple  
Didn't we reach the top  
Didn't we gain our goal  
Did we finally stop  
Surprised by the cold

We were walking in paradise  
Never did tumble  
Blind in the Buddha land  
Looking for trouble  
We had been told of a place  
Far beyond this vale of tears  
We could never have guessed

We were already blessed  
There we were, where we are In the garden

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