

Own Thoughts from Abroad

Words and Music: Nigel Harbron

The musical score is written on three staves in a 4/4 time signature with a key signature of two flats (Bb and Eb). The melody is simple and uses quarter and eighth notes. Chord symbols are placed above the staff: Eb, Gm, Ab, Bb, Eb, Gm on the first line; Ab, Bb, Eb, Gm on the second line; and Ab, Bb, Cm, Ab, Bb on the third line. The lyrics are: "I have seen the sun rise o - ver moun - tains, I have seen wild geese as they have flown, O - ver streams and ri - vers lea - ding to the o - cean, But I've seen them on my own."

I have seen the sun rise over mountains,
I have seen wild geese as they have flown
Over streams and rivers leading to the ocean,
But I've seen them on my own.

I have been to cities and to deserts,
I have been to places that have known
Many thousand years of hopes and aspirations,
But I've been there on my own.

I have heard from people on my travels,
I have heard them laugh and heard them moan
As their hopes have turned to fear and desperation,
But I've heard them on my own.

I have given money and my feelings,
I have given much to those who've shown
That their need for love is endless in its craving,
But I've given it on my own.

I have learned to listen and to counsel,
I have learned to harvest what I've sown
Even though the fruit is often bitter tasting,
But I've learned it on my own.

I have found the answers to some questions,
I have found what makes me live alone
Is the need to breathe without contamination,
And I've found it on my own.

I should have written this song when in my late teens and bumming around Europe during what we now call 'a gap year'. As it turned out, I was well over fifty when the muse (music?) came to me.



Sunrise Over Castlerigg Stone Circle, near Keswick



Canada Geese (not popular on Windermere!)