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THE OLD BETHESDA STORE written by HELEN LEWIS

Once upon a time, And Oh so long ago
There was a place in each small town
Where all the folks would go
They'd go to buy, or sell, or trade And visit for a while
It was a time when stores still offered
Service with a smile

(Chorus)

But the old Bethesda Store
Isn't open any more
The windows are all dark, and there's no sign upon the door
And my Aunt and Uncle dear
Who ran the store for years
Have gone to some place I can only dream about from here.

The shelves were full of all the things that Grandma would take home
And some stores had the seeds and rakes
And hoes for things you'd grown
And some had calico and lace and buttons, and the rest
To make the dress that Grandma then
Would call her Sunday best.

There were jars of penny candy To give the kids a treat
If there was any money left
Once you'd bought food to eat
And some stores had an old wood stove Where people gathered round
To warm themselves before they walked
The road out of the town

(Chorus)

We're so sorry that it's gone,
But in memories it lives on

(Chorus)