

Gentle On My Mind

Johnny Cash

Well, it's knowin' that your door is always open
And your path is free to walk
That makes me tend to leave my sleepin' bag rolled up
Stashed behind your couchAnd it's knowin' I'm not shackled by forgotten words and bonds
And the ink stains that have dried upon some lines
That keeps you in the back roads
By the rivers of my memory and keeps you ever gentle on my mindIt's not clingin' to the rocks and ivy
Planted on their columns now that bind me
Or somethin' that somebody said 'cause
They thought we fit together walkin'It's just knowin' that the world will not be cursin' or forgivin'
When I walk along some railroad track and find
That you're movin' on the back roads
By the rivers of my memory and for hours you're just gentle on my mindThough the wheat fields and the coal
mines and the junkyards
And the highways come between us
And some other woman's cryin' to her mother
'Cause she turned and I was goneI still might run in silence tears of joy might stain my face
And the summer sun might burn me till I'm blind
But not to where I cannot see
You walkin' on the back roads by the rivers flowin' gentle on my mindI dip my cup of soup
From some gurglein', cracklin' cauldron in some train yard
My beard a roughenin' coal pile
And a dirty hat pulled low across my faceThrough cupped hands 'round a tin can
I pretend to hold you to my breast and find
That you're wavin' from the back roads
By the rivers of my memory ever smilin', ever gentle on my mind

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