

Little Red Shoes

Bill Monroe

I was 11 months old, I was just startin' to walk
And daddy always kept, a big stick behind the door
 Just in case somebody was to come in
 That was drunk on moonshine
You know and daddy had to do something about it
Anyway, this woman, we called her old Aunt Boyd
 She come in and she was telling mommy about her
Uh, husband, she thinks is going out with this woman in Paintsville
 So she reared back with that big stick
 Showing mommy how she was going
 To hit this woman in the head with it
And when she went back with it, she hit me in the head
 And Mommy said, I cried for 5 days
 And she said I, that fifth night
 I had a great big knot that show up
 Right in the middle of my forehead
 And, you know, the only thing I remember
I don?t remember no pain, but I just remember mommy
 And daddy carrying me in this old quilt
 That Mommy had made out of overhalls
 The knots kept getting bigger and bigger
 And she took me to the doctor
And that stuff called mesitor, something like that
 Mommy said it made both ears
 Flat to my face and I ain?t got very big ears
 And them, told Mommy
 That I would that I was going to die
 And that happened like four times
 So I didn?t walk till I was almost 5
 It was, it was kind of a mess
 Oh, I forgot about the shoes
Well, shoot, I hadn?t, I?d never had a pair of shoes
 And Mommy had went, took me to the hospital
 You know, to see what that was
If they couldn?t do something, but they wouldn?t keep me
 Because Mommy and Daddy didn?t have no money
They just tell ?em to take me home and let me die, you know
 Because there wasn?t nothing they could do about

That kind of disease, I guess

And, um, mommy told daddy, says, ?Ted, you take her
Down the street, you carry her down the street"

And said, ?Let me try this store here?

And Mommy went in and told them the story that I was dying

That she had to carry me twelve miles to town

And twelve miles back and that I had no shoes

That place, I think it was Murphy?s 5 and 10

And they?re still there in Paintsville, Kentucky

And I think that they told Mommy

That they wasn?t in business to give shoes away

Mommy told daddy, says, ?Carry Loretta on down a little farther?

Said, ?And let me stop in another store"

And Mommy went right back to the same store

When the guy?s back was turned she stole these little red shoes

And I remember on the big?old bridge that went across the river

It went way up high and was

I?ve always been scared of that bridge

That took me across the big Sandy River

Mommy pulled them out from under

That yellow jacket that she was wearing

And she was putting them red shoes on me

And I thought them was the prettiest things I ever saw in my life

And daddy started crying and I wondered why

And he said, ?Clerie, we?re not going to make it home?

And mommy put the shoes on me and daddy took off running

And run all the way ahead t?Butcher Holler with me

And Mommy never had a chance to carry me any farther

And that?s almost twelve miles that daddy run with me

But daddy knew that the cops was going to get us

He left Mommy standing and he took off in a dead run

I remember him running but I didn?t know what for

And I remember asking mommy, ?Mommy, why is Daddy running??

I remember her hollering, ?To put your little red shoes away

Honey, when you get home? Can you believe that?

So I wrote a song called ?Put My Little Red Shoes Away?

You know, they?re my little red shoes

And I don?t want ?em to get to be dirty

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