

Night Rider's Lament

by Michael Burton (1975)

D A D A D A D A

D D G G
While I was out ridin'

D D A A
The graveyard shift, midnight 'til dawn

G A D Bm
The moon was bright as a readin' light

A G D D
For a letter from an old friend back home

G A D D
And he asked me Why do you ride for your money?

G A D D
Tell me why do you rope for short pay?

G A D Bm A G G
You ain't gettin' nowhere and you're losin' your share

A G D D
Boy, you must have gone crazy out there

D D G G
He said last night I run onto Jenny

D D A A
She's married and she has a good life

G A D Bm
Boy, you sure missed the track when you never came back

A G D D
She's the perfect professional's wife

G A D D
She asked me Why does he ride for his money?

G A D D
Tell me why does he rope for short pay?

G A D Bm A G G
He ain't gettin' nowhere and he's losin' his share

A G D D
Boy, he must've gone crazy out there

G A D Bm
Ah, but they've never seen the Northern Lights,

G A D D
they've never seen a hawk on the wing

G A D Bm A G G
They never spent spring on the Great Divide,

A G D D
And they've never heard ole' camp cookie sing

^D ^D ^G ^G
 Well, I read up the last of my letter,
^D ^D ^A ^A
 And I tore off the stamp for black Jim
^G ^A ^D ^{Bm}
 And when Billy rode up to relieve me,
^A ^G ^D ^D
 He just looked at my letter and grinned

^G ^A ^D ^D
 He said now why do they ride for their money?
^G ^A ^D ^D
 Tell me why do they rope for short pay?
^G ^A ^D ^{Bm} ^A ^G ^G
 They ain't gettin' nowhere and they're losin' their share
^A ^G ^D ^D
 Boy, they all must be crazy out there

^G ^A ^D ^{Bm}
 Ah, but they've never seen the Northern Lights,
^G ^A ^D ^D
 they've never seen a hawk on the wing
^G ^A ^D ^{Bm} ^A ^G ^G
 They never spent spring on the Great Divide,
^A ^G ^D ^D
 And they've never heard ole' camp cookie sing

Yodel

G G D D A A D D G G D D A A D D

^G ^A ^D ^{Bm}
 Ah, but they've never seen the Northern Lights,
^G ^A ^D ^D
 they've never seen a hawk on the wing
^G ^A ^D ^{Bm} ^A ^G ^G
 They never spent spring on the Great Divide,
^A ^G ^D ^D
 And they've never heard ole' camp cookie sing
^A ^G ^D ^D
 And they've never heard ole' camp cookie sing