Wonderin' how to cross the river On a cold and windy night With the water ragin' higher By the moon's shinin' light

Suddenly a man stepped forward And he looked at all around He said, "We all must cross this river We all stand on common ground"

Though I was standin' amongst strangers I did not know their names I realized they were with me And our journey was the same

As he spoke out loud, I looked around me I could see they knew it, too
We would cross or die together
No one man could make it through

There was shelter across the river Across the water deep and black As a storm moved in behind us, There was no way to turn back

So I stepped right up beside him And took one last look around That before my eyes I realized, We all stand on common ground We all stand on common ground

So many years have come and gone Since we crossed that river wide When I look back on that night It still moves me so inside

This world today is like that river Its water cold and black
We all must cross together,
For there is no turnin' back

For the mountain high or a city street, It's the same old world below our feet It's time to wake up, people, and take a look around We all stand on common ground

It's time for every woman and every man And hold the future in our hands
Wake up and look around,
We all stand on common ground
We all stand on common ground