



1929
Born, January 15
Atlanta, Georgia

1953
Married, Coretta Scott
June 18

1956
Bus Boycott
Montgomery, Alabama

1957
Elected President
S.C.L.C.
Southern Christian
Leadership Conference

1963
Birmingham Movement
Birmingham, Alabama

1963
March On Capital
Washington, D.C.
August 28

1965
Right-To-Vote Movement
Selma, Alabama

1966
Open Housing
Movement
Chicago, Illinois

1967
Anti-Vietnam War
Speech
Riverside Church
New York, New York
April 4

1968
Assasinated
April 4
Memphis, Tennessee

Ode To

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Oh! He Carried The Cross For Me
 He Carried The Cross For Me.
 When I was just a boy, playing with a toy,
 He was concerned about my Liberty.
 When I stood telling tales, He spent many days in jail,
 to restore to me my lost humanity.
 When I was a hate-filled man, He made me understand.
 He told me truth's that set my poor heart free.
 When I could only cuss, He rode the Freedom Bus,
 and introduced me to responsibility.
 When I didn't have a friend, Nonviolently,
 He sat in and made the nation honor my dignity.
 When I didn't have a coat, and my mama couldn't even vote,
 He made the Congress set my people free.
 When my sister didn't have a blouse,
 and my dad couldn't buy a house,
 He made Open Housing a reality.
 We were dying in Viet Nam, and He stopped Old Uncle Sam,
 and made him respect all humanity.
 When I was but a slave,
 He gladly went to his grave to set my mind and body free.
 He never was afraid, cause this is what He said:
 "No matter what, my son, you must forgive!
 If you haven't got a cause to die for,
 then you're not fit to live!"
 And this is the challenge He left you and me.
 When Martin Luther King died, I sat down and cried,
 cause I had lost my best friend don't you see...
 He taught me to forgive, and now I'm fit to live...
 and now I too can face the tree...cause
 He Carried The Cross For Me.

by James Luther Bevel

Copyright 1971 James & Helen Bevel

