

As Time Goes By

By Marilyn Reeves

Remember when popular music used to have rhythm, memorable lyrics, and an actual melody? I grew up listening to the music and songs of my parents' generation, perhaps the best ever written. Tunes such as "Stardust," "Night and Day," "Sentimental Journey," and "I'll Be Seeing You," to name just a few.

As a teenager I did my homework to the sound of the Everly Brothers, Fats Domino and Elvis, playing in the background, and sometimes attended the dances in the school gymnasium, where we'd rock the night away to "That Old Time Rock & Roll." And as a young adult I enjoyed doing the two-step to some of that good old Country music and getting on down to songs like "Proud Mary."

But I gave up listening to the radio when real music gave way to some sort of hideous noise referred to as "acid rock." And today's music by performers like Taylor Swift leaves me cold.

There is one song today which I dearly love to hear, however. It's actually the theme song to a TV series called *Outlander*. It's a romantic, adventure-filled love story about a woman who is magically transported through time from the 1940's to the Scottish Highlands of the 1700's, when the men went to battle wearing kilts and the women were left to mourn their passing. But even if you don't care to watch the series, I would encourage you to at least tune in to listen to the theme song. It's a beautiful song, with a beautiful melody, sung by a contralto with a beautiful voice. And the lyrics go something like this:

"Sing me a song of a lass that is gone.
Say, could that lass be I?
Merry of soul, she sailed on a day
Over the sea to Skye."

And oh, how I wish I could sing!