

Kan du glemme gamle Norge?

Norwegian American Folksong

C G7 C C7
Kan du glemme gamle Norge?
F G7 C C7
Aldri jeg det glemme kan,
F Dm G7 C Am Am7
Som med stolte klippeborge,
Dm G7 C
Er og blir mitt fodeland.

C G7 C C7
Kan du glemme dette landet,
F G7 C C7
Som dig først tok i sin favn?
F Dm G7 C Am Am7
Mon du finne vil et annet,
Dm G7 C
Med så stolt og herlig navn?

C G7 C C7
Kan du glemme Norges skover,
F G7 C C7
Med sin furu, birk og gran?
F Dm G7 C Am Am7
Kan du glemme sjøens vover,
Dm G7 C
Alt du da forglemme kan?

C G7 C C7
Kan du glemme disse trange,
F G7 C C7
Fjord, som sig bukter inn?
F Dm G7 C Am Am7
Hvor som barn du mange gange,
Dm G7 C
Vugget dig for førilig vind.

C G7 C C7
Svever stundom ei din trange,
F G7 C C7
Dithen hvor din vugge stod?
F Dm G7 C Am Am7
Føler du ei hjertet banke,
Dm G7 C
For det land som du forlot?

C G7 C C7
La da kun din tanke sveve;
F G7 C C7
Det kan aldri falle tungt.
F Dm G7 C Am Am7
Må for nordmenn lege leve,
Dm G7 C
Gamle Norge, evig ungt!

History

"Can you forget old Norway" comes originally from America, where Norwegian emigrants sang it together on the prairie. There is evidence that the text was written by Anton Sannes, but also FA Falkenberg is mentioned as a copywriter. The melody is much older than the text, written by Danish composer Christian Danning (1867-1925) who worked in Norway as a conductor for the Bergen Philharmonic Orchestra, Den Nationale Scene, and from 1907 to



Anton Sannes

1914 as conductor at Fahlstrøms Theater.

In America *Kan du lemme gamble Norge* is performed almost like a hymn. In Norway it is often sung with the melody to “Remember those Lofty Mountains.”

Wikipedia 2017

“Kan du glemme gamle Norge can be found in the Sons of Norway Songbook. This song left a lasting impression on my mother. Her memories were of a group of Norwegians stopping at her father's farm, and playing fiddles and singing songs, probably in the early 1900s. When this song was played and sung, many of the visitors and my grandmother, broke into tears and the emotion lasted for some time. My mother mentioned this incident many times, and she usually cried while thinking of it after grandmother had passed. I have never forgotten my mother's emotion in describing this scene, and tears come to my eyes thinking of it.

“When the emigrant data-base for Stavanger went on-line, I searched it out of curiosity. To my astonishment I found my grandmother's parents and her sister, who apparently made a visit to the U.S. sometime before WWI. I am sure their visit was the reason for this gathering. The parents died a couple of years later in Norway. My mother must have been too small to realize that these people were her grandparents, but she never forgot the emotion and melancholy. This was the only time that daughter and parents saw each other after grandmother's emigration; she never made a trip back to Norway. “

JC Spencer, Sun, 1 Jul 2001. jcspencer36@msn.com

Learn how to pronounce the Norwegian at <https://youtu.be/6ZzpzFsAT8I> and <https://youtu.be/KjNIEovmn-k>



Can You Ever Forget Old Norway? (English translation)

How can you forget old Norway?

I never can forget that country,

With its proud castle-like mountains,

Is and will remain my (native) father land.

How can you forget this country,

Which first embraced you?

Do you think you'll ever find another,

Country with such a proud and glorious name?

How can you ever forget Norway's forests,

With their pines, and birch and firs?

If you can forget the waves of the ocean,

Then your are able to forget everything.

How can you forget these narrow fjords,

Which twist and turn?

Where as a child you often were,

Rocked by a stiff breeze.

Don't your thoughts at times take flight,

To the place your cradle stood?

Don't you feel your heart is beating,

For the land you left behind?

Let , oh let your thoughts take flight;

Let them fly so easily.

Long live Old Norway, forever young,

In the hearts of all Norwegians.