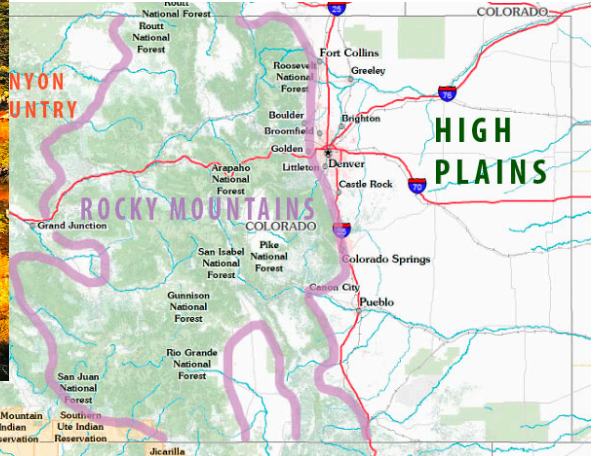
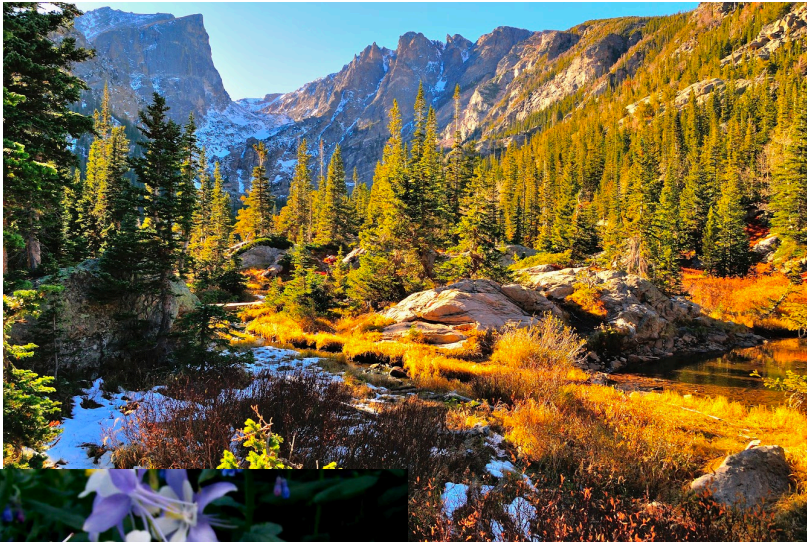


Rocky Mountain High

Words & Music by Mike Taylor and John Denver, © all rights reserved 1972



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<http://tracks-trails.com/>



snowboarding.transworld.net



www.rockymountainamca.com/

Songs as you go

Rocky Mountain High

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Capo in the 4th fret - Key of B

D G Am7 F D
He was born in the summer of his 27th year;
D G Am7 C
Comin' home to a place he'd never been before.
D G
He left yesterday behind him;
Am7 F
You might say he was born again.
D G Am7 C
You might say he found a key for every door.

D G Am7 F D
When he first came to the mountains his life was far away;
G Am7 C
On the road and hanging' by a song.
D G Am7 F
But the string's already broken and he doesn't really care;
D G Am7
It keeps changin' fast, and it don't last for long.

CHORUS 1

C D G
Colorado's Rocky Mountain high.
C D G
I've seen it rainin' fire in the sky.

C D G Am7 D C
CHORUS 1: The shadow from the starlight is softer than a lul- -la- by.

C D G Am7 D C
CHORUS 2: You can talk to God and listen to the casual reply.

C D G Am7 D C
CHORUS 3: I know he'd be a poorer man if he never saw an ea - -gle fly.

C D G Am7 D C
CHORUS 4: Friends around the campfire and everybody's high.

C G Am7 C
Rocky Mountain high, Colorado;
G Am7
Rocky Mountain high, Colorado.

D G Am7 F D
 He climbed cathedral mountains, saw silver clouds below;
G Am7 C
 Saw everything as far as you can see.
D G Am7 F D
 And they say that he got crazy once and he tried to touch the sun;
G Am7
 And he lost a friend but kept his memory.

D G Am7 F D
 Now he walks in quiet solitude the forests and the streams;
G Am7 C
 Seeking grace in every step he takes.
D G Am7 F
 His sight has turned inside himself to try and understand;
D G Am7
 The serenity of a clear blue mountain lake.

CHORUS 2

D G Am7 F D
 Now his life is full of wonder, but his heart still knows some fear.
G Am7 C
 Of a simple thing he cannot comprehend.
D G Am7 F
 They try to tear the mountains down to bring in a couple more;
D G Am7
 More people, more scars upon the land.

CHORUS 3

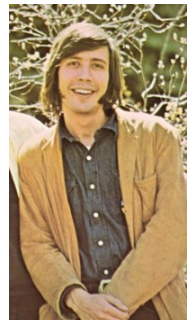
CHORUS 4

History

"Rocky Mountain High" written by John Denver and Mike Taylor is about Colorado and it's share of the Rocky Mountains, and is one of the two official state songs of Colorado. Snowmass ski resort, near Aspen, named a run "Rocky Mountain High" in honor of John Denver.



John Denver



Mike Taylor

Songs as you go

Denver started writing this song during the Perseid Meteor Shower which happens every August. He was camping with friends at the tree line at Williams Lake and all of a sudden there were many shooting stars which he referred to as "The shadow from the starlight"... in the song. He says that while the inspiration struck quickly, it took him about nine months to complete the song.

Some of the references in the lyrics:

- "He was born in the summer of his 27th year" John was 27 that summer.
- "Coming home to a place he'd never been before" He and Annie had just made Aspen home.
- "And he lost a friend but kept his memory" A good friend from Minnesota had come to visit and was killed riding John's motorcycle.
- "Why they try to tear the mountains down to bring in a couple more" This referred to the debate at that time about bringing the Olympics to Colorado.

On April 10, 2017 the song was certified Gold by the Recording Industry Association of America for sales of 500,000 digital downloads. Members of the Western Writers of America chose it as one of the Top 100 Western songs of all time.

The song briefly became controversial when the U.S. Federal Communications Commission was permitted by a legal ruling to censor music deemed to promote drug abuse. Numerous radio stations cautiously banned the song.

Denver invoked this song when he testified at a Senate hearing in 1985 where he opposed the labeling of albums proposed by the Parents Music Resource Center (PMRC). He said;

"As an artist, I am opposed to any kind of a rating system, voluntarily or otherwise," he said. "My song "Rocky Mountain High" was banned from many radio stations as a drug-related song. This was obviously done by people who had never seen or been to the Rocky Mountains and also had never experienced the elation, celebration of life, or the joy in living that one feels when he observes something as wondrous as the Perseides meteor shower on a moonless, cloudless night, when there are so many stars that you have a shadow from the starlight, and you are out camping with your friends, your best friends, and introducing them to one of nature's most spectacular light shows for the very first time. Obviously, a clear case of misinterpretation. Mr. Chairman, what assurance have I that any national panel to review my music would make any better judgment?"

Wikipedia and www.songfacts.com/