

THE 2008 OFFICIAL CAPITOL CHRISTMAS TREE BALLAD

HEART OF MONTANA

BY JACK GLADSTONE @ 2008

With the drop of a cone, after the buffalo roamed
There was chatter in the canopy of a forest dark and green.
As the cone burst into seed, one was cradled by the needles
In the bosom of the earth she lay, a seedling for the Spring.
She burrowed deep her little roots over a hundred years ago.
This Lady of the Big Sky lay sleeping 'neath the snow.

Seasons cycled by, inverting day and night
From sapling to a tree she grew in perfect shape and height.
Culture drifted by, time moves like a firefly
Sundown on the Bitterroot, she bathed in Sapphire light.
She's seen Indians and mountain men and growing pains developin'
This Lady of the Big Sky, our Lady of the Sun is part of the

Heart of Montana, we sing for you.
A thousand symphonies of fallen leaves
have colored her view we've brought the
Heart of Montana to share with you and yours
On these holy days.... and New Year, too!

See the earth rise from the moon, a spinning blue oasis
Touch the Sun's accepting grace
Between the tug of Love and War
Let's clarify the price of pride and glory
In the story that we leave.

This Lady, Lady of the Sky
Our Lady of the Big Sky, Lady of the Sun
This Lady of the Big Sky, our Lady of the Sun is part of the

Heart of Montana, we sing for you
A thousand symphonies of fallen leaves
have colored her view we've brought the
Heart of Montana to share with you and yours
On these holy days.... and New Year, too!

Big Sky Blue, Happy New Year, too

And who've of us would've ever thought
That before she left Montana for this place
She'd insure her noble face would be reborn...

With the drop of a cone.