

# Roses and Thorns

Michael Martin Murphey

I asked the old bandito  
What should I do to get her back  
She's been taken by a bad man  
His ways are wrong, his heart is black

Should I try to make a rescue  
Or wait until he sets her free  
The old bandito looked in the distance  
Drank his tequila and said to me

There are no roses without thorns  
Here in this desert where I was born  
Between pain and duty all men are torn  
There are no roses without thorns

Then I asked the old bandito  
What if I win her back someday  
What should I do to try to keep her  
What should I do to make her stay

Boy, please heed my answer  
For there can be but only one  
When you win her from your rival  
The struggle has just begun

There are no roses without thorns

Here in this desert where I was born  
Between pain and duty all men are torn  
There are no roses without thorns

I fought for her and won her  
From my rival I set her free  
But every night it haunts me  
What the bandito said to me

Boy, if you fight for her and you win her  
Just remember if you do  
You must try your best to hold her  
Without binding her to you

There are no roses without thorns  
Here in this desert where I was born  
Between pain and duty all men are torn  
There are no roses without thorns

No, no, no  
No, no, no  
No, no, no, no  
No, no, no  
No, no, no  
Roses without thorns  
No, no, no  
Roses without thorns