

Watermelon Road

February 2017

We sang "Bluebirds Over the Mountain" under a Georgia moon	D G
You on a ten-buck Sears guitar in that magic June	A G D
Crickets did the harmony and neighbors came around	D G
Not in all the years since then have I heard a sweeter sound	A G D

Walking by a melon patch with the girls from down the way
We got one each from a nice old lady who would not let us pay
Me I'm shouldering mine for show and dropping it in the street
In all the years since then I've tasted nothing half as sweet

It's sixty years and counting, we've all had ups and downs
Because trouble is a visitor to everybody's town
But more than once in shadowed times I find my days have glowed
With the light we found that summer on the watermelon road

Chorus:

Two crewcut kids feeling ten feet tall and fresh as summer rain	G D G D
Two Yankee boys hitching a ride on that long mystery train	Em D Bm A
The red earth thick with secret smiles, we were working out the code	G D G Bm
Like Tom and Huck in barefoot dreams down that watermelon road	G D A D

In the 1950s my brother Eddie and I spent two magical summers visiting my Aunt Wanda in tiny Douglasville, Georgia, west of Atlanta. This song records my fond memories of that time. Eddie went on to become a superb musician, the lead guitarist of the band King Harvest, and an expat to Tasmania who continues to write and play with passion and integrity.
I wrote this song for his 70th birthday.