

Hank Snow "Little Britches"

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I don't know much on religion and I ain't never had no show

But I got a middlin' tight grip sir on the handful of things that I know

I don't pan out on the prophets good will and that sort of thing

But I believe in God and the angels ever since one night last spring.

I come into town with some turnips and my little Gabe came along

No four year old in this country could beat him for purty and strong

Pert and chipper and sassy and always ready to swear and fight

And I learned him to chaw tobaccy just to keep his teeth milk white.

The snow came down like a blanket as I passed by Taget's store

I went in for a jug of molasses and I left the team at the door

But they scared at somethin' and started and I heard one little squeal

And lickety split over the prairie went team Little Britches and all.

Yes lickety split over the prairie I was almost froze with skeer

But we roused up some torches and we searched from far and near

At last we struck hosses and wagon snowed under a soft white mound

Upsot dead beat but of little Gabe no hide nor hair could be found.

And here all hope soured on me of findin' my little Gabe

So I just flopped down on my marrow bones

And crotched deep in the snow and prayed

By this time the torches was played out and me and Israel Par

Went off with some wood to a sheep fold that he said
was somewhere thar.

We found it at last in a little she'd where they shut up
the lambs at night
We looked in and seen them huddled there so warm
and sleepy and white
And there sot Little Britches and chirped as pert as
ever you see
I wants a chaw of tobaccy and that's what's the matter
of me.

How did he get there angels he could never have
walked in that storm
They just scooped down and toted him to where it was
safe and warm
And I think that savin a little child and fodging him to
his own
Is a dern sight better business than loafin' around the
throne...

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