

The River

Bruce Springsteen

INTRO: 1 2 3 4 /

**[Em]/[G]/[D]/[C]/
[Am]/[G]/[C]/[C]**

I **[Em]** come from down in the **[G]** valley
Where **[D]** mister, when you're **[C]** young
They **[Em]** bring you up to **[G]** do
[C] Like your daddy **[G]** done
Me and **[C]** Mary we met in high school
When **[G]** she was just **[D]** seven-**[Em]**teen
We'd **[Am]** drive out of this valley,
Down to **[G]** where the fields were **[C]**↓ green

We'd go **[Em]** down to the **[C]** river
And **[D]** into the river we'd **[G]** dive
Oh **[Em]** down to the **[C]** river we'd **[D]** ride **[C]**
Then **[Em]** I got Mary **[G]** pregnant
And **[D]** man, that was all she **[C]** wrote
And **[Em]** for my 19th **[G]** birthday
I got a union **[C]** card and a wedding **[G]** coat
We **[C]** went down to the courthouse
And the **[G]** judge put it **[D]** all to **[Em]** rest
No **[Am]** wedding day smiles, no walk down the aisle
No **[G]** flowers, no wedding **[C]** dress

That night we went **[Em]** down to the **[C]** river
And **[D]** into the river we'd **[G]** dive
Oh oh **[Em]** down to the **[C]** river we did **[D]** ride **[C]**

I **[Em]** got a job working con-**[G]**struction
 For the **[D]** Johnstown Company **[C]**
 But **[Em]** lately there ain't been **[G]** much work
 On ac-**[C]**count of the econo-**[G]**my
 Now **[C]** all them things that seemed so important
 Well mister **[G]** they vanished **[D]** right into the **[Em]** air
 Now I just **[Am]** act like I don't remember
 Mary **[G]** acts like she don't **[C]** care

But I re-**[Em]**member us riding in my **[G]** brother's car
 Her body **[D]** tan and wet, down at the **[C]** reservoir
 At **[Em]** night on them banks I'd **[G]** lie awake
 And pull her **[C]** close just to feel each **[G]** breath she'd take
 Now those **[C]** memories come back to haunt me
 They **[G]** haunt me **[D]** like a **[Em]** curse
 Is a **[Am]** dream a lie if it don't come true
 Or **[G]** is it something **[C]** worse

That sends me **[Em]** down to the **[C]** river
 Though I **[D]** know the river is **[G]** dry
 That sends me **[Em]** down to the **[C]** river to-**[D]**night **[C]**

[Em] Down to the **[C]** river my **[D]** baby and **[G]** I
 Oh oh **[Em]** down to the **[C]** river we **[D]** ride **[C]**
[Em] Ooh.../**[C]**/**[D]**/**[G]**/**[Em]**/**[C]**/**[D]**↓

