

# MONTANI SEMPER LIBERI

by DYLAN PARSONS

Imagine a red star rising  
over the west virginia hills,  
a red dawn glowing  
like a cardinal in the snow,

the people of Almost Heaven  
storming the golden dome,  
amidst the cries of Country Roads  
and Solidarity Forever.

Imagine star thirty-five  
bleeding red onto the flag,  
the new John Browns avenging  
the ghosts of Logan County,

and the Internationale echoing  
from Spruce Knob to the Potomac,  
signaling the final struggle between  
coal bosses and the miners.

Imagine a people liberated,  
wild, wonderful, unwavering,  
treading water in the streams  
clear as honeysuckle nectar,

with flags on their shoulders  
and a motto finally ringing true,  
*Montani Semper Liberi*,  
mountaineers are always free.