

Black Fly Song

Wade Hemsworth
(written in 1949)
arr. Earle Peach

♩ = 86 (♩ = 172) Jovial story-telling

Tutti

mf

'Twas

mf *mp* *f* *mp*

7 **A** Verse 1

ear-ly in the spring when I de-cide to go for to w .ne woods in North On - ta - ri - o, the

Verse 2

man. Black To-by was the cap'n of the cre' d "I'm gon na tell you boys what we're gonna do; they

mp

11

un-em-ploy-ment r .ey'd see me thru to the lit - tle A-bi-ti-bi with the sur - vey crew. And the

want to br wer dam and we must find a way for to make the lit-tle Ab flow a-round the o-ther way" And the

PERUSAL SCORE ONLY - PLEASE DO NOT COPY

15 **B**

mf black fly, the lit-tle black fly, al-ways the black fly no mat-ter where you go, I'll die with the black fly

f black fly, the black fly, the black fly, the black fly! ith the black fly

black fly, black fly, black fly, black fly die with the black fly



20

1. *mp* pic-kin' my bones in North On - ta - ri o, in North On - ta - ri - o. Now the o. So we

2. *mf* pic-kin' my bones in North in North On - ta - ri - o. Now the o. So we

mp pic-kin' my bones On - ta - ri - o - i - o, in North On - ta - ri - o. Now the o.

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26 **C** Sopranos

sur-vey to the east, and we sur-vey to the west, and we could-n't make our minds up how to do it best, Lit-tle

do do do do do do do do do do do do do do do do do do

mp

30

Ab, Lit-tle Ab, what shall I do? for I'm - in' cra-zy on the sur - vey crew! and the

do do do do do do do do do do *f* but go - in' cra-zy on the sur - vey crew! and the

34 **D**

black fly, the black fly, al-ways the black fly no mat-ter where you go, I'll die with the black fly

black black fly, the black fly, the black fly, I'll die with the black fly

y, black fly, black fly, black fly, I'll die with the black fly

f

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39

pic-kin' my bones in North On - ta - ri - o - i - o, in North On - ta - ri - o. It was

pic-kin' my bones in North in North On - ta - ri It was

pic-kin' my bones in North On - ta - ri - o - i - o, in North On - o. It was

mp *mf* *mf* *mf*

44 **E**

black - fly, black - fly, black-fly ev -'ry where, in' in yer whis - kers, a - craw - lin' in yer hair. A

black - fly, black - fly, black-fly ev -'r a - craw - lin' in yer whis - kers, a - craw - lin' in yer hair. A

48

craw - lin' in d a - craw - lin' in yer tea, O the De - vil take the black fly and leave me be! and the

crer soup, and a - craw - lin' in yer tea, O the De - vil take the black fly and leave me be! and the

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F

52

mf

f

black fly, the lit-tle black fly, al-ways the black fly no mat-ter where you go, I'll die with the black fly

black fly, the black fly, the black fly, the black fly. with the black fly

black fly, black fly, black fly, black I'll die with the black fly



57

mp

mp

pic-kin' my bones in North On - ta - ri - o, in North On - ta - ri - o. At

pic-kin' my bones in North in North On - ta - ri - o.

pic-kin' my bones a - ta - ri - o - i - o, in North On - ta - ri - o.

mp

mp

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G

*rubato (back-ground vocals follow)
take your time and tell the story*

62

last the job was o-ver, Black To-by said "We're thru, with the Lit-tle A-bi-ti-bi and the sur-vey crew". T'was a

mp

oo, a oo, a oo

mp

oo, a oo, a oo

pp

66

won-der-ful ex-pe-ri-ence and this now: I'll ne-ver go a-gain to North On-ta-ri-o, and the

rit. *f* *natically* *molto rit.* *mp* *//*

oo I know: I'll ne-ver go a-gain to North On-ta-ri-o, and the

mf *f* *mp* *//*

oo and this I know: I'll ne-ver go a-gain to North On-ta-ri-o, and the

(8) *molto rit.* *//* *♩ = 130*

H accel. ♩ = 182 (a tempo)

70 *mf* black fly, the lit-tle black fly, al-ways the black fly no mat-ter where you go, I'll die with the black fly

f black fly, the black fly, the black fly, the black fly, die with the black fly

mp black fly, black fly, *mf* black fly, black I'll die with the black fly

accel.

mp

75 *no rit.* pic-kin' my bones in North On - ta - ri - o, in North On - ta - ri - o. *f* *slap!**

pic-kin' my bones in North On - ta - ri - o, in North On - ta - ri - o. *f* *slap!**

pic-kin' my bones in North On - ta - ri - o - i - o, in North On - ta - ri - o. *f* *slap!**

mf *f*

**an imaginary fly - on your neck*

...that he wrote this song, while in Labrador. The song talks about the experiences he had while accompanying an Hydro-Electric Commission of an Ontario crew - surveying the Little Abitibi River to the determine the feasibility of erecting a dam - the Abitibi Canyon Station. He also mentioned "I wasn't with Black Toby ... that was another expedition. I was writing a song - I wasn't writing historical literature."

...y **black fly** (sometimes called a buffalo gnat, turkey gnat or white socks) gains nourishment by feeding on the blood of mammals, including humans.