## **Cherokee Rose**

## **Corey Smith**

Pinestraw on the ground around a fallen Cherokee rose
It's got me wonderin' why those mighty winds of change must blow
Once this land was free from fences and shotguns
Back when the people killed here for food instead of funWhen the Earth was sanctified
Cherished in the red-man's eyes

Before the Cherokee rose

The Cherokee rose

The Cherokee roseMy boots sink down into the soft red Georgia clay
Bought with their blood, this land here never was ours to take away
Disheartened souls unjustly driven from their homes
Many died along the way, now we build our houses upon their bonesAfter all these years

I can see the trail of tears

Damn this Cherokee rose

Oh the Cherokee rose

The Cherokee roseOh they call us the land of the free

And the home of the brave

But I don't hear much

About the injustice that we've done along the way

We try to black it out

Never think about

The price they had to pay

We never cry for what was lost

Shed a tear for the heavy cost

Of what we call "freedom"All the gold in the world couldn't pay the debt we owe We'll never right those wrongs, but I believe we should let them know

That we won't forget and sure as hell won't justify

And we'll do our best to keep their memories aliveOh the least that we could do

Is dedicate one lonesome bloom

Won't ya take this Cherokee rose

Oh the Cherokee rose

The Cherokee rose The Cherokee rose

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