


A man with a goatee and short hair, wearing a dark button-down shirt and blue jeans, sits on a wooden stool at a bar. He is leaning his right arm on the bar counter, which has a red acoustic guitar resting on it. The bar is well-stocked with various bottles of alcohol. In the background, there are large windows and a sign that says "51%". The lighting is warm and intimate.

BUCK JOHNSON
THE MORNING AFTER

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1. TALL DARK STRANGER (2.15) Buck Owens Sony/ATV Tree Publishing
 2. COWHORSE BLUES (4.20) Buck Johnson
 3. THE MORNING AFTER (3.06) Buck Johnson, Donnie Blanz
 4. WE DON'T TELL OUR MAMAS (3.50) Buck Johnson, Lance Goodman
 5. COULD'A HAD A CUDDLE (2.31) Buck Johnson
 6. LONG GONE MAMA (2.38) Clay Blaker Sony/ATV Melody
 7. IF YOU WERE HERE (I'D NEVER LEAVE) (2.50) Buck Johnson
 8. WHAT A FOOL I AM (4.05) Buck Johnson, Michelle Dancer
 9. EVERY TIME I DRINK (3.40) Buck Johnson
 10. LONELINESS (3.33) Mykel Johnson, Buck Johnson
 11. COWBOY IN ME (3.47) Buck Johnson
 12. THE OUTLAW (4.59) Larry Norman EMI Glenwood Music Corporation



BUCK JOHNSON MUSIC
www.BuckJohnson.net

Musicians

Buck Johnson: vocals, guitar

John Beland: harmony vocals, guitars, dobro & assorted instruments of color

Paul Wyman: bass guitar

Frank Basile: drums

Bill Terry: steel guitar on 1, 9, 10, 11 & 12

Herb Steiner: steel guitar on 6, 7 & 8

PRODUCED BY JOHN BELAND

Recorded at Tyler Trax Studio, Brenham, Texas

Mastered by Bill Douglass at Royal Recording, Colorado Springs, Colorado

Design and cover art by Lisa Rosato, Televista Design, Houston, Texas

All photos shot by Pam Francis at the BT Longhorn Saloon, Brenham, Texas
except for "Outside the BT Longhorn" shot by Buck Johnson, and "Buck on the Mountain" by RC Dahl

Producer's Notes

When Buck Johnson first asked me to produce his CD, I could hardly refuse. With a name like "Buck Johnson," I knew this guy had to be interesting—and he didn't disappoint. From the moment he first picked up an acoustic guitar and sang these songs in my studio, I realized I had a unique artist on my hands, one with the passion and talent for the kind of country music I love.

Buck has his own style that makes you take notice right away. It's a blend of many influences, from the Bakersfield twang of Buck Owens, to the punch and kick of Waylon Jennings. It's Texas on a Telecaster and sweet surrender on a steel, and it's a sound all his own.

We took a long time on this album—almost a year—and over the weeks and months, I witnessed an amazing growth in this artist. He knows what he wants, he hears it in his head, and he's not satisfied until we've captured it. Those are the traits of a true and seasoned artist, and I sure as hell respect that.

It's always exciting to get in on the ground floor of something good, and I'm grateful that Buck asked me to be a part of this project. As Waylon Jennings once confided in me, after an all night session together in Nashville, "Hoss, keep making good music, 'cause there ain't much of it left." I think Buck Johnson would have made ol' Waylon proud with this one.

Good job, Buck, and thanks for allowing me to be part of your journey.

—John Beland

Flying Burrito Brothers, June 2010

At Home on the Range—and in the Studio

Some cowboys never sing; some singers never “cowboy.” Rarely do you find an authentic country artist that is able to sing about the life he’s led in a way so pure and honest that the listener believes every word. In his debut album, “The Morning After,” Buck Johnson takes an introspective look into the heart of a real cowboy, and extracts those parts that are essential elements to every genuine, bona fide country song: the loves, the wild side, the regrets and loss, and yes, even the redemption.

Buck says, “Before we ever started, I had a cowboy-goes-to-town concept in mind: a metaphorical story of a tall dark stranger and the confident side of a cowboy. A cowboy that gets the girls but also has a fall—and the lonely side that comes with that. I’ve always loved old concept albums like Willie’s ‘Red Headed Stranger,’ so I organized the songs to tell the story.”

From beginning to end, Buck’s candid look at the life of a cowboy through the eyes of a songwriter is a shining example of an artist who hit the studio knowing exactly what he wanted; and the outcome makes every drop of sweat worth the effort.

—*Connie Strong*





hey say that building a house will test a marriage. My wife and I did that a few years ago, and it wasn't really that bad—almost fun. Nobody warned me about recording an album! I truly appreciate the extended "kitchen pass" I've used and abused for the last year, burning all our spare time to get this project done, not to mention taking so much focus away from family. So, thank you, Ka'ren. I'm looking forward to resuming the honeymoon!

Big thanks to John Beland for taking on this project and bringing his wealth of talent to the table. You were a patient coach and you taught me so much along the way. I'm grateful to Clay Blaker, who was always kind enough to show me so many things about this biz. His twangy rock version of "Tall Dark Stranger," a signature closer at his shows, gave me the inspiration for this album.

