## The Farm

Lyrics and music \* Ros Schwartz August 2004 www.dancinginthewind.ca ros@dancinginthewind.ca

The father in this story is not my own, nor am I a literal farmer.

But my father taught me that when we receive, we don't necessarily need to repay to the person who gave to us; we can pass the gift on to someone else who needs it, at a time when they need it.

What he gave to me then, I now pass on to you.

My father tells the story of the farm where he was hid As a child of his neighbours when he was just a little kid While his parents rode the transport that would take them to their graves He was sheltered by the farmers - this was how his life was saved.

Yes his parents rode like cattle on that transport train of death and like horses they were shot - and yet with their dying breath they gave soul and life and spirit to the blessing of each day that lived on in my father, as he grew, so far away.

Though my father found protection, he was still a rootless child Like so many troubled children who are homeless, growing wild Yet working on that farmland helped connect him to the earth And the living things he cared for showed him that his life had worth.

And now I am a farmer with my plough and rake and hoe and I take in troubled children who have no place else to go and they help me with the farm chores as we plough and sow and reap and the blessing of the land becomes a promise that we keep.

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