

Lloyd Bader
1912 - 1997

A COWBOY'S PRAYER

O LORD, I AIN'T NEVER LIVED WHERE CHURCHES GROW.
I LIKE CREATION BETTER AS IT STOOD
THAT DAY YOU FINISHED IT SO LONG AGO
AND LOOKED UPON YOUR WORK AND CALLED IT GOOD.
I KNOW THAT OTHERS FIND YOU IN THE LIGHT
THAT'S SIFTED DOWN THROUGH TINTED WINDOW-PANES,
AND YET, I SEEM TO FEEL YOU NEAR TONIGHT
IN THIS DIM, QUITE STARLIGHT ON THE PLAINS.

I THANK YOU, LORD, THAT I AM PLACED SO WELL,
THAT YOU HAVE MADE MY FREEDOM SO COMPLETE;
THAT I AM NO SLAVE OF WHISTLE, CLOCK, OR BELL,
NOR WEAK EYED PRISONER OF WALL AND STREET.
JUST LET ME LIVE MY LIFE AS I'VE BEGUN
AND GIVE ME WORK THAT'S OPEN TO THE SKY;
MAKE ME A PARDNER OF THE WIND AND SUN
AN I I WON'T ASK A LIFE THAT'S SOFT OR HIGH.

LET ME BE EASY ON THE MAN THAT'S DOWN;
LET ME BE SQUARE AND GENEROUS WITH ALL,
I'M CARELESS, SOMETIMES, LORD, WHEN I'M IN TOWN,
BUT NEVER LET 'EM SAY I'M MEAN OR SMALL!
MAKE ME AS BIG AND OPEN AS THE PLAINS,
AS HONEST AS THE HORSE BETWEEN MY KNEES,
CLEAN AS THE WIND THAT BLOWS BEHIND THE RAINS,
FREE AS THE HAWK THAT CIRCLES DOWN THE BREEZE.
FORGIVE ME, LORD, IF SOMETIMES I FORGET.
YOU KNOW ABOUT THE REASON'S THAT ARE HID.
YOU UNDERSTAND THE THINGS THAT GALL AND FRET;
WHY, YOU KNOW ME BETTER THAN MY MOTHER DID!
JUST KEEP AN EYE ON ALL THAT'S DONE AND SAID,
JUST RIGHT ME SOMETIMES WHEN I TURN ASIDE,
AND LEAD ME ON THAT LONG DIM TRAIL AHEAD
THAT STRETCHES UPWARD TOWARD THE GREAT DIVIDE.

IN MEMORY OF

LLOYD BADER

BORN

MARCH 25, 1912
HYATTVILLE, WYOMING

DIED

JANUARY 1, 1997
BILLINGS, MONTANA

MEMORIAL GRAVESIDE SERVICE

2:30 PM SATURDAY
FEBRUARY 22, 1997
TEN SLEEP CEMETERY
TEN SLEEP, WYOMING

PRESIDER

MR. DAVE ASAY

MUSIC

"PEACE IN THE VALLEY"
GEORGIA LEITHEAD, MUSICIAN

HONORARY BEARERS

ALL OF LLOYD'S FAMILY AND FRIENDS
WHO WILL CARRY HIM IN THEIR MEMORY