

**Catfish John**  
**Nitty Gritty Dirt Band**

Key: A  
Tempo: 105  
Vocals: JM

**Intro** | : A / C C# . . . : |

**Chorus** Mama said, "Don't go near that river,  
Don't be hangin' around old Catfish John"  
But come the morning, I'd always be there  
Walkin' in his footsteps in the sweet delta dawn

**V1** Take me back to another morning  
To a time so long ago  
When the sweet magnolias blossomed  
Cotton fields were white as snow

**V2** Catfish John was a river hobo  
Lived and died by the river bend  
Looking back, I still remember  
I was proud to be his friend  
*Chorus*

**Lead** | : D / / / | A / / / : | A / E / | A / / / |

**V3** Born a slave in the town of Vicksburg  
Traded for a chestnut mare  
Lord he never spoke in anger  
Though his load was hard to bear

**V4** Let me dream of another morning  
And a time so long ago  
When the sweet magnolias blossom  
And the cotton fields were white as snow  
*Chorus*

**Notes** 6/16/82 (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ANzJdVFabGQ>)