

The River

John Martyn

Down on the river
Down on the river on the fourth of July
I'm down on the river
Down and I know that the river's running high.

I look to the water to make my own money
I look to the water to make my name
I look to the water to make my money
I look to the water as the price of fame.

I worked on this river
I worked on the river every day of my life
As I worked on this river
I worked on the river 'till I found my wife.

I worked twice as hard to make twice the money
I worked twice as hard to make my way
I worked twice as hard to make my own money
Until somebody took my wife away.

Oh darling, it sometimes feels so lonely here
Sometimes I think I go down to the river
Let the water run away with every tear
I know this river never gives a damn for me
The river cares for nothing
Rolling away to the bright blue sea.

I have been years on my river
Years and water running high, running low
I've been years on my river
Years and I still got nothing to show.

I know this river, its every movement
I know this river, every port, every pocket
I know this river is going to take my love away
I know this river is trying to break my heart.

Oh darling, it sometimes gets so lonely here
Someday I think I go down to the river
Let the water wash away most every tear.

Down on the river
Down on the river on the fourth of July
I'm down on the river
Down one day when the river runs high.

I'm going to cry for my river
Die on the day that this river of mine runs dry
Die on the day this old river runs dry
I'm dying on the day this river inside of me dies
The river inside runs dry.