

## On Top of Old Smoky

Burl Ives

ON TOP OF OLD SMOKEY.  
ON TOP OF OLD SMOKEY ALL COVERED WITH SNOW  
I LOST MY TRUE LOVER FOR COURTING TOO SLOW  
FOR COURTING'S A PLEASURE AND PARTING'S A GRIEF  
AND A FALSE HEARTED LOVER IS WORSE THAN A THIEF  
FOR A THIEF WILL JUST ROB YOU AND TAKE ALL YOU SAVE  
BUT A FALSE HEARTED LOVER WILL LEAD YOU TO THE GRAVE  
AND THE GRAVE WILL DECAY YOU AND TURN YOU TO DUST  
NOT ONE GIRL IN A HUNDRED A POOR BOY CAN TRUST  
THEY'LL HUG YOU AND KISS YOU AND TELL YOU MORE LIES  
THAN CROSS LINES ON A RAILROAD OR STARS IN THE SKIES  
SO COME ALL YOUR MAIDENS AND LISTEN TO ME  
NEVER PLACE YOUR AFFECTIONS ON A GREEN WILLOW TREE  
FOR THE LEAVES THEY WILL WITHER AND THE ROOTS THEY WILL DIE  
YOU'LL ALL BE FORSAKEN AND NEVER KNOW WHY.