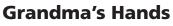




## Bill Withers



by Bill Withers

Grandma's hands clapped in church on Sunday morning. Grandma's hands played a tambourine so well. Grandma's hands used to issue out a warning. She'd say, "Billy, don't you run so fast. Might fall on a piece of glass. Might be snakes there in that grass." Grandma's hands.

Grandma's hands soothed a local unwed mother Grandma's hands used to ache sometimes and swell. Grandma's hands used to lift her face and tell her, She'd say, "Baby, Grandma understands that you really love that man. Put yourself in Jesus' hands." Grandma's hands.

Grandma's hands used to hand me piece of candy. Grandma's hands picked me up each time I fell. Grandma's hands, boy, they really came in handy. She'd say, "Matty, don' you whip that boy. What you want to spank him for? He didn't drop no apple core." But I don't have Grandma anymore.

If I get to heaven, I'll look for ... Grandma's hands.