

FIRE & RAIN

November 30, 1989

Fire and Rain was written by James Taylor after his wife was killed in a plane crash. The song has a special meaning, close to my heart, since my brother also died in a plane crash last December, four days before Christmas. James Taylor says certain things in his song which I can relate to.

"Just yesterday morning, they let me know your were gone. Suzanne the plans they made put an end to you. I walked out this morning and I wrote down this song, I just can't remember who to send it to."

"I've seen Fire and I've seen Rain. I've seen sunny days that I thought would never end. I've seen lonely times where I could not find a friend, but I always thought the I'd see your again."

For me...it sometimes does only seem like it happened yesterday. Stephen the plans they made put an end to you. You should have been home the next morning when I woke up, but instead I stayed up all night, the longest night of my life, waiting and watching for some sign that you would be alright and be here for Christmas like we had planned. But no...life just doesn't work that way. I have seen Fire and Rain. Fire in the small town of Lockerbie, Scotland, and rain falling over them. I see sunny days that I thought would never end, but do because I can't have you. At least I can find friends, but I'd rather see you again.

"Won't you look down upon me Jesus, you've got to help me make a stand, you've just got to see me through another day. My body's aching and my time is at hand, I won't make it any other way."

I pray that I can make it through another day, and not only me but my parents and my brother's friends and all the other people who were so deeply effected by it. I visited Lockerbie over the summer and they feel as much pain and suffering as I do. They lost friends and family too, but they couldn't turn off their television sets or even close their eyes because the plane and bodies fell burning into their homes and their yards. They will never recover.

"Been walking my mind through an easy time, my back turned towards the sun, Lord knows when the cold wind blows it'll turn your head around."

When the cold wind blows it turns my head around...to face cold lonely nights and even worse to face Christmas, a Holiday which will be too emotional to celebrate as I used to.

"Well there's always the time on the telephone line talking about things to come."

I talked to my brother all the time while he was in England on the phone. It was definitely the best part of his life to experience what it was like to live there, he often would tell me how much he loved it. It was a dream come true. An though he like it so much he couldn't help but say how much he missed me and how excited he was to come back home at Christmas. WE HAD made a lot of plans on the telephone line.

"Sweet Dreams and Flying Machines in pieces on the ground."

Too many sweet dreams and the sweetest dream of mine was on that particular flying machine and my life has now changed in an entirely different way.

"Oh I've seen Fire and I've seen Rain. I've seen sunny days that I thought would never end. Seen lonely times where I could not find a friend... but I always thought that I'd see you again."

Written by Kelly Boland
Public Speaking Class
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James Taylor
Greatest Hits