



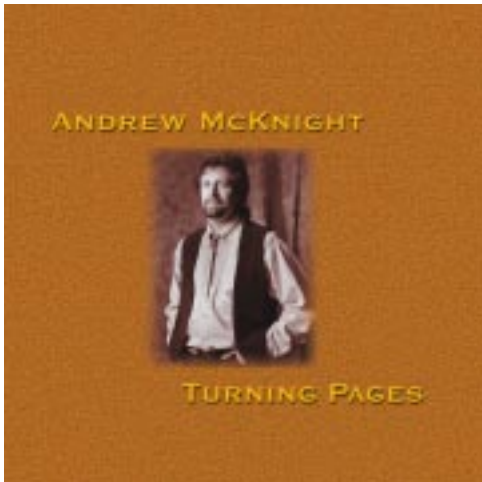
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# Andrew McKnight

## Turning Pages

FM-1031, CD only

Produced by Andrew McKnight



### About this Title

Where contemporary singer/songwriter Andrew McKnight's first two albums focused largely on the stories of rural characters and their relationship to the land, his third effort turns his considerable vision towards the landscape of the heart and soul. Among this collection of stories, reflections and letters can be found some of his most stunning songwriting gems; imagining the "Diary" of Thomas Jefferson and his longtime slave mistress Sally Hemings (a duet with Mary Byrd Brown), the humorous and bluesy ode to Hoagy Carmichael ("Bad News"), the simple driving clarity of "Winter", the haunting diary of a Virginia farm boy on "The Road to Appomattox", and a provocative hard-edged collaboration with renowned urban folk poet Chris Chandler on "Jesus and the Nighttime Train". Guests also include Ralph Gordon on bass and cello, Terri Allard and Mary Byrd Brown on harmony vocals, Don Porterfield on fretless electric bass, Dang Varmints! bandmates John Rickard and Jeff Arey, and Robbie Magruder (Mary Chapin Carpenter band) on drums.

### The Words of Others

**"Gorgeously stark string work, feel-good melodies and a healthy dose of the past make Andrew McKnight's music a disarming delight... McKnight's vocals have a lovely tenor-range timbre well-suited for his brand of acoustic country flavored folk/pop."**

- Martinsburg Journal

**"refreshing delivery and writing style...I especially liked the somber Civil War ballad, "The Road to Appomattox" for its powerful yet agile lyrics, traditional sound, and intense passion."**

- Victory Review

### About the Artist

Environmental engineer-turned-songwriter Andrew McKnight is a high energy crowd pleaser for audiences nationwide, from intimate unplugged house concerts to large stages such as the New Artist showcases at the Falcon Ridge, Kerrville and Napa Valley Folk Festivals. Equal parts Shenandoah Valley storyteller and poet blended with ever-present strains of the historian, geographer and naturalist, his rurally-based music reflects an oral history built on the past while firmly musically rooted in the present. Andrew frames his stories and observations in a diverse southern "mountain gumbo" brand of music that mixes folk, blues and bluegrass in one appealing and energetic sound" (*Norwich Bulletin*). His extensive performance resume includes the 1996 Atlanta Olympic Games, the Kennedy Center, the Birchmere and Bluebird Cafe, Appalshop Theatre, the Appalachian Arts Festival and Baltimore's blockbuster Artscape Festival as well as listening rooms, festivals, concert halls and coffeehouses across the US. Andrew is also one third of the exciting Appalachian roots music trio Dang Varmints! "His ability to write songs left me with visions of Staines, Mallett, and Gorka, and I found Andrew McKnight to be one of the most exciting new contemporary talents to come along in years." (*Tidewater Friends of Folk Music*).

### Discography

FM-1031	<i>Turning Pages</i>	2001, CD only
FM-1025	<i>Where This River Runs</i>	1998, CD/tape
FM-1013	<i>Traveler</i>	1995, CD/tape

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## Turning Pages

FM-1031, CD only, Total Time 54:43

For interviews or other artist relations, please visit the artist page at our website, [www.FallingMountain.com](http://www.FallingMountain.com), for email links and contact info.

To the DJs: These program notes are designed to make it easier to quickly navigate the track information on this CD. We at Falling Mountain Music appreciate you taking the time to review new material and add it to your library, and we hope you enjoy the music.

