Paradise

John Prine

D D G D D D A7 D D
/// /// /// /// /// /// /// /// /// ///

D G D
When I was a child my family would travel

D A7 D D
Down to Western Kentucky where my parents were born  /// .

D G D
And there's a backwards-old town that's often remembered

D A7 D
So many times that my memories are worn.

CHORUS:

D G D
And daddy won't you take me back to Muhlenberg County

D A7 D D
Down by the Green River where Paradise lay  /// .

D G D D
Well, I'm sorry my son, but you're too late in asking  /// .

D A7 D D D
Mister Peabody's coal train has hauled it away  /// .

D G D D
Well, sometimes we'd travel right down the Green River  /// .

D A7 D D
To the abandoned old prison down by Adrie Hill  /// .

D G D D
Where the air smelled like snakes and we'd shoot with our pistols  /// .

D A7 D
But empty pop bottles was all we would kill.
CHORUS:

D    G    D
Then the coal company came with the world's largest shovel
D    A7   D    D
And they tortured the timber and stripped all the land . . .
D    G    D
Well, they dug for their coal till the land was forsaken
D    A7   D
Then they wrote it all down as the progress of man.

CHORUS:

D    G    D
When I die let my ashes float down the Green River
D    A7   D    D
Let my soul roll on up to the Rochester dam . . .
D    G    D
I'll be halfway to Heaven with Paradise waiting
D    A7   D
Just five miles away from wherever I am.

D    G    D
And daddy won't you take me back to Muhlenberg County
D    A7   D    D
Down by the Green River where Paradise lay . . .
D    G    D    D
Well, I'm sorry my son, but you're too late in asking . . .
D    A7   D
Mister Peabody's coal train has hauled it away . . .