Melancholy Child

Pam Tillis

A baby with a baby

Just barely seventeen

My mother mourned her innocence

While she bounced me on her kneeA daddy on the road

Added to her tears and trials

Like silver rain they fell upon

This melancholy childThe sounds of my childhood

Still linger in my song

My mother's lullaby

That train that ran behind our homeA whippoorwill on a window sill

It should have made me smile

But everything sounds lonesome

To a melancholy childNow a restless blood

Runs in our family

Thought I could outrun

The emptiness inside of meSo I went a little crazy

I went a little wild

Trying to outdistance

My own melancholy childI met a kind and gentle man

Who thinks the world of me

And when he looks my way

It is a woman that he seesBut when I can't explain to him

The tears that fill my eyes

He takes me in his arms

And rocks his melancholy childYou take a black Irish temper

And some solemn Cherokee

A Southern sense of humor

And you got someone like meBut there are thorns on every rose

To this I'm reconciled

They're just a little sharper

To a melancholy childAnd in my own babe's eyes

I see the signs of a melancholy child

Heaven help us all

Another melancholy child

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