

Les Feuilles Mortes/Autumn Leaves

Prévert/Kosma (1945)

Translation

Johnny Mercer (1950)

<i>{Spoken}</i> Oh, je voudrais tant que tu te souviennes Des jours heureux où nous étions amis. En ce temps-là la vie était plus belle Et le soleil plus brûlant qu'aujourd'hui. Les feuilles mortes se ramassent à la pelle Tu vois, je n'ai pas oublié Les feuilles mortes se ramassent à la pelle Les souvenirs et les regrets aussi Et le vent du Nord les emporte Dans la nuit froide de l'oubli Tu vois, je n'ai pas oublié La chanson que tu me chanta <i>{Singing}</i> C'est une chanson qui nous ressemble Toi tu m'aimais, et je t'aimais Nous vivions tous les deux ensemble Toi qui m'aimais, moi qui t'aimais Mais la vie sépare ceux qui s'aiment Tout doucement, sans faire de bruit Et la mer efface sur le sable Les pas des amants désunis <i>Instrumental Interlude</i> Mais la vie sépare ceux qui s'aiment Tout doucement, sans faire de bruit Et la mer efface sur le sable Les pas des amants désunis	<i>{Spoken}</i> Oh, I wish so much that you remember The happy days when we were friends. In those times life was prettier And the sun more brilliant than today. The dead leaves gather in the shovel You see, I did not forget The dead leaves gather in the shovel The memories and regrets as well And the north wind takes them In the cold night of oblivion You see, I didn't forget The song that you sang to me <i>{Singing}</i> It is a song that we resemble You loved me, and I loved you We lived the two of us together You who loved me, me who loved you But life separates those who love Very softly, without making noise And the sea erases on the sand The steps of separated lovers <i>Instrumental Interlude</i> But life separates those who love Very softly, without making noise And the sea erases on the sand The steps of divided lovers	<i>Verse</i> The falling leaves Drift by the window The autumn leaves Of red and gold I see your lips, The summer kisses The sun-burned hands I used to hold <i>Refrain</i> Since you went away the days grow long And soon I'll hear Old winter's song But I miss you most of All my darling When autumn leaves Start to fall <i>Instrumental Interlude</i> <i>Refrain repeat</i> Since you went away The days grow long And soon I'll hear Old winter's song But I miss you most of All my darling When autumn leaves Start to fall
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NB:

1. **je voudrais tant que tu te souviennes**: “*se souvenir*” is a reflexive verb meaning to remember, and it is in the subjunctive mood, the domain of wishes, doubts, or emotions as it follows the verb “*vouloir*” in the primary clause.