Big Rock Candy Mountain

Burl Ives

Oh the buzzin' of the bees in the cigarette trees The soda water fountain where the lemonade springs And the bluebird sings in that Big Rock Candy Mountain

On a summer day In the month of May A burly bum came ahiking Down a shady lane Through the sugar cane He was looking for his liking As he strolled along He sang a song Of the land of milk and honey Where a bum can stay For many a day And he won't need any money

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There's a lake of gin We can both jump in And the handouts grow on bushes In the new-mown hay We can sleep all day And the bars all have free lunches Where the mail train stops And there ain't no cops And the folks are tender-hearted Where you never change your socks And you never throw rocks And your hair is never parted

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Oh, a farmer and his son, They were on the run To the hay field they were bounding Said the bum to the son, "Why don't you come To that big rock candy mountain?" So the very next day They hiked away, The mileposts they were counting But they never arrived At the lemonade tide On the big rock candy mountain

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