When I was a child my family would travel Down to Western Kentucky where my parents were born And there's a backward old town that I often remember So many times that my memories are worn.

And daddy won't you take me back to Muhlenberg County Down by the Green River where Paradise lay Well I'm sorry my son, but you're too late in asking Mister Peabody's coal train has hauled it away

Well sometimes we'd travel right down the Green River To the abandoned old prison down by Adrie Hill Where the air smelled like snakes and we'd shoot with our pistols

But empty pop bottles was all we would kill

And daddy won't you take me back to Muhlenberg County Down by the Green River where Paradise lay Well I'm sorry my son, but you're too late in asking Mister Peabody's coal train has hauled it away

Then the coal company came with the world's largest shovel

And they tortured the timber and stripped all our land Well, they dug for their coal till the land was forsaken

Then they wrote it all down as the progress of man

And daddy won't you take me back to Muhlenberg County Down by the Green River where Paradise lay Well I'm sorry my son, but you're too late in asking Mister Peabody's coal train has hauled it away

When I die let my ashes float down the Green River Let my soul roll on up to the Rochester dam I'll be halfway to Heaven with Paradise waitin' Just five miles away from wherever I am

And daddy won't you take me back to Muhlenberg County Down by the Green River where Paradise lay Well I'm sorry my son, but you're too late in asking Mister Peabody's coal train has hauled it away And daddy won't you take me back to Muhlenberg County Down by the Green River where Paradise lay...