

Judy Collins

"The Blizzard"

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Colorado, Colorado

When the world leaves you shivering
And the blizzard blows

When the snow flies and the night falls
There's a light in the window
And a place called home at the end of the storm

One night on the mountain, I was headed for Estes
When the roads turned to ice and it started to snow
Put on the chains in a whirl of white powder
Half way up to Berthoud, near a diner I know

And the light burned inside, shining down through the
snowfall
God, it was cold and the temperature droppin'
Went in for coffee and shivered as I drank it
Warm in my hands in the steam as it rose

Sitting there at the counter was a dark headed stranger
Me and the owner and him, keepin' warm
Nodded, "Hello" and I said, "It's a cold one
Looks like there might be a blizzard tonight"

And "Yes", said the owner", there's a big storm on the
mountain
Good thing, we're open, we could be here for hours
There's nothing for miles and it's too late to get to
Denver
Better not try for the summit tonight"

And the snow fell
And the night passed
And I talked to the strangers
While the blizzard blew

Me and the stranger, you know I don't talk to strangers
I'm a private sort of person but a blizzard is a blizzard
And somehow I found myself saying you'd left me
Tellin' him everything I wanted to say to you

You know how it is when you can talk to a stranger

Someone you're quite sure you'll never see again
Soon we were talkin' and laughin' and drinkin'
He said, "You must know, you're too good for him"

And the snow fell
And the night passed
And I talked to the stranger
While the blizzard blew

The stranger said, "Love, it can cry you a river
Me, I'm a loner 'cause I can't take the heartache
Sometimes I'm a fighter, when I get too much whiskey
Here have a whiskey, pretend you don't give a damn

My cabin's up here on the side of the mountain
You can go up there and sleep through the blizzard"
I put on my parka, said goodbye to the owner
Followed the stranger through the snow up the
mountainside

Woke in the morning to the sun on the snow
My car was buried in six feet of snow drift
They dug me out, just the owner and the stranger
Sent me on my way when the snowplow had been by

And the roads were all clear, the sun on the mountains
Sparkled like diamonds on the peak to peak highway
Then I knew that I would get over you, knew you could
leave me
But you'd never break me

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