



Joni Mitchell was born on November 7, 1943, in McLeod, Alberta, Canada. She attended public schools in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, and, intending to become a commercial artist, she enrolled in the Alberta College of Art in Calgary. After mastering some ukelele chords and a few traditional ballads, she got her first job in a coffeehouse called the Depression. Joni discovered she enjoyed singing more than painting, and travelled to the Mariposa Folk Festival in Ontario, a three-day trip east on the Canadian Pacific. On the way she wrote her first song, a blues tune called "Day After Day," which was timed to the clacking of the railroad wheels on steel rails. She has now written over 60 songs. Joni has worked in Toronto coffeehouses and Detroit clubs. When she came to New York, she was discovered and signed by Andy Wickham of Reprise Records. Her first Reprise album, "Joni Mitchell," is number 94 on the charts this week.