

# Powderfinger

Neil Young

Look out mama, there's a white boat comin' up the river  
With a big red beacon and a flag and a man on the rail  
I think ya better call John  
?cause it don't look like he's here to deliver the mail  
And it's less than a mile away  
I hope he didn't come to stay  
It's got numbers on the side and a gun  
And it's makin' big waves

Daddy's gone, and my brother's out huntin' in the mountain  
Big John's been drinkin' since the river took Emmy-Lu  
So the powers that be  
Left me here to do the thinkin'  
And I just turned 22  
I was wonderin' what to do  
And the closer they got, the more those feelings grew

Daddy's rifle in my hands felt re-assuring  
He said red means run, son, numbers add up to nothing  
When the first shot hit the docks  
I saw it coming  
Raised my rifle to my eye  
Never stopped to wonder why  
Then I saw black and my face flash in the sky

Shelter me from the powder and the finger  
Cover me with the thought that pulled the trigger  
Just think of me as one  
You'd never figure  
Would fade away so young  
With so much left un-done  
Remember me to my love, I know I will miss her