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1. I come from down in the valley, where mister when you're young  
They bring you up to do like your daddy done  
Me and Mary we met in high school, when she was just seventeen  
We'd ride out of this valley down to where the fields were green
  2. We'd go down to the river, And into the river we'd dive  
Oh down to the river we'd ride
  3. Then I got Mary pregnant, and man that was all she wrote  
And for my nineteenth birthday I got a union card and a wedding coat  
We went down to the courthouse, and the judge put it all to rest  
No wedding day smiles no walk down the aisle  
No flowers no wedding dress
  4. That night we went down to the river, And into the river we'd dive  
Oh down to the river we did ride
  5. I got a job working construction for the Johnstown Company  
But lately there ain't been much work on account of the economy  
Now all them things that seemed so important, Well mister they vanished right into the air  
Now I just act like I don't remember, Mary acts like she don't care
  6. But I remember us riding in my brother's car, Her body tan and wet down at the reservoir  
At night on them banks I'd lie awake  
And pull her close just to feel each breath she'd take  
Now those memories come back to haunt me, they haunt me like a curse  
Is a dream a lie if it don't come true, Or is it something worse  
that sends me down to the river, though I know the river is dry  
That sends me down to the river tonight  
Down to the river, my baby and I, Oh down to the river we ride
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