

A BUSHEL OF REASONS TO LOVE
COUNTRY LIVING

A vintage teal Chevrolet truck is the central focus, shown from a front-facing perspective. The truck is parked in a vineyard, with rows of grapevines visible in the background and foreground. The truck's hood, grille, and headlights are prominent. A license plate is visible at the bottom left of the truck's front end. The text 'Farm Sweet Farm' is overlaid in a large, white, cursive font across the center of the truck's grille and hood.

*Farm
Sweet Farm*

PENNSYLVANIA WORLD'S FAIR '39
SH 71 02

KEN PETERSEN

TO

FROM

DATE



K E N P E T E R S E N

Farm Sweet Farm

A BUSHEL OF REASONS TO
LOVE COUNTRY LIVING



Tyndale House Publishers
Carol Stream, Illinois



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Farm Sweet Farm: A Bushel of Reasons to Love Country Living

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Designed by Lindsey Bergsma

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ISBN 978-1-4964-5395-2

Printed in China

28	27	26	25	24	23	22
7	6	5	4	3	2	1

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*The country
life is to be
preferred; for
there we see the
works of God.*

WILLIAM PENN,
THE SELECT WORKS OF
WILLIAM PENN

God's "Good Morning"

The good thing about waking up before dawn to do farm chores is that you get to see the country sunrise—God's unveiling of a painting he worked on all night. Fields of corn and wheat, stretching as far as you can see, emerge from the darkness, dappled in the early sun's pinks, purples, and golds. God doesn't need to send you a picture postcard from the corner store to remind you of who he is. On this country day, he will be present with you in the garden, with the animals, or in the barn—and in this quiet moment, he is saying to you, "Good morning!"



Let the fields and their crops burst
out with joy! Let the trees of the forest sing
for joy before the LORD, for he is coming!

PSALM 96:12-13, NLT

The Music of God

Sometimes a country morning is too beautiful for words. The dawning sun spreads along the horizon. A slight breeze rustles the wheat fields beyond the barn. Birds chirp, cows moo, and chickens cackle. A rooster crows, prompting the dog to reply, barking his happy “Good morning!” This is the music of God. He makes music everywhere, but here—where the fields extend as far as you can see to meet the sky—God’s symphony seems most pure. Yes, listen, but also sing along. Maybe you could belt out a fun country song you love, or perhaps a hymn that you cherish. Whatever the song, your voice joining the orchestra of a country dawn is nothing less than worship. Tell God how much his music means to you this morning. Sing your praises to him for his merciful goodness.



Great is his faithfulness;
his mercies begin afresh each morning.

LAMENTATIONS 3:23, NLT

*True
country music
is honesty,
sincerity, and
real life to
the hilt.*

ATTRIBUTED TO
GARTH BROOKS



Every Dawn Is Different

The classic musical *Fiddler on the Roof* is about a Jewish family living in rural imperial Russia at the turn of the twentieth century. One of its most popular songs is “Sunrise, Sunset,” in which the main character, Tevye, and his wife, Golde, wistfully reflect on where time went while they were busy raising a family. The lyrics and melody echo the rising and setting of the sun day after day. Maybe it can be a reminder for you to reflect as well on the course of time. If you feel as if life has passed you by, take comfort in knowing that each day’s sunrise symbolizes God’s faithfulness and reflects his glorious creativity. Every dawn is different, and every day has new possibilities.



Because of God's tender mercy, the morning light from heaven is about to break upon us, to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, and to guide us to the path of peace.

LUKE 1:78-79, NLT

Heaven's Dew

Did you know the climate in many parts of the world is so dry that the only water available for sustaining crops is the early-morning dew? This glistening moisture at daybreak is truly God's provision. In the Bible, dew is also a symbol of unity and resurrection life (Psalm 133:3; Isaiah 26:19). Its blessing applies to us personally, to our lives and struggles. Are you trapped in a season of dryness, of parched life? Do you thirst for something new? Consider turning to the fountain of wisdom the Bible provides. Moses said, "Let my teaching fall on you like rain; let my speech settle like dew" (Deuteronomy 32:2, NLT). Immerse yourself in God's words, spoken through his prophets in the Bible. Let him water your life with heaven's dew.



May God give you of the dew of heaven,
of the fatness of the earth,
and plenty of grain and wine.

GENESIS 27:28

*Blessed by
GOD be his land:
the best fresh
dew from
high heaven.*

DEUTERONOMY 33:13, MSG