

Yellow Ribbon
By:Utah Phillips

I've traveled 'round the country
And I'll tell you what I've seen:
A million yellow ribbons
And I wondered what they mean.
It's love and hope and sympathy
For those who've gone to fight.
But still I know that none of these
Can make the killing right.

When we see two children fighting,
Don't we try to come between?
We get 'em both to talking
'Stead of acting rough and mean.
We give 'em love and limits,
Say "now, try to get along."
Then we tell 'em its alright to kill
To prove that killing's wrong.

Sometimes that yellow ribbon
Tries to make me feel ashamed.
It tells me I'm a traitor,
That somehow it's me to blame.
But I can't hide behind it
Just to prove that I belong.
And I won't be an accomplice
To things I know are wrong.

But I'd wear a yellow ribbon
For the peace that's in my heart.
I'd wear it for the loved ones
Who should never have to part.
I'd wear it for the wasted lives,
No matter friend or foe.
And I'd wear it for the children
If they never had to go.

Yes, I've seen the yellow ribbons
Hanging up all over town.
But I don't think they'll ever buy
The peace we've never found.
The guns will all be silent
And the battle flags all furled
When we tie a yellow ribbon
'Round the world.

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