High Lonesome Cowboy
Featuring Tony Rice and Norman Blake

Peter Rowan & Don Edwards

1. Take Me Back To The Range  4:12
   by Alton Delmore, Vebro Publications, Inc.
   Don/guitar - Peter/guitar
   Norman/guitar - Tony/guitar
   Silly/mandolin - Bryn/bass

2. The Old Chisholm Trail  4:19
   Traditional
   Arr/Adapt. by Don Edwards & Peter Rowan
   Don/guitar - Peter/guitar
   Norman/guitar - Tony/guitar
   Silly/mandolin - Bryn/bass

3. Ramblin' Cowboy  4:31
   Traditional
   Arr/Adapt. by Don Edwards & Peter Rowan
   Don/guitar - Peter/guitar
   Norman/guitar - Tony/guitar
   Silly/mandolin - Bryn/bass

4. Reno Blues (Philadelphia Lawyer)  3:26
   Woody Guthrie, Michael H. Goldson, Inc.
   Don/guitar - Peter/guitar
   Norman/guitar - Tony/guitar
   Silly/mandolin - Bryn/bass

5. The Old Grey Mare Came Tearing Out
   Of The Wilderness  2:06
   Traditional
   Arr/Adapt. by Norman & Nancy Blake
   Norman/guitar - Nancy/guitar
   Tony/guitar - Peter/guitar

6. Trail To Mexico  2:42
   Traditional
   Arr/Adapt. by Don Edwards & Peter Rowan
   Don/guitar - Peter/guitar
   Norman/guitar - Tony/guitar
   Silly/mandolin - Bryn/bass

7. The Night Guard  4:05
   Traditional
   Arr/Adapt. by Don Edwards & Peter Rowan
   Don/guitar - Peter/guitar

8. Buddies In The Saddle  3:29
   Maybelle Carter, A.P. Hill
   Don/guitar - Peter/guitar
   Norman/guitar - Tony/guitar
   Silly/mandolin - Bryn/bass

9. Goodbye Old Paint  4:16
   Traditional
   Arr/Adapt. by Don Edwards & Peter Rowan
   Don/6-string banjo - Peter/guitar

    Bill Monroe, Bill Monroe Music, BMI
    Peter/guitar - Norman/guitar
    Silly/mandolin - Bryn/bass

11. I'm Going To Leave Old Texas Now  6:00
    Traditional
    Arr/Adapt. by Don Edwards & Peter Rowan
    Don/guitar - Peter/guitar
    Norman/guitar - Tony/guitar
    Silly/mandolin - Bryn/bass

All songs, except where noted, arranged and adapted by Don Edwards, for Night Horse Songs and Peter Rowan for Sea Lion Music.
Produced by Don Edwards and Peter Rowan
Executive Producers: Scott O'Malley, Dane Scott & Kathleen Fox Collins
Artistic Director: Scott O'Malley
Recorded at Western Jubilee Warehouse - Colo. Springs
Engineer: Sam McFadin assisted by Doug Wilson
(August 2001), Butch Hause (December 2001)
Mixing: Butch Hause & Peter Rowan,
The Corner Studio - Wheat Ridge, CO
Re-Mix: Butch Hause, The Ranger Station - Henderson, CO

Mastered by Robert Vosgien & Pete Papageorges,
Capitol Records, Hollywood, CA
Photography: Owen Perkins and Donald Kallaus
Art Direction: Owen Perkins, Donald Kallaus and Scott O'Malley
Art Layout & Design: David Weed and Jenna Shearn

Special Thanks: Keith Case, Al Evers, Sue Favver, Don Kallaus, Jeff Kallaus, Laraine MacLauchlan, John Macy, Marna Sue (Green Chili Stew), Richard Nevins, Tyler O'Malley, Owen Perkins and John Ramsey (Colorado Springs Folklore Center), Ross and Nancy Kirkham

Also available in the APPALACHA TO ABILENE SERIES:
Norman Blake & Rich O'Brien "Be Ready Boys"

Artist Representation:
Don Edwards & Norman Blake

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As a kid back East, I had these picture books about Cowboys and Indians illustrated by Joe Mora. I would look at them for hours, the details of the spurs, the brands, the native American Indian designs, their way with horses. Reality and the picture book West are different, but I populatied every part of the woods behind my house with my imagination, as if maybe the Indians who had lived there before had seen the same sights. Who’s to say how real that is, but I always dreamed of the West. When I first headed out there, I wrote ‘Land of the Navajo’ camping out across the desert, sleeping on the ground. I felt some kind of truth about our country lay in these canyons, the bone dry air, the wind, and the sky.

If you ever sang around a campfire late into the night you know where these songs came from. Immigrants, refugees, vagabond wanderers seeking cities of gold, a new life in a new land of open spaces. In the Old World, you were a plowboy walking barefoot behind cattle in the mud, tipping your hat to the nobleman on his high horse. In the New World, you could find yourself astride a mustang pony descended from the horses of the conquistadors, the Spanish Barb, the Indian paint horse; riding tall in the saddle, from plowboy to cowboy!

Cowboy music tells the truth, in tempos that walk, lope and gallop from ancient ballads and tall tales of that high lonesome feeling under the big sky. With Billy, Norman, Tony and Bryn driving our musical herd, Don and I sang these songs under the hot Colorado sun in the summer of 81. When you sing about getting your asses kicked on the lonesome trail you’ve got to call on another part of yourself that wants to go ‘whoopee ti ya ya’.

Anybody’s who’s into Western music has to know where the music came from. There’s that poetic tradition, that bardic tradition of Cowboy music, going back before Hollywood, going way back. It goes back to Homies epic song-poems, songs tell the tales, the Iliad and the Odyssey of the Vaquero, the High Lonesome Cowboy.

Peter Rowan

It all started about ten years ago when Peter Rowan and I were having a conversation about old time music and ballad singers and how they were mostly forgotten and how we ought to make a record together and change all that. Our musical backgrounds were quite different yet the same in the sense that we were playing music for the sake of the music. For the love of it. Peter became best known for his association with Bluegrass music and I with Western. So why not take the early influences of both genres and combine them?

These two genres appear to have nothing to do with each other until we look back to the roots. Way back in the years B.C. (Before Categories), before Bill Monroe or Gene Autry we will find that their influences and inspiration came from the same tree. There is too little space here to explain this in detail so I highly recommend you read Professor Bill C. Malone’s wonderful little book ‘Singing Cowboys and Musical Mountaineers’. The title alone says what this record is all about, but I’d like to paraphrase a statement Professor Malone made in the introduction where he stated in part that, ‘the earliest major interest in rural folk music was devoted almost exclusively to two immensely romantic groups, Cowboy singers and Appalachian balladeers.’

From Bradley Kincaid to Harry McClintock, Mountain ballads to Cowboy songs. The music was basically the same. The only difference being the lyrics and the geographical location. This is exactly what Peter and I were talking about when we decided we needed to do a record together. So, with the help of our friends and kindred spirits Norman and Nancy Blake, Tony Rice, Billy and Bryn Bright, ‘High Lonesome Cowboy’ came tearing out of the wilderness on its musical journey from Appalachia to Abilene.

Thank you all for the wonderful music, your friendship and inspiration.

Don Edwards
Peter Rowan & Don Edwards
High Lonesome Cowboy
APPALACHIA TO ABILENE
featuring Norman & Nancy Blake, Tony Rice, Billy & Bryn Bright

(Philadelphia Lawyer) 5. The Old Grey Mare Came Tearing Out Of The Wilderness 6. Trail To Mexico
11. I'm Going To Leave Old Texas Now

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