

Last Kiss, J. Frank Wilson and the Cavaliers

In 1964 the band played in the Knights of Columbus Hall for the San Angelo, Texas Central High School junior prom. The fee paid them by the class officers for a six-hour performance that year was \$75, plus one fifth of bourbon — the drink, it was said, had become the sole sustenance of the drummer, Snake, an early incarnation both in stick style and appearance of Ginger Baker in his Cream manifestation. *Last Kiss* was then a current hit, and in the wide-open West Texas of the day, with lots of teens regularly driving full-bore by dark on the surrounding two-lane blacktop highways and listening after sunset to Oklahoma City mega-station KOMA, everyone at the prom thought they knew personally the crashed couple, or supposed they might be next.

Oh, where oh where can my baby be?
The Lord took her away from me
She's gone to heaven, so I got to be good
So I can see my baby when I leave this world.

We were out on a date in my daddy's car
We hadn't driven very far
There in the road, up straight ahead
A car was stalled, the engine was dead
I couldn't stop, so I swerved to the right
I'll never forget the sound that night
The screamin' tires, the bustin' glass
The painful scream that I heard last.

Oh, where oh where can my baby be?
The Lord took her away from me
She's gone to heaven, so I got to be good
So I can see my baby when I leave this world.

When I woke up, the rain was pourin' down
There were people standing all around
Something warm rollin' through my eyes
But somehow I found my baby that night
I lifted her head, she looked at me and said
"Hold me darling just a little while."
I held her close, I kissed her our last kiss
I found the love that I knew I would miss
But now she's gone, even though I hold her tight
I lost my love, my life that night.

Oh, where oh where can my baby be?
The Lord took her away from me
She's gone to heaven, so I got to be good
So I can see my baby when I leave this world.

Also, Pearl Jam version