

Mp3 Bill Markham - Just For The Ride



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Bluegrass with a Chicago influence 12 MP3 Songs FOLK: Appalachian Folk, COUNTRY: Bluegrass
Details: Bill Markham got his first guitar for Christmas at age 13. He then bought a book and taught himself how to play. He has been playing and writing songs ever since. His musical influences are from his mother, who was from east Tennessee, so he grew up listening to Country and Bluegrass . But like most teenagers of that era, he wanted to play Rock and Roll, like Ricky Nelson and the Everly Brothers. These influences had a profound effect on his musical direction. Bills dad didnt care much for Rock and Roll. He used to yell, Turn that damn Be-Bop music off! Nevertheless, he just kept playing it anyway So Bills music is kind of a mixture of Rock, Country and Bluegrass. Hes been writing his own music for over 40 years. The first song on the CD is Kellys Caf. This song was inspired when he and his brother, Rodger, would play every Saturday night at Kellys Pub and American Grill Sandwich, IL. Bill and his brother Rodger (playing mandolin and harmonizing with him throughout this CD), would play right at the bar strictly acoustic. Kellys has a dining area just off the bar with a corner booth thats off by itself. Thats what inspired the Caf song. The song is a sarcastic one, as one of the lines says, What makes you think its over? What makes you think were thru - just because I saw him with his arms around you in the corner booth? Teddy Bear was inspired by all children who are trying to stay awake, even though they are sleepy. Before the Flowers Bloom is a tribute to the pioneers and the person who is waiting for each of them to come home. In Your Dreams is about two people breaking up after years of marriage, but not pinpointing the reason for it. The song, The Blue and the Gray was inspired by the fact that both sides of the Civil War had a tremendous loss of people. They were all heroes, whether from the North or the South. Though Bill has never sailed on a ship or even owned a boat, the fascination with those old sailing ships has always intrigued him. The Sailors Song and The Wreck of the Jenny B are about the same

fictitious ship. The dangers and hardships that those early sailors faced are still unimaginable today. These songs are a tribute to them and their wives. Steel Rail Preacher Man was inspired by the preachers of yesteryear, and like any man of the cloth, spreading the Word from town to town. Reunion is about two very real people. Bills wife has an aunt who had been married for several years and then widowed. One of her aunts high school classmates, whose wife had also died, got in contact with her. They dated, were married and are still married to this day. Cheris Song is an instrumental. Its basically a fast-moving tune, representing the energy of a child, like Bills youngest daughter. Ragged Blue Jeans is one of Bills favorites. The story is about a hard-working farmer with a loving wife and how lucky he is. Its a Long, Long Road is about a musician being on the road for most of the year, playing on one stage after another. He knows he has to keep traveling from one town to the next, no mater how tired and homesick he is. Most of Bills songs pay tribute to the pioneers, settlers and sailors of our country. If it werent for their sacrifice, we would not have the blessings we have today. I hope you enjoy the music and it takes you back in time and gets your imagination going. When youre driving down the highway past cornfields, the sea or on your way to any destination, just remember what the early years were like without paved highways or any of todays comforts.

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