

Contentment

**A small painted board
Hangs in his barn.
Its painted words
Offer a brief yarn.
They're wise, of course.
"Contentment for a cowboy
Is saddlin' a good horse."**

Contentment

**Saddlin' a good horse
That's quiet and still,
Sound but soft,
Giving to your will,
Yep, that's peaceful,
Quiet love of its kind.
Gives an old rider
Good peace of mind.**

Contentment

**And there are times,
On a wooded trail,
Moving steadily, easily
A world without travail.**

The land is quiet,
No human around,
Just a four-beat gait
Making a sound.

Contentment

The world aglow
In spring or fall,
Hot kiss o' summer,
Or winter winds call,
Sweat or cold rain,
All part of the deal,
When aloneness, solitude
He's tryin' to steal.

Contentment

When on the trail
And break time comes,
Time for some grub
And he might rest some.

His horse dozes
While high-line tied.
He stretches out,
Hat over his eyes.

Contentment

**The loop is complete.
A good day's ride,
His rig stands waitin'
There's hay inside.
Drop the bit,
Pull off the saddle,
If cold air's offing,
Throw a blanket astraddle.**

Contentment

**His horse secure
And munching hay inside,
Relaxed and resting,
It's the ridden's time to ride.
Fire up the Chevy,
Slight smile on his face,
His whole mind gentle,
Now back to the home place.**

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Gene W. Wood

November 2016