

# The Good Earth

Johnny Cash

The good earth swallows up the seed and swallows life as well  
From long before the day you're born till heaven comes or hell  
It binds your hands with chains of clay that are so hard to break

But when I left good earth behind I made a big mistake

I've traveled far and traveled wide  
I've seen a lot of things  
But looking back on all the years  
I don't know what they mean  
Like steel I'm probably stronger  
From going through the fire  
I kept on climbin' lower  
Diggin' deeper to get higher

I turned around one evening when the sun was going down  
I heard the Bible told a preacher who just pulled into town  
At last I'm back on good earth where I should have always been  
Lord forgive me if I ever try to leave good earth again

Well the good earth was my mama and my daddy too  
Now I'm working my hands in soil tryin' to pay my due  
And when I'll breathe my last breath which may not be too long  
Just shovel a little good earth over my head  
'Til everybody open up the hymn book and sing a happy song

Shall we gather at the river in the sweet by and by  
Just as I am Jesus loves me one of these days I'll fly  
I'm standing on the promises Lord build the place for me  
In the good earth over Jordan by the Sea of Galilee mhm