

# The Nights

Lee Hazlewood

Her skin was the color  
of the mountains' first winter snow  
His skin was the color  
of the hot sun summer glow  
And they met by a river called Okemah  
in an August of another time  
She fell in love with this red man  
and left her people behind  
And she learned these things

The ways of a red man are lonely  
and his woman can expect little more  
And a day filled with hard work and sorrow  
And so she lived for  
the nights, the nights

And they followed his tribe  
on a hard trail to the Dakotas far away  
And they hunted a big buffalo  
and they heard the old chief say  
the white man has walked here before us  
and killed buffalo for their hides  
And so this winter our women and children  
will feel much hunger inside  
And she learned these things

The ways of a red man are lonely  
and his woman can expect little more  
than a day filled with hard work and sorrow  
And so she learns to live for  
the nights, the nights

That winter they died by the hundreds  
the people of this red man's tribe  
She walked the cold ground  
and cursed the white man  
who killed buffalo for their hides  
And they buried their mothers and fathers  
and their children they loved so  
They prayed the son God will come soon  
and melt the Dakota snow

The ways of a red man are lonely  
and his woman can expect little more  
than a day filled with hard work and sorrow  
And so she learns to live for  
the nights, the nights

And the spring came early to the Dakotas that year  
and the buffalo numbered ten times ten  
They filled their stomachs  
made their clothes and started their lives again  
And she bore her lover boy child  
fulfilled the promise of spring  
And from old comes new  
and new is life and life is an eternal thing  
And she learned these things

The ways of a red man are lonely  
and his woman can expect little more  
than a day with hard work and sorrow  
And so she learns to live for  
the nights, the nights