

You Were on My Mind

(We Five)

When I woke up this morning
You were on my mind
And you were on my mind
I got troubles, whoa, oh
I got worries, whoa, oh
I got wounds to bind

So I went to the corner
Just to ease my pain
Said to, just to ease my pain
I got troubles, whoa, oh
I got worries, whoa, oh
I came home again

But I woke up this morning
You were on my mind
And you were on my mind

Yeah, I got troubles, whoa, oh
I got worries, whoa, oh
I got wounds to bind

Hey, I got a feeling
Down in my shoes
Said a-way down in my shoes
Hey, I got to ramble, whoa, oh
I got to move on, whoa, oh
I got to walk away my blues

But I woke up this morning
You were on my mind
And you were on my mind
Hey, I got troubles, whoa, oh
I got worries, whoa, oh
I got wounds to bind

"You Were on My Mind" is a popular song written by Sylvia Fricker in 1962 in a bathtub in a suite at the Hotel Earle in Greenwich Village. She wrote it in the bathroom because "it was the only place ... the cockroaches would not go". It was originally performed by Fricker and her then husband-to-be Ian Tyson as the duo Ian & Sylvia and they recorded it for their 1964 album, Northern Journey. It was published in sheet form by M. Witmark & Sons of New York City in 1965. In 1965 the song was covered in an up-tempo version, with slightly altered lyrics and melody by the California pop quintet We Five. Their recording reached #3 on the Billboard Hot 100 chart in September 1965 and topped the Billboard easy listening chart for five weeks. Billboard ranked the record as the No. 4 song of 1965. The performance by We Five is noteworthy for the gradual buildup in intensity, starting off somewhat flowing and gentle, increasing in intensity in the third stanza and remaining so through the fourth stanza. The fifth and final stanza starts off gently and concludes very intensely, ending with a series of guitar chords.

In the United Kingdom Crispian St. Peters scored a number two hit with the song in 1966. This version was also released in the United States in 1967 and went to #36 on the Billboard Hot 100. It was featured on his album, Follow Me...

Ian and Sylvia re-recorded the song in 1972 with their band Great Speckled Bird, reaching #4 on the Canadian easy listening chart.