

Angel From Montgomery



I am an old woman
Named after my mother
My old man is another
Child who's grown old

If dreams were lightning
And thunder were desire
This old house would've burned down
A long time ago

Make me an angel
That flies from Montgomery
Make me a poster
Of an old rodeo

Just give me one thing
That I can hold on to
To believe in this livin'
Is just a hard way to go

When I was a young girl
Well, I had me a cowboy
He weren't much to look at
Just a free ramblin' man

But that was a long time
And no matter how I tried
The years just flowed by
Like a broken down dam

Make me an angel
That flies from Montgomery
Make me a poster
Of an old rodeo
Just give me one thing
That I can hold on to
To believe in this livin'
Is just a hard way to go

There's flies in the kitchen
I can hear 'em there buzzin'
And I ain't done nothing
Since I woke up today

How the hell can a person
Go to work in the morning
Then come home in the evening
And have nothing to say?

Make me an angel
That flies from Montgomery
Make me a poster
Of an old rodeo
Just give me one thing
That I can hold on to
To believe in this livin'
Is just a hard way to go

To believe in this livin'
Is just a hard way to go

Angel from Montgomery

John Prine's "Angel from Montgomery" was written in 1970 and introduced on Prine's 1971 self-titled debut album. Over the years, many artists have covered the song, and it was Bonnie Raitt's version of it, on her 1974 album *Streetlights* that brought the song widespread recognition. That was also the version that I grew up listening to.

Prine wrote the song as an ode to growing older. He was intrigued by the idea of "a song about a middle-aged woman who feels older than she is.. I had this really vivid picture of this woman standing over the dishwater with soap in her hands...She wanted to get out of her house and her marriage and everything. She just wanted an angel to come to take her away from all this."

When I listen to "Angel from Montgomery", I wonder if life passes like that "old rodeo".

The world is constantly changing, and "finding that one thing to hold onto" is, as the song declares, "a hard way to go".

For this series, a model Diedre, was asked to pose to the song. Dressed in old rodeo clothes, she stares in the distance, as if she is waiting for her own guardian angel to carry her away.





































Angel from Montgomery

