Canada Goose Blues

Linda Morrison is a Canadian singer-songwriter whose musical taste spans many different styles: country, blues, jazz, gospel, folk, and classical music. She has appeared across Canada in concerts and festivals; on national CBC radio shows, including Morningside; and has written many children’s songs for Canadian Sesame Street over the past ten years. Recently retired from directing Montreal’s eclectic folk ensemble, the Yellow Door Tabernacle Choir, Linda is currently exploring Gaelic language and music.

Linda has appeared on a variety of recordings by Ken and Chris Whiteley, Penny Lang, Raffi, Caitlin Hanford, and others. Her own solo, Line by Line, was released by Heartstrung Music in 1990.

I was brainstorming lyric ideas for a song for Sesame Street about Canada geese, and I realized that every idea was a blues theme: the restless rambler; the ‘love ’em and leave ’em’ attitude; the promise to return; and they all go to the Gulf of Mexico!

The honks of the geese become saxophone ‘punches.’ So the music had to be a blues. Guess I could have put in a verse about a ‘watering hole.’

This song played on Canadian Sesame Street for about ten years and is now on Sesame Park. It’s not available on recordings, however.

My home is in the North
Way up in the ice and snow
Yeah, my home is in the North
Way up in the ice and snow
I’m heading south for winter
to the Gulf of Mexico.

[Spoken] ...when you’re a Canada goose, you get that travellin’ feelin’ a taste for movin’ on....

My home is in the North
Way up in the ice and snow
My home is in the North
Way up in the ice and snow
I’m heading south for winter
To the Gulf of Mexico.

If you hear us honkin’
Look above you to the sky
If you hear us honkin’
Look above you to the sky
We’re in a “V” formation
And we will soon be passing by.

Well, I’m a Canada goose
And don’t you know that I’m your friend
Well, I’m a Canada goose
And don’t you know that I’m your friend
If I leave you in the winter
By springtime I’ll be back again.