

Break O' Day

Words by Henry Lawson (June 1904); tune by Bruce Woodley. Woodley is an Australian singer-songwriter and musician. He was a founding member of the successful pop-folk group The Seekers,



A C G7 F C
You love me, you say, and I think you do, But I know so man-y who don't,
C G7 F C
And how can I say I'll be true to you, When I know very well that I won't?
B C G7 F C
I have journ-eyed long and my goal is far, I love, but I can not bide,
C Em7/B Am Dm G7 F C
For as sure as ris-es the morn-ing star, With the break of day I'll ride.
C F C F C G7
I was doomed to ru-in or do-omed to mar The home wher-ev-er I stay,
C Em7/B Am Dm G7 F C
But I'll think of you as the morn-ing star And they call me Break o' Day.

(A)
They well might have named me the Fall o' Night,
For drear is the track I mark;
But I love fair girls and I love the light,
For I and my tribe were dark.

(C)
You may love me, dear, for a day and night,
You may cast the world aside;
But as sure as the morning star shines bright
With the break of day I'll ride.

(A)
There was never a lover so proud and kind,
There was never a friend so true;
But the song of my life I have left behind
In the heart of a girl like you.

(C)
There was never so deep or cruel a wrong
In the land that is far away,
There was never so bitter a broken heart
That rode at the Break o' Day.

(A)

God bless you, girl, with your red-gold hair
And your pitying eyes of grey—
O my heart forbids that a star so fair
Should be marred by the Break o' Day.

(B)

Live on, my girl, as the girl you are,
Be a good and a true man's bride,
For as sure as beacons the evening star
With the fall o' night I'll ride.

(C)

I was born to ruin or born to mar
The home wherever I light.
O I wish that you were the Evening Star
And that I were the fall of night.