

Night Rider's Lament

Jerry Jeff Walker

Michael BurtonOne night while I was out a ridin'
The grave yard shift, midnight 'til dawn
The moon was bright as a readin' light
For a letter from an old friend back homeAnd he asked me
 Why do you ride for your money
 Tell me why do you rope for short pay
 You ain't a'gettin' nowhere
 And you're losin' your share
Boy, you must have gone crazy out thereHe said last night I ran on to Jenny
 She's married and has a good life
 And boy you sure missed the track
 When you never come back
She's the perfect professional's wifeAnd she asked me
 Why does he ride for his money
 And tell me why does he rope for short pay
 He ain't a'gettin' nowhere
 And he's losin' his share
Boy he must've gone crazy out thereAh but they've never seen the Northern Lights
 They've never seen a hawk on the wing
 They've never spent spring on the Great Divide
And they've never heard ole' camp cookie singWell I read up the last of my letter
 And I tore off the stamp for black Jim
 And when Billy rode up to relieve me
He just looked at my letter and grinnedHe said now
 Why do they ride for their money
 Tell me why do they ride for short pay
 They ain't a'gettin' nowhere
 And they're losin' their share
Boy, they must've gone crazy out there
 Son, they all must be crazy out there

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