## PROGRAM NOTES

### 1. Western Skies 3:51 - uptempo folk/ Americana

*US 50 crosses this big beautiful country called America, from Ocean City MD to Sacramento CA, and passes a scant few miles from my northwestern Virginia home. I came across it in an unfamiliar place when I most needed a link to home and a love I hadn't yet realized.*

AM - vocals, guitar • Ralph Gordon - bass • Robbie Magruder - drums  
• Terri Allard, Mary Byrd Brown - harmony vocals

### 2. Stardust 3:11 - medium folk

*A memoir of the first time I saw someone special under the stage glow, weaving her magic.*

AM - vocals, guitar • Don Porterfield - fretless bass

### 3. Diary 5:14 (duet with Mary Byrd Brown) - slow ballad

*Imagine the historians 200 years from now trying to sort us out, even with all of the copious self-description we leave behind; will their task of interpreting our times really be any easier than unlocking the mysteries of our 3<sup>rd</sup> President and his slave mistress, living in a far crueler time and circumstance?*

AM - vocals, guitar • Mary Byrd Brown - vocals • Ralph Gordon - cello

### 4. 22 3:36 - medium folk

*An overdue tribute to a long ago lover and a dear old friend*

AM - vocals, guitar • Keith Dill - mandolin • Terri Allard - harmony

### 5. Winter 3:31 - uptempo folk/Americana

*There is no such thing as a winter of my discontent, and there is much beauty in its starkness.*

AM - vocals, acoustic and electric guitars • Ralph Gordon - bass • Robbie Magruder - drums • Mary Byrd Brown - harmony vocals

### 6. Bad News 3:20 - 40s style jazzy pop/blues

*A tribute to the songwriting genius Hoagy Carmichael and the other writers of his era responsible for some of the most beautiful melodies ever heard. And a bluesy ode to telephone anxiety!*

AM - vocals, guitar • Ralph Gordon - bass • Robbie Magruder - drums

### 7. Company Town 4:06 - Appalachian folk

*In the out-of-mind hollers of southern West Virginia, east Kentucky and southwest Virginia, for whom King Coal's footprints have grown heavy enough to not only ruin the land, but change its face forever. What nature has taken hundreds of millions of years to sculpt, corporate profiteers can obliterate in a matter of days and a few hundred tons of explosives. We will never forget.*

AM - vocals, guitar • Jeff Arey - banjo • Keith Dill - fiddle • John Rickard - harmony vocal

### 8. Jesus and the Nighttime Train 3:16 - uptempo Americana w/poet Chris Chandler

*Watching the mainstream media work its daily spell of death and destruction suggests that it's almost a miracle that any of us find faith in anything anymore. Thankfully, we still do.*

AM - vocals, guitars • Ralph Gordon - bass • Robbie Magruder - drums • Chris Chandler - spoken word on "The Last Convent in Gomorrah" • Marco Delmar - tambourine

### 9. The Road to Appomattox 4:32 - folk

*In the hayfields and creek bottoms near home, one can still find bullets in the grass. Many local families carefully preserve old parchment handwritten diaries. Nowhere else is the bloodiest conflict in American history more ever-present than here among the details.*

AM - vocals, guitar • Jeff Arey - banjo • John Rickard - harmony vocal

### 10. Letter to Colonel Mosby 3:10 - uptempo minor key folk

*Sometimes men become heroes not for what they've done in their time, but what their history has rendered significant to the future. Rest in peace, Colonel.*

AM - vocals, guitar • Keith Dill - fiddle

### 11. When I Grow Up 3:34 - uptempo light folk

*I'm an optimist - even though I age and mature at drastically different rates, I hope to someday feel like I've "grown up" just a little bit anyway. It won't be soon!*

AM - vocals, guitar • Jeff Arey - mandolin • Ralph Gordon - bass

### 12. Nothin' but a Man 3:04 - bluegrass

*Good old fashioned fun about how expectations change.*

AM - vocals, guitar • Keith Dill - fiddle, mandolin • Ralph Gordon - bass

### 13. Turning Pages 5:55 - slow folk/pop ballad

*Sometimes it's not until the later chapters when we figure out what some of the earlier chapters really meant. Life still is far better than fiction.*

AM - vocals, acoustic and electric guitars • Don Porterfield - fretless bass • Terri Allard - harmony

### 14. Riley's Life 4:05 - funky "hip hop"/folk

*I really don't have it so bad. This is just a little funky folkie hippy hop bit of fun - set your stereo to the "big dance mix" setting and enjoy the party.*

AM - vocals, acoustic and electric guitars, finger snaps • Don Porterfield - fretless bass • Norm Thorne - percussion • Terri Allard, Mary Byrd Brown - harmony vocals • Marco Delmar - finger snaps