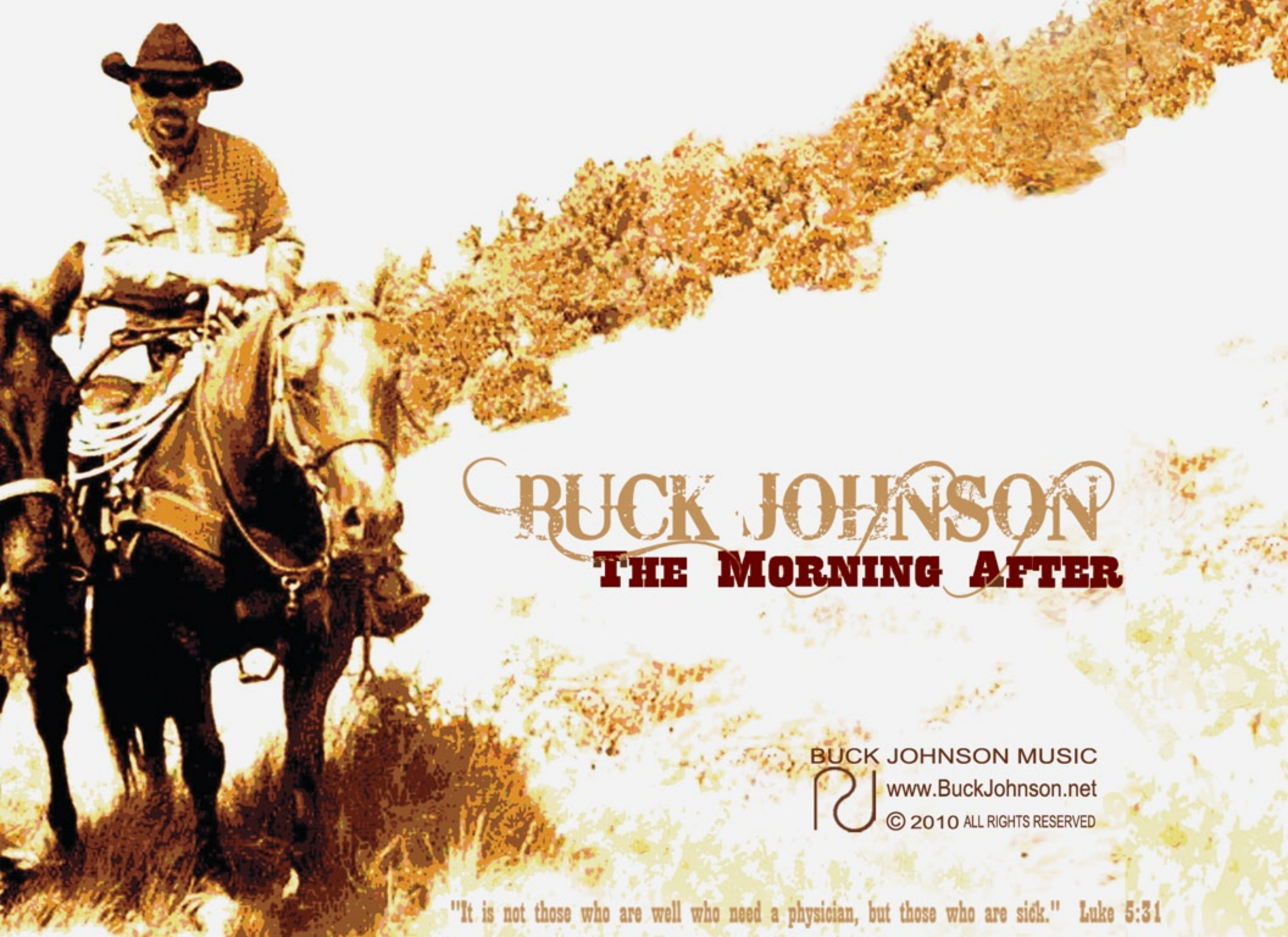
Much appreciation to my song collaborators, starting with my big sister, Mykel, who first taught me how to play the guitar and showed me what a songwriter was; Donnie Blanz for the songwriting coaching and guidance along the way—a real pro; Lance Goodman for being my friend for twenty-plus years; and Michelle Dancer for all your help with Fool (as we so affectionately called it).

Thanks to The Morning After Team: Lisa Rosato for the amazing graphics and all the help; Pam Francis for her creativity and genius with a camera—I've been shot; Connie Strong for an outstanding album review; The Canales family and the BT Longhorn Saloon; and to Bill Douglass, Rona Fitzgerald, Mary Chavoustie, Tommy Detamore, Sandy and Janet Buller, Gayla Brown, Lee and Kathy French; Danny, Sherri and Joey Rumph; Spencer and Liz Cubage, and all my friends and family. I couldn't have made this album without all your support!

Thanks most to my Lord for the many opportunities He continues to put in my path. I stand humbly blessed and in His grace. May He bless you all the same, and I hope this album and His love touch your heart.

-Buck





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"It is not those who are well who need a physician, but those who are sick." Luke 5:31