

Wild and Free on America's 83

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U.S. Highway 83, which extends 1,883 miles from the Canadian border in North Dakota to Brownsville, Texas, is one of the five longest highways in the United States. On account of its route through the sparsely populated heartland and its survival unreplaced by Interstate routing, author and Nebraska native Stew Magnuson calls it "The Last American Highway." His "Highway 83 Chronicles" book series is full of accounts from places like the Redbud Indian Reservation in South Dakota; the "Oz" city of Liberal, Kansas; astronaut Alan Bean's hometown of Wheeler, Texas; and many, many more fascinating stops along the way.

4/4 time, medium fast ballad, in G

[START WITH CHORUS]

C G Am D G

Wild and free on U.S. 83:

C G Am D

In my heart that blue highway calls to me:

C D G Am

North to Canada it goes,

G Am D D7 G

Southward it rolls to Mexico.

1. I was born a Nebraska boy
Worked the farm in my dad's employ,
But *See that road*, my grandma said to me —
You can go anywhere on Highway 83.

2. I was born a Dakota child,
Winters weary, summers mild,
But *See that road*, brothers & sisters said to me
You can follow your dream on Highway 83.

Wild and free on America's 83
In my heart that blue highway calls to me:
North to Canada it goes,
Southward it rolls to Mexico.

3. I was born a Kansas girl,
Dust bowl days were my whole world,
But *See that road*, a wizard said to me —
You might land anywhere along Highway 83.

4. I was born in a Panhandle town,
Not much way to get around,
But *See that road*, my mama said to me —
You can get anywhere from Highway 83.

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In my heart that blue highway calls to me:
North to Canada it goes,
Southward it rolls to Mexico.

5. I was born a Texas lad,
Wanted things my family never had,
But *See that road*, my parents said to me —
You can reach for the stars from Highway 83.

6. I was born wild and free,
My destiny is up to me;
I see that road, and the road is where I'll be —
You can find me there, on Highway 83.

Wild and free on America's 83
In my heart that old highway sings to me;
North to Canada it goes, [this line in final chorus
sung to "O Canada"]
Southward it rolls to Mexico.
Ca - na - da to Mex - i - co!

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