So Long, It's Been Good To Know Yuh

Woody Guthrie



Weaver's Version:

I've sung this song, but I'll sing it again,
 Of the people I've met and the places I've seen.
 Of some of the troubles that bothered my mind
 And a lot of good people that I've left behind, saying:
 Chorus:

So long, it's been good to know yuh; So long, it's been good to know yuh; So long, it's been good to know yuh. What a long time since I've been home, And I've gotta be driftin' along.

2. The sweethearts they sat in the dark and they sparked.
They hugged and they kissed in that dusty old dark.
They sighed and they cried and they hugged and they kissed,
But instead of marriage they talked like this: Honey,
Chorus

Woody Guthrie's original:

1. I've sung this song, and I'll sing it again
Of the place where I lived, on the wild windy plain
In a month called April, a county called Gray
Here is what all of the people there say: (Well, it's...)
Chorus:

So long, it's been good to know yuh; So long, it's been good to know yuh; So long, it's been good to know yuh. But this dusty old dust is a-gettin' my home And I've gotta be driftin' along.

- Well the dust storm came, it came like thunder,
 It dusted us over, it dusted us under;
 It blocked all the traffic and blocked out the sun,
 And straightway for home all the people did run (singin'...)

 Chorus
- 3. The sweethearts sat in the dark and they sparked,
 They hugged and they kissed in that dusty old dark;
 They sighed and they cried and they hugged and they kissed
 But instead of marriage, they were talkin' like this: (Honey,...)
 Chorus
- 4. The telephone rang. It jumped off the wall, That was the preacher, a-makin' his call. He said, "Kind friends, this may the end You have your last chance at salvation from sin!" Chorus
- 5. Well, the churches was jammed and the churches was packed, But that dusty old dust storm it blew so black That the preacher could not read a word of his text, So he folded his specs, took up a collection, (Sayin'...) Chorus

"So Long, It's Been Good to Know Yuh" (originally titled "Dusty Old Dust") is a song by Woody Guthrie. It was first released in 1935 and was part of his album **Dust Bowl Ballads** (1940). The tune was based on music used in Carson Robison's "Ballad of Billy the Kid" of the 1930s, which Guthrie slightly modified to use as a setting for his lyrics.

It was recorded by The Weavers with different verses in 1951. The song peaked at number four on the pop music charts in 1951.

It has since been recorded by Pete Seeger and just about everyone else.

It is printed in Pete Seeger's American Favorite Ballads book.

Other songs by Woody Guthrie in this section are:

"Gypsy Davy"

"Hard Travelin"

"Hard, Ain't It Hard"

"The Philadelphia Lawyer"

"The Reuben James"

"So Long It's Been Good to Know You"

"This Land is Your Land"

"Union Maid"

"Woody's Rag"