The River Won't Flow

Jason Robert Brown

I left my home at fifteen I wore this very same coat My mama said, "Son, if you stay on this path, You'll find a river full of money where the rich fish flow" I said, "I'll catch me them fish" And I've searched low and searched high Well, I've seen more water than Columbus had seen I found me this lake that was greener than green I said, "Mama, I know this is what you mean" But when I bent for a sip, the river ran dry The river won't flow for me no no no The river won't flow for me no no no no I live my life on the up and up And this is where I was meant to be But the river don't The river won't Flow for me I never had me no house I never had me no phone I never had much that I didn't have to go And fight for the right to call it my own I don't expect any help I don't expect nothing free It's not about being any righteous man It's not about God and the master plan It's not about doing the best I can No, this corner was where I was meant to be Cause the river won't flow for me no no no The river won't flow for me no no no no It's just one of the little lessons That I learned on my Mama's knee The river don't The river won't Flow for me It's all luck, It's just luck There's no way you can rig the game because It's all luck, It's just luck The sinner and the saint could wind up the same cause It's all luck, It's just luck That decides between the noose and the knife It's all luck, It's just luck When you're begging to switch With some rich son-of-a-bitch Who ain't never done nothing to deserve that life It seems so easy to run Until there's nowhere to go You never get much for the dues you pay You never go far on the easy way There isn't much choice But to kneel and pray For the river, the river, the river To flow, flow, flow, flow, flow Flow, flow, flow, flow, flow, flow

Flow But the river won't flow for you no no no The river won't flow for you no no no You gotta live how you gotta live You gotta do what you gotta do Cause the river The river don't The river don't The river can't Ain't never ever gonna flow for you Never gonna flow for you Never gonna flow for you