

1. Skippin' a rope on a cracked sidewalk,  
few houses strewn on a country mile block.  
A little store with penny bubble gum and jaw breakers;  
the wind played the wheat like a harp made of acres.
  2. Sinkin' in snowbanks past our little knees,  
trustin' skinny vines playin' Tarzan in the trees.  
Fields of black-eyed Susans, dandelions, and clover,  
were necklace factories when our friends came over.
- REFRAIN**
- I wish I was there, I was younger then;  
I remember when...I remember when... \*
3. Drivin' off to Walled Lake to fish with Uncle Romey;  
mostly fishin' words, reachin' out to get to know me.  
And baseball with dad teachin' how to bat and throw it;  
summers went too fast, too alone, but didn't know it.
  4. 36 years of livin', still could not erase  
the big picture window with our little brother's face.  
Too young to understand the Ford Rotunda, I don't doubt;  
But old enough to feel he was being left out. \*\*
  5. Marbles with cats-eyes and fireworks inside;  
jacks & rubber ball, and my first pony ride.  
Stayin' up till midnight to watch the late show;  
if mom ever knew, she'd have never let me go.
  6. Barrel-stave skis dad had put together for us;  
"Don't break a leg" —our only grandma would implore us.  
Teeming ponds of summer, in the winter turned to glass;  
on mis-matched hockey skates we'd tumble in a mass.

FULL INSTRUMENTAL

7. A girl named Leddy on a Bible-school bus ride...  
The tingle in my body turned into a landslide.  
Our 4-trees fort never finished in that year,  
'cause by the heart of summer, Bob Seger's music stole our ear.
8. Summer rains-to-winter storms, carried in the breeze;  
swept away some wonders, but left new mysteries.  
So many miles of solitude till winters turned to spring;  
never to return again to feel the same thing. \*\*
9. Took many years but mom finally got her swimming pool...  
Kids already cuttin' up and cuttin' out of school.  
Elm trees all died but the tires still swing;  
dreams so urgent last fall, now don't mean a thing.
10. Mountains in the barn on the lofts of baled hay;  
"King of the Castle" was the game we used to play.  
Then we learned to hitch'-hike up to Livonia Mall,  
and left our childhood in Ann Arbor — once and for all!

REPEAT REFRAIN, THEN REVERSE LINES:

I wish I was there, I remember when...  
for I was younger then, I was younger then... \*\*\*  
[Spoken]: For, I was younger then.

END

- + Instrumental tag on orchestral harp between the double verses, throughout.  
\* Repeat refrain between verses 4&5, and between verses 8&9.  
\*\* Modulate up between verses 4&5, and between verses 8&9.  
\*\*\* Ritard as approaching end of this line.  
Instrumental cap closes song, like "Yesterday When I Was Young" (Roy Clark).

MARKET: NOSTALGIA / EASY LISTENING / POP / MOR

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TIME: 4/4

LENGTH: 4:47

DATE WRITTEN: 11-10- to

11-12-96