

## **Dar Williams**

### **"O Canada Girls"**

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If I did not dream who would you be  
And if you did not dream who would I be  
Yes, there is gold in this mountain  
This they cannot mine  
Tell me who they need it for  
I'll tell you now, they need me more  
O Canada girls  
I have seen you in your sweaters  
In the late-night sun at Winnipeg  
Growing up with friends and so unhurried  
With your secrets I believe  
Kept in the longer sleeve  
Oh girls  
Highways seen from hotel windows  
Pumping highway blood  
If I say they run from fear  
Are things much different standing here  
O Canada girls  
When I saw the geese flying north  
I remembered the friends of my vision  
And a sense I had of other wings  
Like faith, light threaded through a psalm  
Like our boys fleeing Vietnam  
Oh girls  
If I drove up eighty-seven  
Up past Montreal  
Following the bluest veins  
Following through icy rains  
Would I emerge in the present  
And know just where to begin  
I'm so sick of forgetting myself to remember who I am  
And you say yeah, but why so cold, and so Canadian  
I guess it's got to feel like some exodus  
And if I succeed, well there will be more of us  
And if I don't well I don't really know  
Girls  
Who have found our unsung nation  
Where we left so much land to itself  
That everyone had her own mountain  
Well if you think of this girl and the dreams that made  
her  
Write your secrets on hornet nest paper

And blow it high across the border  
'Cause if you did not dream, who would I be  
And if I did not dream who would you be

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