

0. THE REAL COLD MOUNTAIN - Story Preface

1. A DESERTER

2. PETERSBURG

3. PETERSBURG HOLDS

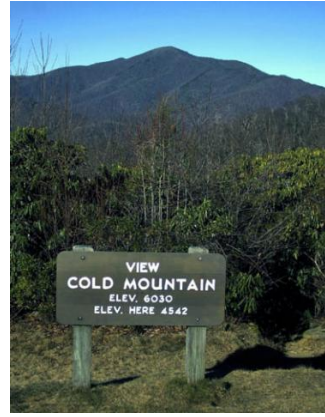
4. BATTLE OF THE CRATER

5. SIEGE OF PETERSBURG

6. THE HOME GUARD

7. OF MONEY AND BOOKS

8. THE REAL COLD MOUNTAIN



A view of Cold Mountain, the highest peak in the [Shining Rock Wilderness](#) area of Pisgah National Forest in the American state of North Carolina.

The [real Cold Mountain](#) is not a town. It is the highest peak in the Shining Rock Wilderness section of [Pisgah National Forest](#), North Carolina. At 6,030 feet it is an [awesome](#) sight - especially in the fall - as one travels along the [Blue Ridge Parkway](#) southwest of [Asheville](#).

To really appreciate the mountain's grandeur, and that of the general area, one must do what Inman did - hike it. Flowers, like gorgeous rhododendron, bloom in season now - replacements for old-growth trees which have been cut down. This image, from the U.S. Forest Service, depicts the natural gardens of Catawba rhododendrons growing near a high ridge known as Roan Mountain.



The State of North Carolina has a live web cam which allows interested people to [view the mountain](#) before nightfall. Sometimes it is shrouded in fog; other times it sparkles like an Appalachian gem.

As featured in the movie version of *Cold Mountain*, people who lived in the area during Civil War times sang hymns in the [Shape-Note](#) tradition. First published in "The Sacred Harp" hymnal, in 1844, these four-part songs [feature](#) unusual sounds and harmony. The notes themselves are written in different shapes instead of circles.

C major scale

Fa Sol La Fa Sol La Mi Fa

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

Today, often while sitting in a kind of hollow square, men and women still harmonize their voices - without instruments - in the old style. It is most common in America's Southeast, although there are clubs throughout the country, including at universities.

What does Shape-Note singing [sound like](#)? Where did it begin? A Georgian named B.F. White originally compiled [the hymnal](#) which, in an [updated](#) version, is still used today. [Examples](#) of Shape-Note singing are available on the Internet, and the Sacred Harp Singers at Liberty Church are featured on the *Cold Mountain* soundtrack.

Today, Cold Mountain doesn't look exactly like it did during the Civil War. Because modern life has caught up with both the mountain, and the surrounding area, [the movie](#) was filmed in the [Carpathian Mountains](#) of Romania.

But, then again, who really knows...maybe off the beaten path, somewhere, one might still encounter a Goat Woman who can once again help a wandering hiker find the way home.

See [Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at:](#)

<https://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/THE-REAL-COLD-MOUNTAIN-Cold-Mountain>

See [Learning Tasks for this story online at:](#)

<https://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicActivities/THE-REAL-COLD-MOUNTAIN-Cold-Mountain>

Media Stream



Cold Mountain

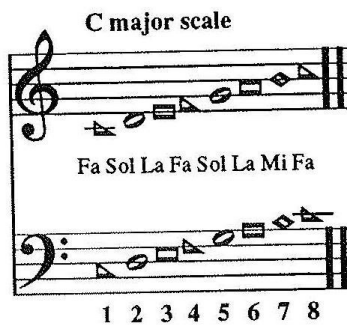
Image online, courtesy the main.nc.us website.

View this asset at: <https://www.awesomestories.com/asset/view/Cold-Mountain1>



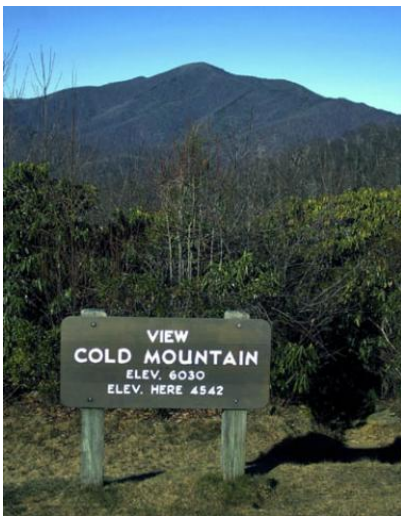
Rhododendrons at Roan Mountain, N.C.

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Shape Notes

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THE REAL COLD MOUNTAIN

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Cold Mountain - Film Trailer

This video clip is one of the trailers for Cold Mountain, a 2003 film directed by Anthony Minghella, based on the book by Charles Frazier.

Renée Zellweger won an Academy Award for "Best Actress in a Supporting Role" for her work in this [Miramax](#) film.

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