

# California Snow

Dave Alvin

Dave Alvin/Tom Russell

(Blue Horn Toad Music, BMI, and Frontera Music, ASCAP, administered by Bug Music)

I'm just tryin' to make a livin'  
I'm an old man at thirty-nine  
With two kids and an ex-wife  
Who moved up to Riverside  
I'm workin' down on the border  
Drivin' back roads every night  
Mountains east of El Cajon  
North of the Tecate line. Where the California summer sun  
Will burn right through your soul  
But in the winter you can freeze to death  
In the California snow. I catch the ones I'm able to  
And watch the others slip away  
I know some by their faces  
And I even know some by name  
I guess they think that we're all  
Movie stars and millionaires  
I guess that they still believe  
That dreams come true up here. But I guess the weather's warmer down in Mexico  
And no one ever tells them 'bout the California snow. Last winter I found a man and wife  
Just about daybreak  
Layin' in a frozen ditch  
South of the interstate  
I wrapped 'em both in blankets  
But she'd already died  
The next day we sent him back alone  
Across the borderline. I don't know where they came from  
Or where they planned to go  
But we carried her all night long  
Through the California snow. Sometimes when I'm alone out here  
I get to thinkin' about my life  
Maybe I should go to Riverside  
And try to fix things with my wife  
Or maybe just get in my truck  
And drive as far as I can go  
Away from all the ghosts that haunt  
The California snow. Where the California summer sun  
Can burn right to your soul

And in the winter you can freeze to death  
In the California snow.

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