



# Lucky That Way

by Wayne Hamilton

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1. Lucky That Way	3:08	7. Pappy s Pithy Phrases	2:54
2. Looking For You	3:30	8. The Time	2:37
3. Eye to Eye	3:29	9. Qualified Reciprocation Blues	3:32
4. I Wonder If She s Mine	3:12	10. Cookie Lovers Ramble	2:06
5. Generations	3:19	11. Lullabye	3:27
6. Return to Love	3:07	12. The Wooden Floor	4:10

Available online at <music.net>, <cdbaby.com>, <amazon.com>, <hootholler.com> & songramp.com

© 2000 Wayne Hamilton. All rights reserved. Produced by Wayne Hamilton and Michael Loonan. All songs written by Wayne Hamilton except *The Time*, which was co-written with Harry Rhett.

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## Notes from the Songwriter

The songs on *Lucky That Way* tell stories. Like all good stories, they have characters and situations we can associate with, mainly because we ve been there or know people who ve been there. In the case of the story in the title song, we *wish* we could be there. Clint Hoover s great harmonica playing gave this song the folk sound I was looking for. Mike Loonan s keyboard work and Jason Kapel s bass fleshed out this song and all the others.

In the one song that s placed in another historical period ( *The Wooden Floor* ), the story speaks to us of our roots and how even our great-great-grandparents, when we know their stories, provide goals we can reach for. I worked toward an old-time feeling there, with Mary Henderson s harmony, Geoff Shannon on clawhammer banjo and Tim Reese on fiddle providing that sound.

Not all of the songs have urban settings, so this CD can t be labeled Urban Folk, which has many manifestations. Instead, I like to call my music Contemporary Folk, to distinguish it from the classic songs of the folk revival and from the modern forms that proliferate today.

Both classic and modern folk include great music, and my songs are rooted in the former and influenced by the latter. Other influences include classic rock & roll, pop, R&B and straight Blues. Humor flows throughout, like the songs of Steve Goodman, James Taylor, David Wilcox and Chuck Brodsky, whose writing and styles I greatly admire.

Three songs ( *Eye To Eye*, *Qualified Reciprocation Blues*, and *Cookie Lovers Ramble* ) poke fun at how people manage their relationships, and one ( *Pappy s Pithy Phrases* ) is dedicated to the colorful language of my father, which started me on the path to my love affair with words. R&B singer Rebekka Fisher lent her great voice to the duet in *Eye to Eye*, and Frank Wing s wonderful banjo in *Pappy...* was recorded in Tennessee and added to the mix in St. Paul, thanks to the wonders of modern technology. The songs most clearly influenced by the Blues are *Eye to Eye* and (what else?) *Qualified Reciprocation Blues*.

Most of the songs are upbeat in theme, even those with slow tempos. Some of the slower tunes are not so much sad as thought provoking ( *I Wonder If She s Mine* and *Return to Love* ). Erik Brandt s accordion and Jay Tracy s mandolin give old-world soul to *Return to Love*. Other songs are simply love songs ( *Lullabye*

and Looking for You ). Lullabye is a goodnight song for adults; John Simmer did such great flute work that we couldn't decide which take to use. So we mixed three takes together for a flute choir on that tune.

Two songs reflect on some aspect of time ( The Time and Generations ), as most people my age are inclined to do. In addition, these are songs of reflection and wondering what would've happened if different choices were exercised in life. Mike Loonan's fine guitar solo in The Time gives that song the feeling of melancholy I wanted.

In all, I hope that listeners enjoy this music. Many songs came before these, and many more are likely to come, if I'm given the strength to perform and the wit and time to continue writing. And because I love doing this, I hope for those things as well.  
- Wayne Hamilton

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Tracks 1 and 3 earned Wayne a place among the finalists at the Midway Folk Festival New Folk Songwriting Contest in Saint Paul during the summer of 1999. He was a repeat finalist at the re-named Minnesota Folk Festival in 2000 & 2001. All twelve of the songs on *Lucky That Way* were endorsed by the Minnesota Association of Songwriters for excellence in content, lyrics, melody and song structure. The CD was also nominated in the Just Plain Folks 2001 Awards in the Traditional Folk category as Best CD and its title track as Best Song.

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### What the Critics Say

"The music is finely crafted...each song is a story simply told. The style is broad and eclectic, drawing from several genres, yet the sound is unified and cohesive. The combination of Hamilton's writing and vocal skills...make *Lucky That Way* a comfortable, enjoyable listen."  
-Bob Mackenzie, Canadian critic

[*Lucky That Way*] is a great CD!

- Steve Jerrett, KOPN, Columbus, MO

Good ol' solid songwriting with a wise bit of observation

- George Maida, WCVE, Richmond, VA

*Lucky That Way* is a colorful collection of stories that [have] been influenced by '60s folk and the blues. To me, he seems to focus on the stories his songs tell more than trying to hit any particular sound songwriting is Wayne's strength.

- Wil Owen, rambles.net

Wayne Hamilton's melodic sound and well-crafted lyrics make for a comforting yet fresh sound.

- Twin Cities Music Network

Wayne is skilled at building a rapport with his audience.

- latteacrossamerica.com

Wayne's Southern gentleman personality, mix of folk standards and originals, and acting background captures the attention of audience members young and old.

- Wendy Vickers, *Local Blend*

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### What Listeners Say

[Wayne's songs] are fun and move along nicely...[they're a mix of] some folk, some singer-songwriter, some jazz, some pop.  
- Bronwen Williams, singer/songwriter/recording artist

I like the tunes and I think your writing is strong. Keep in touch and let me know if you need my services for future projects.  
- Clint Hoover, harmonicist & recording artist

*Lucky That Way* and *Eye to Eye* both have strong choruses, are themes that touch almost everyone, and they're upbeat songs.  
- A. Heath Jones, Nashville songwriter

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### A partial list of venues/locations where Wayne has performed:

Amore Coffee  
Anodyne @ 43rd  
Black Bear Crossings  
Black's Ford  
Camp Coffee  
Gingko's

Tree Frog Music Festival  
Minnesota Folk Festival  
Emory & Henry College (VA)  
Midway Folk Festival  
Main Street USA (VA)  
Half Moon Cafe (MD)

Professor Java's  
Prairie Star Coffeehouse  
Urban Harvest Cafe  
Riverview Cafe  
Vintage Wine Bar  
Jitters Cafe

Lounge at the Beach, Hermosa Beach, CA  
Barnes & Noble: Twin Cities, MN (4), Dallas, TX (2)  
Como Park Pavilion (Benefit for Children of Kosovo & Rwanda)  
Borders Books: Twin Cities, MN (5), Eau Claire, WI & Atlanta, GA (2)