

Emmylou Harris

"Wild Montana Skies"

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He was born in the Bitterroot Valley in the early mornin'
rain
Wild geese over the water, headin' north and home
again
Bringin' a warm wind from the south, bringin' the first
taste of the spring
His mother took him to her breast, softly she did sing

Oh, Montana, give this child a home
Give him the love of a good family and a woman of his
own
Give him a fire in his heart, give him a light in his eyes
Give him the wild wind for a brother and the wild
Montana skies

His mother died that summer an' he never learned to
cry
He never knew his father, he never did ask why
And he never knew the answers that would make an
easy way
But he learned to know the wilderness an' to be a man
that way

His mother's brother took him in to his family and his
home
Gave him a hand that he could lean on and a strength
to call his own
And he learned to be a farmer an' he learned to love
the land
An' he learned to read the seasons an' he learned to
make a stand

Oh, Montana, give this child a home
Give him the love of a good family and a woman of his
own
Give him a fire in his heart, give him a light in his eyes
Give him the wild wind for a brother and the wild
Montana skies

On the eve of his twenty-first birthday, he set out on his
own
He was thirty years and runnin' when he found his way

back home

Ridin' a storm across the mountains an' an achin' in
his heart
Said, he came to turn the pages and to make a brand
new start

Now he never told the story of the time that he was
gone
Some say, he was a lawyer, some say he was a John
There was something in the city that he said, he
couldn't breathe
There was something in the country that he said, he
couldn't leave

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Give him the love of a good family and a woman of his
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Give him a fire in his heart, give him a light in his eyes
Give him the wild wind for a brother and the wild
Montana skies

Now some say, he was crazy an' some are glad he's
gone
Some of us will miss him, we'll try to carry on
Giving a voice to the forest, giving a voice to the dawn
Giving a voice to the wilderness an' the land that he
lived on

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