

## SOMEBODY HELD YOU ONCE

A park bench near a bus stop, I try not to stare  
Every day I see him sitting there  
Old and cracked like a dusty vase  
Tips his hat with a touch of grace  
In an instant I can see a man's life in front of me . . .

Somebody held you once  
You were somebody's baby once  
She tickled your nose and kissed all your toes  
The whole world revolved around one baby boy.

Somebody chased you once  
You were somebody's buddy once  
Climbing up trees and scraping your knees  
Every day was an adventure

Somebody touched you once  
You were somebody's sweetheart once  
Your wish came true when she said I do  
Fairytale endings had nothing on you

Somebody needed you once  
You were somebody's daddy once  
A cry in the night, a little girl's fright  
You held her close and made everything right.

Now here you sit, smiling at the passers by  
No one turns to say hello and it makes me wonder why  
Cuz here I am, can't seem to tear myself away  
Could it be that I see me ...  
Sitting on a park bench just like you one day.

Somebody held me once  
I was somebody's baby once  
And somebody's sweetheart, now somebody's wife  
With all of the good things that fill up a life  
But you've let me know how quickly they go . . .  
I'd like to let you know somehow  
You're Somebody now.

Music and Lyrics by Eileen Valentino  
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### The Story Behind the Song...

In the 1940s, a writer named Betty Smith wrote a novel called *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn*. I loved this book and read it over and over in my youth. There is a scene in the book where Francie, a 12-year old girl and the main character, sits in a bakery and watches a very old man, imagining the life he might have had. A beautiful scene. I recreated it for this song.