

# Peaceable Kingdom

Billy Gilman

A leopard with a harmless kid lay down  
And not one savage beast was seen to frown  
The wolf did with the lambkin dwell in peace  
His grim carnivorous nature there did cease  
The lion with the fatling on did move  
And a little child was leading them in love  
Long ago there was a young painter  
Who had a dream that every creature came  
And stood assembled by his side  
And he painted the sight that had sweetened his night  
Fully one hundred times before he died  
A kid, lion, and a snake, and a child  
Wide-eyed and formal and smiling like the sun had stopped  
And time had ceased to move  
And the wolf and the lamb  
Came and ate from his hand  
And a man-child was leading them in love  
Friend have you seen all the lines and the spaces  
The colors that the young painter sees  
In the peaceable kingdom that shines in the faces  
Of people from more gentle times than these  
I find myself adrift these days  
An endless maze of ends and ways  
And worlds seem so crazy to me here  
But look away, look away  
Back or forward from today  
To the visions of either fools or seers  
Oh my friend have you seen all the lines and the spaces  
The colors that the young painter sees, That he sees  
In the peaceable kingdom that shines in the faces  
Of people from more gentle times than these  
Such a beautiful place  
Full of joy full of grace  
It was bathed in a saintly yellow light  
Too unlearned to know that such things can't be so  
He could only believe that they might  
Oh my friend have you seen all the lines and the spaces  
The colors that the young painter sees, That he sees  
In the peaceable kingdom that shines in the faces  
Of people from more gentle times than these  
Friend have you seen all the lines and the spaces  
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