

Theresa Sokyrka "TOP 6: Canadian Railroad Trilogy"

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There was a time in this fair land when the railroad did
not run
Where the wild majestic mountains stood alone against
the sun
Long before the white man and long before the wheel
When the green dark forest was too silent to be real
But time has no beginnings and history has no bounds
As to this verdant country they came from all around
They sailed upon her waterways and they walked the
forests tall
And they built the mines the mills and the factories for
the good of us all

For they looked in the future and what did they see
They saw an iron road runnin' from sea to the sea
Bringin' the goods to a young growin' land
All up through the seaports and into their hands

Look away said they across this mighty land
From the eastern shore to the western strand
Bring in the workers and bring up the rails
We gotta lay down the tracks and tear up the trails
Open 'er heart let the life blood flow
Gotta get on our way 'cause we're movin' too slow

Behind the blue rockies the sun is declinin'
The stars, they come stealin' at the close of the day
Across the wide prairies our loved ones lie sleeping
Beyond the dark oceans in a land far away

We are the navvies who work upon the railway
Swingin' our hammers in the bright blazin' sun
Livin' on stew and drinkin' bad whiskey
Bendin' our backs 'til the railroad is done

So over the mountains and over the plains
Into the muskeg and into the rain
A dollar a day and a place for my head
A drink to the livin' and a toast to the dead

Oh the song of the future has been sung
All the battles have been won

On the mountain tops we stand
All the world at our command
We have opened up the soil
With our teardrops and our toil

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not run
When the wild majestic mountains stood alone against
the sun
Long before the white man and long before the wheel
When the green dark forest was too silent to be real
When the green dark forest was too silent to be real
And many are the dead men too silent to be real

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